







**ITEM 7: To Establish the 2013 Tax Rate (Cont.)**

is attributable to the five-year road improvement program, the benefits of which currently are visible in the Voter Hill Road. Mark Caldwell emphasized that any questions regarding valuation changes need to go directly through him, and he reviewed the process.

**Jessica Berry moved to set the 2013 tax rate at 0.01575; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 9: To Approve the Purchase of a Gas Boiler for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Dewatering Building**

Richard Davis reviewed the quotes received and recommendation, referencing his memo dated August 23, 2013. Conversion of this boiler to natural gas upon its availability was discussed. Retiring Wastewater Superintendent Steve Moore was present.

**Dennis Pike moved to approve ABT's proposal of \$24,871 for Option 2, which includes a 1,000 gallon propane tank, plus demolition and removal of the old chimney; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 10: To Review the Sewer Connection Fees**

Richard Davis reviewed the packet of information that he had supplied to the Selectmen, including a list of connection fees of various municipalities within Farmington's population range that he had surveyed in the past week. He also reviewed the Town of Farmington's current connection fee schedule and unit charge, and the Reserve account, which currently has a balance of \$394,000. Mr. Davis suggested that the Selectmen schedule a future work session for recommendations, possibly after the new Wastewater Superintendent has had a chance to get his bearings and review and make his own recommendations. Residents Dennis O'Neil and Stephan Bunker contributed to the discussion. Andrew Hufnagel suggested that the Town of Farmington's sewer connection fee be changed from \$750 per equivalent unit to a flat \$300. Mr. Davis stated that he has no issue with adjusting the rate and understands the purpose, but feels a differential should be maintained based on the actual impact of the user on the system, ie. residential user versus a large commercial business. He reiterated that he would like to give the new Superintendent six months to get acclimated and then ask him for his recommendation.

**Andrew Hufnagel moved to change the sewer connection fee to \$375; further discussion; no second. Motion failed.**

**ITEM 10: To Review the Sewer Connection Fees (Cont.)**

**Jessica Berry moved to postpone any adjustment to the sewer connection fee in order to utilize the new superintendent's expertise in making a recommendation;** further discussion, with resident Betty Jespersen contributing; Richard Davis suggested reducing the unit charge to \$500 and see what impact that has, with the knowledge that the matter can be revisited in the future; **Dennis Pike seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 2 OPPOSED 3 MOTION FAILED  
(AH/RM/JoB)**

**Joshua Bell moved to change the \$750 per equivalent unit sewer connection fee to \$350; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Jessica Berry)**

**ITEM 11: To Review the *Certified Business-Friendly Community Program* Application**

Richard Davis reviewed the copy of the completed application provided to the Selectmen and supporting documents, and reported that it is due on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Davis stated that he is confident after reviewing this application that the Town of Farmington is business-friendly and will qualify easily for this designation. It was reported that 24 out of 400 Maine towns have received this designation. The Selectmen thanked Richard Davis and Cindy Gelinis for compiling such a well-documented application.

**ITEM 12: To Approve a Contract Addendum with Waste Management Disposal Services of Maine, Inc. to Reflect a 2.0% Increase in the Cost of Waste Disposal, Effective November 1, 2013**

Richard Davis reviewed the contract addendum, which for the Town of Farmington mainly pertains to demolition debris. Andrew Hufnagel questioned signing another contract with Waste Management in light of the proposal received from Archie's, Inc. to take over the transfer station and recycling. Mr. Davis explained the termination and assignment terms of the contract structure. Mr. Hufnagel suggested that more information be provided before the Selectmen make a decision on whether to sign another contract with Waste Management or put the services out to bid. Mr. Davis pointed out that if this agreement is transferred to another entity outside of the Town, it will result in a loss of control of the cost of disposal to residential and business owners, as well as loss of revenue.

**Joshua Bell moved to postpone decision on this Item until the next meeting; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 13: To Discuss the Process for Conducting the Manager’s Annual Performance Evaluation**

Richard Davis reviewed past procedure, pointing out that he always starts this process on his employment anniversary date, which is today.

**Dennis Pike moved to proceed with this year’s evaluation using the same procedure as last year; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

Ryan Morgan thanked former Chairman Stephan Bunker for the procedure that they now have in place.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

Mr. Davis handed out the necessary materials, with Mr. Morgan requesting that completed paperwork be forwarded to him. Mr. Davis agreed to email an electronic form to the Selectmen.

**ITEM 14: To Consider Making an Additional Contribution to the Lac-Mégantic Relief Fund from the Special Projects Account**

Richard Davis reported that as of earlier this date the Relief Fund balance was at \$29,673.19. He explained that other Towns have contributed considerable amounts to the fund and asked the Selectmen if they were satisfied with their \$500 contribution that started the account, or if they would like to consider further contribution. Ryan Morgan reported that he received an email from Senator Tom Saviello this date reporting that four representatives from Lac Megantic, one of which will be the Mayor, will be coming to the 6:30-9:30 P.M. benefit concert and gathering here in Farmington on October 12<sup>th</sup>. The Selectmen discussed Mr. Morgan’s suggestion that the Town cover the cost of four hotel rooms for these representatives instead of contributing more money to the Relief Fund.

**Andrew Hufnagel moved to have the Town Manager look at local rates before making a decision; Dennis Pike seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 15: To Approve the Minutes of August 13 and 20, 2013**

**Jessica Berry moved to approve the minutes of August 13 and 20, 2013; Dennis Pike seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

