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3 **Selectboard Meeting**
4 **August 4, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.**
5 **Jericho Town Hall, 67 Vermont Route 15**
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7 **Members present:** Catherine McMains (Acting Chair), Wayne Howe

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9 **Others present:** Todd Odit (Town Administrator), Amy Richardson (Secretary), Robin Bartlett

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11 The public meeting was called to order by Ms. McMains at 5:31 p.m.

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13 **1. Public Comment.**

14 There was none. Mr. Odit asked for an amendment to the agenda.

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16 On a **motion** by Mr. Howe, seconded by Ms. McMains, **the Selectboard amended the agenda to include a discussion of financing options for the tandem truck.** The motion passed 2-0.

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19 **2. Set Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) Tax Rate.**

20 Mr. Odit stated the only rates we have control over are the Town rates: the general fund rate and the local agreement rate. He described what the local agreement rate consists of, saying we need to make up the lost education revenue on that. He noted that this year all of the tax stabilization contracts are gone. Mr. Odit discussed the tax rates further, noting the following:

- 24 • The Local agreement rate is .0042; it was previously .0127.
- 25 • The general fund rate is .4152.
- 26 • Combined it is a decrease from last year of about 12% to 12 ½%.
- 27 • The school rates went down as well:
 - 28 ○ The non-residential rate is 1.3810.
 - 29 ○ The homestead rate is 1.3520.

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31 Mr. Odit said we don't need to approve the school rates, just the general fund and local agreement rates. He discussed the change in the rates from his estimate earlier in the week. Ms. McMains said eventually we will revisit the tax stabilization program for the farmers. Mr. Odit agreed, saying once we get through the appeal process. Mr. Howe asked whether there will be a period of time when that tax stabilization rate does not apply to those farmers. Mr. Odit said this would be the first year. Mr. Howe clarified they will go a full year without it. Mr. Odit responded at least a full year, saying it depends on what the Board does, if anything. He stated the tax bills going out now will not have that reduction that was there previously. The Selectboard members and Mr. Odit discussed the appeal process, including the impact on the assessments and the tax bills.

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40 On a **motion** by Mr. Howe, seconded by Ms. McMains, **the Selectboard adopted the general fund rate of .4152 and the local agreement rate of .0042.** The motion passed 2-0.

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43 **3. Discuss Tandem Truck Financing Options.**

44 Mr. Odit said the tandem truck will be here quicker than I expected. He discussed the quotes received for financing using two options, both for three years: one with an annual payment, and one with semi-annual payments slightly in advance. He noted Kansas State Bank has the lowest rate and have financed all recent truck purchases through. The Selectboard members and Mr. Odit discussed the matter further.

49 On a **motion** by Mr. Howe, seconded by Ms. McMains, **the Selectboard accepted the proposal from Kansas**
50 **State Bank, Option #1.** The motion passed 2-0.

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52 **4. Approve Minutes of 7/7/2016 & 7/21/2016.**

53 Approval of the minutes of 7/7/2016 and 7/21/2016 was tabled.

54

55 **5. Other Business.**

56 Ms. McMains asked Mr. Bartlett if he wanted to discuss anything. Mr. Bartlett asked about the bell. Ms.
57 McMains said we haven't forgotten; we are putting together a proposal for an RFP (request for proposal). Mr.
58 Odit noted I think we were waiting for Robin to come back with a quote for the crane. He and Mr. Bartlett
59 discussed the matter further. Mr. Bartlett agreed to obtain a written quote for the work.

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61 Mr. Bartlett discussed comments Mr. Carroll made at a recent meeting. He asked whether everybody in Jericho
62 Center has a septic tank. Ms. McMains responded they should; we have no control, that is a State thing. Mr.
63 Howe agreed, noting there might be some shared systems. Mr. Bartlett asked whether everybody in Jericho
64 Center has water, a drilled well. The Selectboard members said yes. Mr. Bartlett noted new homes built in the
65 area; a new septic system across from the store; and the ability for the old Library to have a new septic system.
66 He asked why do we need sewer and water right through Jericho Center on the backs of the taxpayers of Jericho.
67 Mr. Odit said you would have to ask Mr. Carroll.

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69 Mr. Howe stated Jim's point over the years have been broader than just the need for water and sewer in Jericho
70 Center; and more advocating for the Town to look at infrastructure, generally. Mr. Bartlett discussed his
71 experience with replacing his septic system and well, including the cost. Ms. McMains stated that if anything
72 was ever done in regards to infrastructure, particularly septic, the people who benefit are the ones who would
73 be paying for it. The Selectboard members, Mr. Odit, and Mr. Bartlett discussed the matter further, including
74 how such a thing would be financed.

75

76 Mr. Bartlett said I am hearing bits and pieces on this Rivers' deal, saying it would be a good idea if the Fire
77 Department kept the house side of the property for a training facility and turned the gravel pit into a solar farm.
78 He discussed the condition of the property, saying they have this thing all planned out that this development
79 corporation is going to build 30 to 35 houses. Ms. McMains and Mr. Odit disagreed. Ms. McMains said nothing
80 is happening, saying if it does get developed it would be done by a developer. She discussed the matter further,
81 including what had been considered previously.

82

83 Mr. Bartlett asked when this deal on the Rivers' property would be voted on. Mr. Odit stated there is no deal.
84 He, Mr. Bartlett, and the Selectboard members discussed the matter further. Mr. Bartlett said whatever happens
85 there, if the Town is involved, has to be voted on. The Selectboard members agreed. Mr. Bartlett and the
86 Selectboard members discussed the matter further, including the CDC (Community Development Corporation)
87 and the rationale for creating the CDC.

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89 Mr. Howe asked Mr. Bartlett if he was putting together a presentation for the bell. Mr. Bartlett said they are
90 going to put in a new membrane, so the bell has to at least be lifted up to do it right. Mr. Howe asked if the bell
91 will stay down here on some pedestal or presentation. Mr. Bartlett suggested it could go near the door. He and
92 the Selectboard members discussed what could be done with the bell once it is removed. The Selectboard
93 thanked Robin for his attendance and input.

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95 **6. Approve Warrants.**

96 The Selectboard members present signed the warrants.

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98 On a **motion** by Mr. Howe, seconded by Ms. McMains, **the Selectboard entered executive session to discuss**
99 **personnel at 6:01 p.m.** The motion passed 2-0.

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101 On a **motion** by Mr. Howe, seconded by Ms. McMains, **the Selectboard exited executive session at 6:25 p.m.**
102 The motion passed 2-0.

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104 On a **motion** by Mr. Howe, seconded by Ms. McMains, **the Selectboard adjourned at 6:25 p.m.** The motion
105 passed 2-0.

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107 Respectfully Submitted,

108 Amy Richardson