Select Board Meeting

May 15, 2019

6:00 pm meeting called to order.

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

Others present: Christine Dobbert, Glenn Burdick, Mike Gleason, Ron Bosley, Cindy Bosley, and Melanie Medon. Seth Bean joined near the end of the meeting.

Ericka made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Neil seconded. Mike abstained as he was not on the board at the last meeting. Motion moved.

Mike made a motion to appoint Neil as chairperson of the select board. Ericka seconded. Motion moved.

Chris Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* There are two small stabilization accounts with no activity, one is the W. O. Ford cemetery account and the other is the Nathan Drury cemetery account. Would like to add two articles on the annual town meeting warrant to use these accounts for cemetery maintenance so they can be closed out.
* Ericka made a motion to approve a business license from Patrick Gray for J.P. Murphy, Travis Burdick Carpentry and a motion to approve a common victualler license for Christadora. Mike seconded. Unanimous.
* The state accepted Allison Andrews as animal inspector.
* Reviewed Bestech’s solar proposal: Chris stated the initial letter had stated $12,000/megawatt while the current proposal is for $7,000/megawatt. They changed the language the town’s attorney had added. They would be leasing 33 acres but only utilizing about 5 acres. The company seems to have trouble understanding municipal requirements such as advertising and the bid process. Glenn and Chris stated they would like to look into the town owning solar on this property. The board was reluctant to move forward with Bestech due to changes and inconsistencies. Tabled while the board looks into pros and cons of the town owning an array.
* Invitation to bid for paving of Monroe Road, Oleson Road, and a portion of Church Road will be going out this week. Bids will be due June 12th.
* The Memorial Committee will be using the Senior/Community Center on Memorial Day.
* Still having personnel issues. Excessive absences is still an issue. The employee has used up all paid time off. The board would like the employee called in to discuss this.

Glenn Burdick, Highway Supervisor:

* Would like to put in for STRAP Grant and do River Road from Whitcomb Hill up to the Monroe line. Chris will let Glenn know when applications are being accepted.
* Doing pot holes.
* Did additional cleaning on Whitcomb Hill Road and removed any potential hazards that could be removed.
* Neil stated the Senior Center would like extra sand in the parking lot removed. Glenn stated it will be, it is on the list and the school also requested the same.
* Equipment maintenance.
* Mowers have been serviced.
* Changed two lock sets out at the Senior/Community Center. Will be doing the deck also. All three will be the same combination.
* Asked DCR to drop the trees on Church Road toward the road so the town could clean it up. Concerns from Glenn, Mike Gleason, and the board that if they are left they will pose a fire hazard.
* Mike Bedini asked if the roads will be swept soon. Glenn stated that it is scheduled for June 3rd.
* Mike Bedini asked when Monroe Road would be paved. Chris stated September. Mike expressed concerns of the condition of the road. Glenn stated that they were down there yesterday and today working on it.

Chris Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* Received a phone call from the state police about a puppy that was sold in town. Chris called the purchaser who was concerned with the appearance of the house. The puppy had fecal matter in the fur on her rear end. The puppy is a few months older than was stated and may be pregnant. The puppy also has worms. Chris spoke with Jeremy and Judy who are familiar with the seller. They were told there is not much that can be done because the animals have clean food, water, and shelter. The purchaser wants to report it to News 10. Chris called the state and left it in their hands.
* Cindy Bosley asked for follow-up on the person redirecting the river. Chris stated nothing yet and it will be handled through the Conservation Commission.

Mike Gleason, Fire Chief:

* Received an estimate from Gagne Mechanical for a new 100ft by 100ft building. The cost does not include plumbing, sewer, electric, etc. It is just the shell. The building with insulation would be about $200,000. Excavation would be about $136,000. Garage doors would be about $30,000. The engineering would cost about $6,500. Mike Bedini asked if the property has been perked. Neil stated no but it will get done. In order to build a new building it would need to go to annual town meeting. Before proceeding, it will be perked. Glenn stated that the highway department could do some of the excavating if it would help with the cost. Will bid before deciding to see if the cost savings would be worthwhile. Chris stated she would like Derek Wissman for a project manager if he would be willing as he was very helpful with the school project. Next step is to decide a spot for the building and then perk.

Chris Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* Broadband Update: They are about three weeks behind.

Seth Bean, Assessor Chairperson:

* Denied Brookfield and Great River Hydro abatement applications and transmission distribution abatement application from New England Power Co. The hydro companies are looking to sit down and negotiate with the three towns. New England Power would like to negotiate with Florida. Chris and the board stated to see what they bring to the table and then review with the other towns and the select board.

7:19pm Ericka made a motion to adjourn. Neil seconded. Unanimous.