Select Board Meeting

October 28, 2020

6:02 pm meeting called to order by Neil.

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

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Jim White, Christine Dobbert, Vicki Winchell, Ron Bosley, Judy Oleson, Heidi Dugal

Ericka Oleson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 10/14/20 meeting. Mike Bedini seconded. Unanimous.

Selectmen:

* The next Selectboard meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 because the Wednesday, November 11, 2020 is Veterans Day.
* Mike asked Jim how many small sanders they had. Jim said there are 3 and working on another. Mike reminded Jim to be mindful of the weight of the equipment and to be sure not to overload it as could be very dangerous for the driver.
* Mike questioned how hours work for the utility workers when one needs a day off. He was told they are paid overtime if the replacement does not take a different day off during the same week. The Selectmen have advised Jim to be sure if one of the utility workers does need to take a day off and the other substitutes for him that substitute needs to rearrange his work schedule to take a different day off during the week so as not to accumulate overtime. This was one of the reasons they hired two utility workers.
* Mike received a letter from the Assessors regarding the Windmill Properties stating they do not pay any taxes. Christine informed Mike they do in fact pay the taxes however they use it as a credit towards what they owe the town vs sending a separate check for the tax bill alone. The Selectmen would like the assessors to attend the next Selectmen meeting to discuss this.
* Mike has offered to donate time from his company to work on replanting in front of town hall and cleaning up outside at the senior center. He has also offered to donate flowers to be planted in these areas as well as replace the tree that was donated and planted in memory of Clem Dugal because it is not growing properly.

Christine Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* EMPG Grant has been submitted
* Working on a MIIA Grant. If received, it will be used for touchless water bottle fillers for the school. One of the grant requirements is it must be used for health and mindfulness reasons benefiting MIIA health insurance members.
* Also working on a CARES Grants. Was hoping part of it can be used for ventilation but found it can not be used that way. It must be spent by 12/31/20 and needs to be used on PPE, shields or sterilizers.

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Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

* Working on cleaning up the yard.
* Mowing lawns, blowing leaves
* All trucks passed inspections, some after replacing a few parts.
* All trucks are up and running
* Gravel completed on Peanut Hill Road, Savoy Road, South County East and Lower Church Road.
* Bobs Tire came and picked up 230 tires. There are a few left that they could not fit in their truck.
* West Oil installed the new furnace.
* November 11th is Veterans Day. Jim would like to offer it as a floating holiday to the highway workers so that they can have a long weekend instead, if preferred. Selectmen had no problem with this.
* Salt received today and sand is being delivered tomorrow.

Public Comment:

* Heidi Dugal and Judy Oleson appeared before the Selectmen to discuss the meeting recently held on October 27, 2020 with the School and the Board of Health regarding the Library being opening during the school day. They are concerned about having the Library open during school hours because they share a bathroom. The school has one teacher with documented medical issues. They agreed with the teacher that this teacher is to have lone access to the bathroom located off the cafeteria, which is also the designated restroom for the Library when they are open. The school does not allow any non-staff members to enter the building since before school started this fall. For these reasons, they feel it is best for the Library to continue with their evening hours only and not open during the school day. Heidi will send an email to the Interim Library Director and the Library Trustees detailing this decision.
* Ron Bosley asked when tax bills will be sent out to which Christine replied it is unknown at this time.
* Ron Bosley inquired about the status of the school building project with the MSBA. Christine replied there are no updates yet. They are still waiting on approval.
* Ron Bosley asked if the cleaning position has been posted yet. Christine said it has not nor has the Library Director position been posted yet.

6:42 pm Ericka made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike seconded. Unanimous.