

**Town of Livermore  
Board of Selectpersons  
January 28, 2013 Meeting  
Minutes**

**Present:** John Wakefield, *Chair*, Thomas Berry, Peter Castonguay, Megan Dion, Wayne Timberlake

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Minutes of the January 14, 2013 meeting were accepted as presented.
3. Highway Foreman Roger Ferland was not present due to light snow. Administrator Kurt Schaub reported that hydraulic lines in the GMC had to be repaired at H.P. Fairfield due to plow control problems. He said Mr. Ferland had persisted with the International warranty representative on the oil pan problem in the 2010 and that it would be repaired at Morrison and Sylvester for the cost of labor and fluids. Mr. Schaub said a meeting of the Road Committee should be scheduled in order to finalize the summer work program and discuss the request from RSU 73 Superintendent Robert Wall that the towns take care of plowing the school properties within their communities. It was agreed to meet at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, February 8.
4. Representative Gary Knight provided an update from Augusta. He first discussed the Governor's proposed budget which includes a two-year moratorium on Municipal Revenue Sharing payments to municipalities. He said the same provision was included in the Governor's budget two years ago and was unanimously voted "Ought Not to Pass" by the Taxation Committee, which he Chaired and had a Republican majority at the time. Rep. Knight said he is no longer Chair of the Taxation Committee and the Democrats now hold the majority. He said this provision of the Governor's proposed budget will be back before the Taxation Committee and he does not support the proposal. He said the governor's view is that towns used to get by without Revenue Sharing, which was originated in 1982, and believes they should be able to get by without it now. Rep. Knight said he hasn't talked to anyone who favors the proposal today, however. He added that he has never seen a budget emerge from the process looking anything like its initial proposal, and that he doesn't expect the legislature to take it up until it has resolved the shortfalls in the current biennial budget. Rep. Knight said that legislation has been introduced that would roll back the recent income tax rate reduction. He added that he anticipates other attempts to raise revenue, including his bill to require online business to collect and submit sales taxes on internet purchases by Mainers. He believes that could generate \$30 million for the state. He said he also introduced a bill that would allow General Assistance recipients to perform work for towns without the towns having a liability exposure for potential injuries. Mr. Schaub said a group of Livermore residents have expressed concern to the Selectboard about consumer fireworks, to the extent that they would like to see the town consider an ordinance to impose limits more strict than the state law. He said that Livermore, like virtually all small towns without police departments, have no means of enforcing such ordinances, so some have suggested placing the burden on the state to amend the current law. Budget Committee Chair Tina Quirrion asked if the Governor's Homestead Exemption proposal would also be considered during the budget process. Rep. Knight said all of the budget's provisions would be addressed and that he doesn't want people to become overly concerned so early in the process. Mr. Timberlake asked if raising the lodging tax would be considered again. Rep. Knight said it would. He also discussed a new caucus-type effort being formed among political moderates from both parties that seeks to identify and work toward the common goals of both. Mr. Berry inquired on the outlook for schools. Rep. Knight said there has been a lot of pushback on the charter schools issue. He added that he supports charter schools, adding they will make public schools do a better job.
5. Mr. Schaub presented his Treasurer and Administrator reports. He reported the Memorial Forest timber harvest matter is now in the hands of the town's attorney and that a demand letter has been sent. The matter is apparently being investigated by the cutter's insurance company. He also provided a rough estimate of the impact that Governor LePage's budget proposal will have on Livermore. Excluding

education, he expects the tax rate will grow from 13.4 mils to 14.46 mils, or a 7.9 percent increase. He said it will be challenging to prepare a municipal budget without knowledge of state revenues. He also reported on FEMA's proposed Floodplain Management Ordinance draft, which is being referred to the Planning Board, and the state's request for a signed agreement regarding overweight trucks using town roads during an upcoming Route 4 overlay project. The contract was signed. Lastly, he said 30-day foreclosures would be sent later in the week. The foreclosure deadline is March 14.

6. Mr. Wakefield said he and Mrs. Quirion had spoken about how meetings with the Budget Committee would be managed. He said they agreed to alternate the presiding role between the Chair of the Board of Selectpersons and the Chair of the Budget Committee. A motion was offered by Mrs. Dion, seconded by Mr. Timberlake and unanimously approved to appoint Ron Greenwood to the Road Committee and Amy Pineau to the Solid Waste Board. The appointments were discussed during the January 14 meeting but no action was taken. Lastly, Mrs. Quirion questioned the wages being paid to the Town Treasurer. Mrs. Dion said Mr. Schaub is being compensated for 5.5 hours per week at \$15 per hour. Mr. Wakefield said that was the amount his salary was reduced, effective July 1, 2012.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt E. Schaub