Select Board Meeting

April 14, 2021

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

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

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Jim White, Christine Dobbert, Vicki Winchell, Ron Bosley, Cindy Bosley, Lea King, Wayne Gelinas, Bret Billings

Ericka Oleson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/31/21 meeting. Mike Bedini seconded. Unanimous.

Selectmen:

* Ericka Oleson made a motion to approve the business license for Christodora Incorporated for the Manice Education Center. Mike Bedini Seconded. Unanimous.
* Bret Billings appeared to update the board on the Manice Center. He stated they will be open this summer, per the state overnight camps are being allowed. He would like to get on the agenda for the next Board of Health meeting as the Manice Center needs to be inspected. He hopes to have the inspection completed in early May.
* Wayne Gelinas and Lea King attended to update the board on the plan for the building they purchased across from the Fire Department on Mohawk Trail.
  + It is to be named Hoosac Range Country Store and Museum, to pay homage to the rich history and culture of the area and the Hoosac Tunnel. There will be no charge to enter the museum. They plan to open in October 2021 and remain open year round (pending COVID regulations).
  + There will be exterior lighting installed that meets the guidelines of the towns bylaws. Nothing will be pointed toward the road nor flashing.
  + Wayne is restoring the phonebooth located in the parking lot. He is adding a vintage phone (not for operational purposes) as well as installing a solar panel so it will be illuminated inside.
  + They have been working with local museums. Some of which will lend items to the museum for the grand opening. There are plans to start local tours as well to the Hoosac Tunnel that would begin at the Wigwam.
  + The store will be stocked with crafts from local vendors as well as local items.
  + There are plans to build a log home on the adjoining property that will be used as a rental. Decisions are still up in the air regarding the apartment located in the store building.

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Christine Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* Updated the budget worksheet for FY22.
  + Waste Management is higher than originally anticipated due to current costs. Neil asked to check into what exactly can go into the metal bin for recycling as this could potentially create more income for the town.
  + Most town government lines are being level funded however would like to increase the Dog Control Expenses line to $1000 to update the kennel area and supplies.
  + Fire Department submitted to replace all the AED’s located in town. Current AED’s are to old to service and the batteries are hard to get.
  + Under budget by $31K.
* Waiting for free cash to be certified.
* Friday, April 16, 2021 taking a vacation day.
* Assessor position was posted but not locally. Will post the position locally soon. No new resumes received for the Assessor or the Library Director position.

Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

* River Road is completed
* Cemetery cleaned and swept
* Compactor area cleaned up
* Cleaned up trees and trash on some of the roads
* Building maintenance being worked on
* Mike Worth has accepted the Utility worker position and starts next week.
* Cleaning the Fire Department parking lot
* Prepping plows and trucks, painted #10
* Ready to chip brush

Ron Bosley asked the Selectmen if there was any work being done on the Fire Department building located in the Tunnel section of town as there are holes in the back of the building. Christine will get in touch with Tony and find out.

6:53 pm Ericka Oleson made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and enter Executive Session. Mike Bedini seconded. Unanimous.

7:30 pm Mike Bedini made a motion to reopen the regular meeting and adjourn at 7:30 pm. Ericka Oleson seconded. Unanimous.