

### Town of Florida Select Board Meeting

Florida Town Hall  
379 Mohawk Trail  
Drury, MA 01343

September 27, 2023

6:04 pm meeting called to order by Neil Oleson.

Select Board members present: Neil Oleson, Mike Bedini, Terry I. Green (attended remotely via telephone until 6:30 pm)

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Joan Lewis, James White, Vicki Winchell, Cindy Bosley, Ron Bosley, Mike Gleason, Tim Bartlett

Selectboard:

- Mike Bedini made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectboard meeting of September 12, 2023. Neil Oleson seconded. Roll Call vote: Mike Bedini, yes; Neil Oleson, yes; Terry I. Green, abstained.
- The board discussed the candidates interviewed for the open highway department position. Jim brought forward concerns from himself and the crew in hiring one of the candidates. There was only one other that he felt was a good candidate but otherwise more interested in continuing to advertise the position for more candidates. Terry added if Jim is not certain, and they are doing alright as is, they can hold off on filling the position and advertise for more candidates. If hired, the candidate would start with a probationary period. Jim and the board agreed to hire Michael Hubby for a 6-month probation period. The board members instructed Jim everyone should give him a fair shake. Mike felt it should be Jim's decision. Neil would like to meet with Michael Hubby to offer the position, discuss starting pay and conditions of employment. Terry added he would need to be hired as an at will employee. All agreed they could meet on Monday, October 2, 2023, at 5pm at town hall. Joan will call Michael to let him know.
  - Michael Bedini made a motion to hire Michael Hubby for a six-month probation period for the highway department position. Neil Oleson seconded. Roll Call vote: Terry I. Green, no; Michael Bedini, yes; Neil Oleson, yes.
- Mike requested Joan add the electrical aggregation information on the town website since it will be renewed in November.

Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

- Blacktopping Whitcomb Hill and River Roads. One more week of the roller rental.
- Waiting on a call back from Bakers for the plow and sander
- MS Office has been reinstalled on the computer.
- The new door to the town hall has been installed. It will be finished tomorrow, and the keys will be in in a couple of days.

Select Board Initials \_\_\_\_\_ MLB \_\_\_\_\_

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Joan Lewis, Town Administrator:

- The assessors have sent out letters to residents regarding commercial property evaluations. State police have the license plate of the evaluators in case anyone should call regarding a stranger on their property.
- Tom Scanlon’s office claim they will contact Joan on Thursday.
- The Best Practices Audit has been postponed by Melanie, Stacie, and Stephanie.
- Stephanie will be meeting with Ericka soon regarding figures to complete the town report.
- Covid kits are available at town hall and the senior center.
- Flu shots are being offered on November 1, 2023, at Senior Center 12-2pm then at the school on the same day from 3-5 pm.

Public Comment:

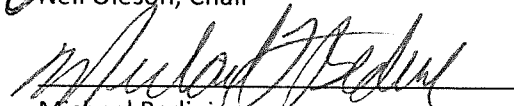
- Tim Bartlett gave praise to the highway department fixing an issue very fast that the state caused with their paving near his property.
- Mike Gleason announced Engine 2 will be ready in 30 days. Tankard 4 is going to Clifton Park for repairs at the CAT dealer.
- Cindy Bosley gave a broadband update. The last report from Wi-Valley is they are behind. Cindy is involved in the Mass Digital Equity Plan, which was discussed at a previous meeting. At the time it was agreed that Cindy would attend the meetings, but Joan was required to be the point person. There is a subgroup called the Northwest Digital Equity Plan with North Adams, Adams, Lanesborough and Cheshire. There is a subcontractor to collect the information and they tell the state what is needed. In the case of Florida, everything. A meeting is coming up at the Adams Visitor Center. Cindy is supposed to be getting all emails to do with broadband forwarded from Joan to her. This has not been being done. Cindy requests all broadband/internet related emails be forwarded to her, and she will filter them out.

Mike Bedini made a motion to adjourn at 6:58 pm. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.




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Neil Oleson, Chair




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Michael Bedini

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Terry I. Green

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