Select Board Meeting

October 17, 2018

6:00 pm meeting called to order.

Board members present: Neil Oleson, Krista Bishop and Ericka Oleson

Board members absent: None

Others present: Chris Dobbert, Melanie Medon, those presenting, and several residents.

Ericka made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Krista seconded. Unanimous.

Cindy Bosley recorded.

Krista made a motion to go into executive session. Ericka seconded. Unanimous.

6:12 pm moved to regular session.

James Newbury, Bestech Clean Energy:

* Submitted a proposal for solar on Tilda Hill with a lease of land for $15,000/megawatt and $12,000/megawatt on North County as a PILOT. Will need to apply with National Grid for interconnection agreement. No upfront cost to the town. Project is dependent on the price National Grid gives for the interconnect fee. A resident expressed he would like that area to remain for the animals.
* Chris stated the town needs to decide if they want to sell or lease the land. Also, this would require a special permit.

Chris Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* State warrant signed.
* Requesting $23,700 for Chapter 90 for Monroe, Church, and Savoy Roads. This will include dense grade, box drains, and culverts. Krista made a motion to use Chapter 90 funds as stated above. Ericka seconded. Unanimous.
* Trick or Treat hours will be October 31st 6-8pm.
* Would like to purchase or lease a new copier. It is 20 years old and only copies. Would like an all in one; copy, scan, fax, with multiple sized paper that is wireless so every computer at town hall could access it. Hoping to have $1500 from EMPG to use toward the cost. Provided board with cost to purchase and lease this equipment. Ericka made a motion to proceed with the purchase of the Kyocera. Krista seconded. Unanimous.

Glenn Burdick, Highway Superintendent:

* Paving came out well.
* Seal coating finished.
* Need to put in 3 foundations for monuments in the cemetery.
* Pre-inspections scheduled 19th and 20th of November.
* Had a tree down on Phelps today.
* Have a tree hanging near power line. National Grid will be looking at it.

Roger Randall thanked Glenn for fill to match his driveway to the road. Stated Doug and Jim are very hard workers and they do a good job.

Tim Bartlet stated that he noticed brush cutting has not been done and that men are working in unsafe conditions. On embankments, using wood chippers, etc. with no one around. Began to mention he felt an employee is treated unfairly. Chris stated that they cannot discuss an employee without the employee being present. Krista asked in regards to safety what protocol he believes should be followed. Tim stated there should always be two people by policy.

Recess at 6:58 pm for town meeting.

Reconvened at Senior/Community Center at 7:17pm.

Pole hearing:

Brian Bushey of Wi-Valley stated that 7 poles will strategically be placed around town to provide wireless internet service. All of the poles will be located on town easements and will be owned by the four town broadband network once construction is complete. They will be maintained by Wi-Valley. Poles are 50-70 feet tall. Phase 1 is to begin in November and the project is expected to be complete by next summer. Poles will be located at Town Hall, Monroe Road, Oleson Road, River Road, Whitcomb Hill Road, South County Road, and Bliss Road. A resident asked if other towns would be able to access the service and reduce the service to residents. This will not happen. The speed is federally committed to be 25/3 and to access the service one will need an antenna receiver system. The petition in Charlemont is only holding up Hawley. The state is supporting Wi-Valley through this. Customers will be connected as the service is available. Allowed those present to view pole locations on map.

Krista made a motion to accept poles listed. Ericka seconded. Unanimous.

Some residents asked for clarification on the service and Brian provided explanation.

7:45 pm Krista made a motion to adjourn. Ericka seconded. Unanimous.