Select Board Meeting

February 2, 2022

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

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

Select board members absent: None

Others present: Jim White, Christine Dobbert, Ron Bosley, Stephanie Pare, Ericka Oleson

Mike Bedini made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/19/22 meeting. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.

Selectmen:

* Mike Bedini made a motion to accept the business license for Roger Arigoni, RJA Auto and Margo Van Peterson, Rose and Goat Construction and Best of Berkshires. Terry seconded. Unanimous.
* The bond was reviewed for the windmills.
* Discussions were had regarding the wording for the special permit for Dobbert’s Recycling.
* Mike Bedini made a motion to accept the special permit as written, going to effect March 17, 2022. Terry Green seconded.
* Wi-Valley meeting has been scheduled for February 17, 2022 at 4:30 pm.
* Discussion regarding Starlink and the possibility of reimbursement of equipment for residents.
* Rob Bosley asked if there is something to look at regarding fiber optics and if there is a petition in place? Christine is researching out two options for fiber optics.
* The board discussed the demo box. Neil will bring the issue to the Board of Health.
* There was a discussion regarding COVID pay. The paychecks were changed from what was submitted. The Library Director and Assistant were out. Municipalities were never exempt. They would like to honor payments to both employees based on MA COVID guidelines. The principal sent an email saying until they were symptom free, they could not return to work.
* Mike Bedini made a motion to pay the COVID-19 pay as outlined by the Library. Neil Oleson seconded. Terry Green abstained.
* Terry discussed doing ACH’s. We do not do them, it is more challenging.
* Letter was received from the Veteran’s office.
* Mike discussed that Christine said during last meeting a letter would be sent to the Dwayne Mundy regarding using the town sand for business. Christine said she did send it to Dwayne. Dwayne did not receive a letter. Jim did say there has not been any more improper use of the town sand though.
* Mike brought up the finance committee. Christine said there was no finance committee. Mike asked Christine about sending the letter to the finance committee that was discussed during the last meeting. Christine said she sent an email to the committee inquiring as to who was interested in still being on the committee. She said Wanda and Donna replied they were still interested and that Pam White resigned two years ago. Pam said she never received the email. Terry asked what the protocol was for the finance committee and if they meet with each department. Christine wasn’t sure what they would do as she didn’t think they had a committee.

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Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

* Snow plowing
* Help out Castella, cleaned up for Roger
* Bottles and cans need to be picked up
* Changed lights over to LED’s in garage
* Dealing with high winds
* Bad hydraulic hose, blower motor replaced
* Break relay froze up on one.
* Tree down on upper Church Road. The dead pines are marked by the state.
* Salt shed has been better since letter went out. People are using buckets, not entire trucks.

Christine Dobbert, Town Administrator:

* Free cash has been certified $869,541.00.
* Talking to Perry Burdick at McCann regarding students working on a town of Florida website.
* Any medical records need to be separated in a separate location.
* Webinar on ARP (American Recovery Pay Act). Another will happen through the Berkshire Regional Planning Committee.
* Jon Oleson will be working on the Finance Committee. There was some confusion on the letter sent to the committee members. Donna Estes and Wanda McNary are still interested as well. Waiting to hear back from Pam White. Mike would like to see the members come to the next meeting to discuss involvement. The Finance Committee process was explained to Terry as this will be her first budget season as a Selectboard member.
* Budget requests are due March 3, 2022. Christine will be mailing Misa the Library budget request.
* Christine out February 24th and 25th.
* Working on the street census.
* Building inspector will be at the March 2, 2022 meeting.
* Scanlon will be out in late May.
* W2’s and 1099’s are done and mailed.
* February 27th Wi-Valley meeting
* February 18th, vacation day

7:07 pm Mike Bedini made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry Green seconded. Unanimous.