

### Town of Florida Select Board Meeting

Florida Town Hall  
379 Mohawk Trail  
Drury, MA 01343

January 17, 2024

6:01 pm meeting called to order by Neil Oleson.

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

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Joan Lewis, James White, Vicki Winchell, Cindy Bosley, Ron Bosley, Diana Worth, James Martin, Roger Randall, Mike Gleason, Tom Brule, Al Bedini

Selectboard:

- Terry I. Green made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectboard meeting of January 3, 2024. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.
- James Martin, attorney, requested amendment for the two documents in place for the town of Florida for the Hoosac Wind Project. The documents were given to board members at the last meeting for their review as well as the town lawyers review. The board informed James the lawyer advised for this to go to a special town meeting at the end of the lease period. The developer needs decision sooner due to tax codes. He feels waiting until the end of the lease is not practical for anyone. It was recommended James contact the town lawyer to discuss directly as he can answer their questions best. Joan will send James the contact information for the lawyer.
- Terry I. Green made a motion to approve the business license for Roger J. Arigoni for RJA Auto Repair. Mike Bedini seconded. Unanimous.
- Terry I. Green made a motion to approve the business license for Daniel Dobbert for Dobberts Recycling. Neil Oleson seconded. Mike Bedini abstained.
- Stove in storage for the senior center needs to be sold. Board was unsure how much it was purchased for and if it was from a grant or appropriation. Joan will advertise it as a sealed bid.
- Neil found an older copy of an employee manual and job descriptions. He is reviewing it for accuracy and when he is done, he will bring it to the other board members for review. Terry also has some and will bring it in as well.
- Mike asked Cindy if she still had another on the finance committee. She does but he is busy and unable to be available much. She is considering quitting. Terry offered to attend some meetings if she can.

Select Board Initials



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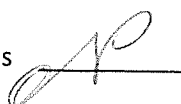

Selectboard (continued):

- Roger Randall questioned the bylaws regarding properties. His neighbor's property, Bob Varier, has the fence falling, looks like there are 4 or 5 junk vehicles there as well as a bunch of rubbish. The town bylaws do not allow for the land to be in the condition that it is in. Mike responded it is difficult to do anything about it. Roger believes the son now owns the property since Bob died. Roger requests the town follow up and clean it up. Neil informed him it is not the town's job to clean up properties. Some board members have been by there and did not notice that many vehicles. There was discussion of trespassing. Roger offered them to walk on his property to view the concerns. He would like the board of health there as well. It was suggested to send a letter to the son to start the process. Stephanie Pare only has the Stryker Road address but is hoping the owner will reach out to her with a current address since the tax bill was returned to her. If he does, she will pass it along. Mike reviewed a meeting held with the building inspector last year and her response to these types of complaints regarding how it is difficult to enforce even though there are bylaws. Roger is taking the procedural steps by bringing it to the town. Neil informed Roger the next step will need to be to submit the complaint to the board in writing so there is a paper trail. Terry asked him to include timelines as to other times he has brought this up to the selectboard or if he has gone to the board of health previously, he should include that information as well.

Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

- Plowing, chipping trees, working on trucks, and dealing with a lot of flooding.
- The International will be ready Friday, 1/19/24 or Thursday, 1/25/24. Allegiance bought Delurey's out and will not release the truck until they have a check in hand. Melanie has a copy of the invoice to be prepared. Mike questioned a \$1000 surcharge on the invoice. Terry researched this question and found it is a commodity surcharge. The truck comes with all season tires, but Jim would like snow tires on it for the winter months. He presented a quote from Pete's Tire for \$2340.66, balanced and mounted.
- Jim walked Stryker and Central Shaft Road to get the length and width. Both are at the point if nothing is done with them this year they will need an overlay. It is recommended 20% rubber chip sealant which will give the town an additional 5-10 years of life on the road. If you paved it the cost would be approximately \$600,000.00. The town is getting another wrap grant that would cover it along with chapter 90. The anticipated time frame is summer 2024.
- On the week of December 18<sup>th</sup> John came from Family Tire and took the recyclable tires. He sent Joan an invoice and has not received payment yet. Joan will check for the invoice. Jim instructed Family Tire to send the invoice to him from now on.

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Joan Lewis, Town Administrator:

- Town budget requests for FY has been sent out. Received only Melanie’s back so far.
- Mad Mac came Friday. They will meet with each individual person about their computers.
- Taxes are being paid.
- Covid tests are being picked up by residents.
- Signed up for procurement classes. She believes they are in May but will let Terry know the exact date.
- Town reports are printed. They just need to be bound and Stanley’s picture added to them.

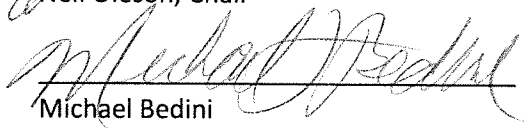
Public Comment:

- Tom Brule expressed some concerns for public safety on South County East Road. He is requesting how they can fix the road. The issue is how to get equipment out on the road when they get bad weather. Jim will put straight salt on the road and make a wider path.
- Roger Randall would like the town reports finished.
- Diana Worth discussed Ally Perkins giving her notice as the Animal Inspector. She is wondering what needs to be done next. It was mentioned Jimmy Cummings had expressed interest in the position. Diana would be interested in the position as well.

Mike Bedini made a motion to adjourn at 6:51 pm. Terry I. Green seconded. Unanimous.



Neil Oleson, Chair



Michael Bedini

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Terry I. Green

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