Select Board Meeting

February 5, 2020

6:02 pm meeting called to order.

Select Board members present: Mike Bedini, Ericka Oleson, and Neil Oleson.

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Christine Dobbert, Jim White, Cindy Bosley, Heidi Dugal, Ron White and Vicki Winchell. Pam White attended briefly.

Ericka made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/22/20 meeting. Mike seconded. Unanimous.

Ericka made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/29/20 meeting. Mike seconded. Unanimous.

Heidi Dugal, Principal, Gabriel Abbott Memorial School:

* Presented a Statement of Interest to the Board asking them to vote on it for an accelerated repair for window repairs at the school through the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Motion by Ericka to approve the Statement of Interest, seconded by Mike. Unanimous.

Christine Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* Reviewed a response from the state regarding access to the bridge on South County Road. The State claimed to vegetate it after bridge work was completed. The DEP and DOT will need to meet to review the claim the town disturbed vegetation.
* Discussed the Directors report regarding the Senior Center. There was a complaint about one of the toilets in the women’s rest room being too low. There were no specifics available as to which toilet the complainant was referring to. The handicap bathroom toilet is the highest available and the other stall contains a standard toilet height. It was recommended to check into the possibility of installing a grab bar for the smaller stall as well as to find out who was having the issue and be certain they’re aware that the handicap stall is higher.
* Free Cash has been certified by the state
* Schedule A has been submitted to the state
* Christine spoke with the auditing company Scanlon and Associates. They will get back to her to schedule the town audit, which will most likely be in the fall
* Tax bills are being sent out soon. They will be for the full year and are to be due in May.
* Excise bills coming out February 13, 2020
* At a recent Berkshire Managers Group meeting Christine learned the electrical aggregation the town is part of is going out to bid for new rates.

Pam White, Finance Committee:

* Discussed the fact that the Finance Committee members terms had expired last June (2019). Christine will write appointments up for the current members to read a term of one and a half years. They are all advised to appear before Lisa during the next Selectmen’s meeting on February 19, 2020.
* Pam also questioned as to if Moderator was needed to hold Finance Committee meetings. She was advised that a moderator does not attend these meetings. The Finance Committee however must appoint a chair at their next meeting.

Mike Bedini, Selectmen:

* Has asked Jim that when submitting his budget requests for Fiscal Year 21 he review repairs needed for the walkway into town hall as it is full of holes, and gauges. There are some drainage needs that should to be addressed there as well. He would also like to see the landscape updated. Would like see extra $ in the maintenance account for Fiscal Year 2021 to address this.

Jim White, Highway Supervisor:

* Update on trucks
* Pole for Broadband has been installed at the Fire Department.
* Contacted Berkshire Correctional to schedule a work crew for 5/4/20 through 5/8/20 to do maintenance work in the cemetery and town hall. Hoping to get them back to do some brushwork and painting at the senior center.
* Scheduled 2 sweepers from Maintenance Man for 3 days in May.
* Bill, Town of Savoy Highway Department Supervisor has inquired about borrowing the town paver. He is aware that it needs repairs and has offered to repair it if he can use it. He is also interested in buying it, pending price. It hasn’t been used in years and could have lost a lot of value due to unused, repairs needed. Selectmen have instructed Jim to research the value of it. They also noted, if it were to be sold it would possibly need to go out to bid, depending on the value of it, per state regulations.
* Jim also reported as the selectmen have instructed, he has been able to get into the office more than he was previously vs being out on the road for the majority of his day.

6:56 p.m. Mike motioned to adjourn meeting. Ericka seconded. Unanimous.