

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

Present: Rodney Graham, Jasmin Couillard, Francis Covey, Matt Rouleau and Jessica Worn.

Called to Order – 7:00 p.m.

Set the Agenda – Matt made motion to amend agenda to add Fire Chief, William Graham and to table the vacant building ordinance review. Jasmin second. So moved.

Open Public Comments – Rodney pointed out the rules displayed at the back of the room next to sign in sheet.

SB Announcements – None

Public Announcements – None

Commissions/Committees/Trustees/Other Board Announcements – Rich Turner, Chairman of the Planning Commission announced that the town had received a partial grant of \$6000.00 for Ash Borer project. Original Grant request was \$12,000.00. State had more requests for funding than what was allocated for disbursement so grant amount was reduced. Thanked Town Manager for her work on the grant.

Approve Selectboard Meeting Minutes – Jasmin made motion to accept 11/6/20 Selectboard Meeting Minutes as written. Francis Second. Matt abstained as he was not present. So moved. Matt made motion to approve 11/9/20 with the amendment to reflect that the Animal Control budget had been increased to \$10,000.00 not the Animal Control Officer pay as the Large Animal Ordinance has not been adopted yet and the increase was to reflect that. Francis second. So moved.

Fire Department – William Graham – Fire Department Officers discussed talking with area Police Departments to assist when needed during calls. Jackie will contact Berlin, Northfield and Barre Town for availability for assistance. Fire Department Officers are putting together a plan for equipment replacement. Using \$26,000.00 to replace SCBA Compressor. Also working on a grant. Ladder Truck is now in good condition and Engine 3 is in good working order. Tanker is in good shape. Engine 1, body is great, and engine is great. Frame is failing. Will be coming back in a few months to explain a game plan. Matt stated need to be concerned will how we spend the reserve fund.

SB20051 Ladder Truck Warrant – William is still disputing the bill. Original quote was \$38,000.00 and an extra cost was incurred of \$10,000.00 as nozzle needed replacing in order to pass inspection and certification. Final bill came in at \$69,000.00. William got them down to \$62,000.00. Requesting an itemized bill of expenses. If William cannot get anywhere with them then Jackie will get involved.

Matt made motion to table approval of SB20051. Francis second. So moved.

Approve Warrants – Jasmin made motion to approve Payroll 11/8/20, 11/22/20 & 12/6/20, SB20045, SB20046, SB20048, SB20050 and SB20052. Jessica second. So moved.

Town Manager's Report – See Attached.

New Business –

Fire Warden Appointment – Matt made motion to appoint Jason Ball. Francis second. So moved.

Foxwoods Development Project – Larry Hebert, Jimmy Hebert and Rob Townsend reviewed site plans for development. Rodney stated that the original plan was to pave from Business Center Road to the gateway by the pond and the rest would remain gravel. Larry responded that the new plan was to pave the entire project to and including the cul-de-sac. Would probably be a partially paved when town takes over depending on lot sales. Larry stated he needs a letter of support from the Selectboard and the Planning | Commission for Act 250 permitting. Matt made motion to write letter in favor of Foxwoods Estate Project. Francis second. So moved.

Rodney would like a motion and letter from Hebert that the road will be paved completely within in 5-year timeframe. Matt made motion that an 80% buildout of Road would be paved by 2026. Francis second. So moved.

Shannon Sweet – Tax Dispute – Sweet stated he was disputing the tax bill as the mobile home was removed in June of 2020. He had asked for an abatement meeting but due to COVID it had been postponed and the taxes have gone delinquent on that portion of the tax bill. Rodney stated that the mobile home was removed after the April 1st deadline for setting the grand list and he by state law was responsible for the full amount due on the mobile home. Sweet argued that the Lister new he removed the mobile home and that the grievance hearing he had with them that it was being removed. Also stated that he had been given the runaround by all the departments in the Town Office and that the Town Manager told him to come to the Selectboard. Town Manager said she did not tell him that. That if it was and Errors and Omission on the Lister’s part that the Lister would send a letter to the Selectboard for approval. Town Manager will send abatement information and the town mobile home tax payment policy to Sweet on Tuesday the 15th.

Economic Development Board – Francis made motion to appoint Barbara Graham as representative of Williamstown. Jasmin second. So moved.

Industry Street Beavers – Table for further information at the January Selectboard Meeting.

Final 2021/2022 Budget Review – Tabled – Francis made motion to have a meeting on 12/21/20 at 6:00 p.m. Matt second. So moved.

Vacant Building Ordinance for review – Tabled until January meeting.

Old Business – None

Open Public Comments – None

Around the Table – None

Executive Session – None

Adjourn – Jasmin made motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Fran Second. So moved.

Respectfully Submitted

Jacqueline Higgins

Matt Rouleau

Jessica Worn

Rodney Graham

Francis Covey

Jasmin Couillard

Present via Go To Meeting:

Susan Lyons

Shannon Sweet

Jimmy Hebert

Larry Hebert

Rob Townsend

Barbara Graham

Horace Duke

Rich Turner

David Delacore

Samantha Lefebvre