Minutes August 5, 2013

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. Ron, Chris and Clem were present.

Public Feedback: None

Minutes from previous meetings were reviewed and accepted.

Old Business

Town Office Update: The Selectmen rejected all the bids for demolition of the old high school. The bids all came in much higher than anticipated. The plan now is to have an asbestos abatement company remove the asbestos. The building will then be demolished by a local contractor.

The Selectmen are considering having an "open house" at the old high school before demolition. Residents have expressed an interest in being able to go in the building one last time.

Land Use Committee Update: The committee is continuing to meet weekly. They are working on the zoning portion of the ordinance now. They are working to take the "grayness" out of the ordinance.

Comp Plan Committee Update: The committee is working on the first survey to get input on what people like about Unity, what they'd like to see happen here, etc. They want to get 1000 responses to the survey and will use volunteer help (college students) to help with door-to-door responses. It was suggested that at some point the Land Use Committee and Comp Plan Committee should hold a joint meeting.

Road Work Update: Brian Jones attended the meeting to discuss Freedom's approach to their road issues. Freedom found that it made more sense to borrow money to fix their road problems. They borrowed \$600,000 at 2.5% interest for a period of 7 years. They do operate with a public works department.

Selectmen will be working on a plan to present to Town Meeting for the additional \$100,000 that was just appropriated for summer roads. It was suggested that a referendum style vote might work better, not a special town meeting vote.

Selectmen are considering having a survey done on the Stagecoach Road near the Troy town line. Survey companies will be contacted in the near future.

Selectmen signed with Winter Roads Contract with Todd Littlefield.

New Business

Selectmen received a request for information on the TIF allocations since 2000. Sue prepared a chart, using the past town reports, to indicate how the TIF funds are distributed each year. The question seemed to be how the Unity Barn Raisers have spent their funds since 2000. Sue will check with John Piotti and Jim Perry to see if there is an accounting of these funds.

Selectmen adopted General Assistance Ordinance Appendices B-E.

Dennis Turner asked the Selectmen about the grant for generators for the fire department and new town office. There is a work session in September for the grant paperwork. Dennis has been in contact with Unitel about turning over the tower on Quaker Hill to the Fire Department.

Selectmen accepted, with regret, the resignation of Dennis Turner as Fire Chief for the Town of Unity. Dennis and his wife are relocating to Oakland. His resignation is effective September 1, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Selectmen entered into Executive Session.