

Town of Florida Select Board Meeting

Florida Town Hall
379 Mohawk Trail
Drury, MA 01343

August 2, 2023

6:00 pm meeting called to order by Neil Oleson.

Select Board members present: Mike Bedini, Neil Oleson, Terry I. Green

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Joan Lewis, Vicki Winchell, Ron Bosley, Cindy Bosley, Jim White, Diana Worth, Tim Keating, Scott Kirchner, Al Bedini, Stephanie Pare

Select board:

- Mike Bedini made a motion to approve the Select board minutes from the meeting held on July 19, 2023. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.
- Terry I. Green made a motion to approve the Select board minutes from the meeting held on July 5, 2023. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.
- Wiring Inspector Tim Keating attended to discuss appointing an assistant wire inspector. He has been very busy but also travels quite frequently and therefore often out of the area. He would like an assistant so residents do not have to wait for him to return to town. He has checked with several prospects however no one is interested. He has asked his son, Nick, who is interested. Tim also discussed the fees. Florida's are the lowest in the state at \$30.00. He has asked for an increase.
 - Mike Bedini made a motion to appoint Nick Keating as the assistant wire inspector. Terry I. Green seconded. Unanimous.
 - Mike Bedini made a motion to increase the wire inspection fees from \$30 to \$55 for residential and to \$105 for commercial. Terry I. Green seconded. Unanimous.
- Scott Kircher, Mad Macs, thanked the board for the opportunity to work on the IT project with the town. He explained they are at the planning stage and have met with the town hall staff to discuss their needs. One decision he needs is where to house the small server. Board agreed he could put it in the corner of the town hall main room. Scott will start the project at town hall and then branch out from there to the other town departments. He estimates to be done with the project by the end of December 2023. A maintenance program will be needed to which Neil added it would need to go out to bid. It is suggested when Mad Macs is wrapping up the project to inform the board so they can then put the maintenance project out for bids. Scott also recommended "seat specific" emails for town employees, board members, etc that would then get passed on to the next person in that position.
- Lisa Brown would like to get a cellphone stipend in the same amount as the highway department as she does a lot of town business from her personal cell phone.
 - Terry I. Green made a motion to pay Lisa Brown a \$35 monthly stipend for her cell phone. Mike Bedini seconded. Neil Oleson abstained.

Select Board Initials _____

MLB

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Selectboard (continued):

- Four applications have been received for the highway department position. The ad will run for two more weeks.
- Mike discussed Jim and himself had looked at trucks to replace a small highway truck. McAndrews King has a GMC 3500 that has gone from \$68,000.00 down to \$61,032.00. It comes with the dump body and is gas powered which is about \$10-15K less expensive than diesel. Purchasing this way would leave enough money left to get a plow and sander for it. Neil discussed the need to go out to bid when it is over a \$50,000 purchase. Terry recommended using the information from McAndrews King as criteria for bids. All bids would need to be submitted as a sealed bid. The highway has a CV515 International on order that will arrive October 2, 2023 from a prior approval.

Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

- Working on Tilda Hill Road. This should be done in 1-2 weeks.
- Mowing cemeteries and road sides
- Installed a military plaque for Stanley Brown
- Poured a cemetery foundation for Ronald and Susan Dubois.
- Took care of a couple of trees that had come down
- Will start blacktopping in September. Planning to rent a roller for the month.
- Complaint about a driveway washing out on Central Shaft. Going to cut that and put a swale in.
- Repaired swale on Poirot Road
- There is erosion by Eilers pit. Going to put a blowout patch there.

Joan Lewis, Town Administrator:

- Discussed Melanie, Stacie and Stephanie looking for a new shredder. The price is approximately \$800-\$900. Joan will look into a shredding company first.
- Working with Melanie to upgrade the payroll process via an excel program.
- Attended a meeting on the North Adams hospital. There is a community meeting being held on August 3, 2023. The hospital is looking for community support.
- Lisa and Joan are working on the annual town reports and have reached out to everyone for their reports.
- Vacuum cleaner blew up and a couple of outlets smoked in the town hall. Tim Keating offered to look at the outlets.
- The board of health had a meeting, in conjunction with the building inspector and some town residents who received letters. The bylaws were reviewed with them. The meeting went well.
- Dump stickers are selling.


Select Board Initials _____ *MCB* _____

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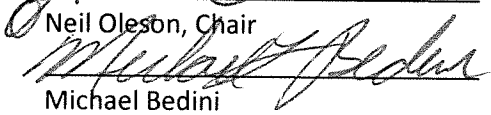
Public Comment

- Cindy discussed a Northern Berkshire subcommittee she is on under the Mass Digital Equity Program. They require an IT contact for the town. She asked Mad Macs if she could include them as the IT contact for the town. He is happy to do it on behalf of the town.
- Diana Worth is attending a mandatory training in Northampton for ACO on September 11, 2023 and September 12, 2023. There is no fee.
- Diana needs to be reappointed as her time expired.
 - Mike Bedini made a motion to reappoint Diana Worth as the animal control officer. Terry I. Green seconded. Unanimous.
- There was a dog incident last Monday in which the dog was hit by a car. The dog was not going to make it and the owner wanted Diana to shoot it. Diana wanted to inform all that neither her nor Jeremy can shoot animals. In these instances, she would be required to bring the dog to the veterinary hospital. There was a state trooper there who did this for the owner.

Terry I. Green made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 pm. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.



 Neil Oleson, Chair



 Michael Bedini

Terry I. Green

Select Board Initials _____ MLB _____