Select Board Meeting

March 18, 2020

6:03 pm meeting called to order by Ericka.

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

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Christine Dobbert, Jim White, Mike Gleason, Nate LeBlanc and Vicki Winchell.

Ericka made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/4/20 meeting. Mike seconded. Unanimous.

Christine Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* Christine reported Buddy Embry has given his notice due to medical reasons. His last day of work will be Saturday, March 28, 2020. Eric will replace Buddy and work Wednesday and Saturdays. His days off will then be Sunday and Monday.
* Mayflower Assessors, who do the town's evaluations are retiring. A new company is needed. Patriot has given a proposal for $17,000 to do the evaluations. This will include uploading pictures of all homes in town.
* The Town Accountant and Treasurer have decided to no longer use the new software that was purchased to be used as their municipal software program. The company did not meet the expectations promised and the software could not meet the needs of these departments. Christine is trying to obtain some sort of a refund. The Accountant and Treasurer will go back to using Quickbooks as their program of choice until another program can be found.
* Christine has switched the town’s phone services from Verizon to all internet phones. The phones cost $10 each per month to rent. Total expected cost will be approximately $240 per month for all phones and the system. There is no installation cost. This is being done through Otelco. They are coming to inspect on March 31, 2020. Phones will be replaced at the Town Hall, Town Garage, Fire Department and Senior Center. A copper line will need to be kept through Verizon for the building alarm system.
* Spoke with the town Attorney regarding the Highway Department Union pushing for $20 per hour for new highway department employees. Attorney feels it is not necessary as it is not written in the union contract that way.

Jim White, Highway Supervisor:

* Update on trucks; waiting on the title for the dump truck to register it.
* River Road as well as Whitcomb Hill Road to the town line have had all guard rails weed wacked and the culverts have been inspected. Working on Lower River Road next then sweeping the highway department yard and cutting brush.
* Crew has been working on equipment maintenance.
* Jim will get the Paver listed on Ebay next week to see what kind of price it can bring.

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Selectmen:

* Nate LeBlanc, Avin Grid - Presented Selectmen with a rough draft of a Memo of Understanding (MOU) to install a radio system on Crum Tower. There is a place for equipment however the town would need to install a 3x3 weatherproof box. Avin Grid will select the location for the antenna. There is high ice buildup on these towers therefore the antenna will need protection to avoid any ice damage. It is recommended to use a stout antenna from the start in order to avoid replacing a less expensive antenna frequently. Due to the need for heavy duty equipment the anticipated cost has risen from $10,000 to an estimated $17,000. The MOU was written up with the Florida Fire Department information. Selectmen have requested all lines stating Florida Fire Department be changed to the Town of Florida and should include Selectmen as the signing authority since the Town of Florida is responsible financially. This will be brought to the annual town meeting in June.
* Selectmen reported a letter of resignation from Seth Bean, resigning from the School Committee. Heather O’Brien has accepted the nomination from the town caucus to run for this position.
* A motion was made by Ericka, seconded by Mike, vote was unanimous to accept and sign the following business licenses.
  + Christadora
  + John S. Field SS
  + Peter Arigoni, Little Brook Builders
  + Travis Burdick
* Regular compactor and recycle compactor bins need to be replaced. Checking into whether the recycle cans can be combined with the metal bin.
* Selectmen reviewed meeting notes from the Senior Center Director.
* Selectmen need to re-nominate Ally Perkins as the Animal Inspector. Motion made by Ericka, Second by Mike. Unanimous.
* Christodora will be opening back as soon as it is safe to do so.
* Mike has advised Christine to take precautions for herself while at town hall, dealing with the public, during the Covid-19 outbreak.

6:58 p.m. Mike motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ericka seconded. Unanimous.