

Select Board Meeting
January 5, 2022

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

Select Board members present: Mike Bedini, Neil Oleson

Select board members absent: Terry Green

Others present: Jim White, Christine Dobbert, Vicki Winchell, Brad Furlon, Josephine Poirot

Mike Bedini made a motion to approve the minutes from the 12/22/21 meeting. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.

Selectmen:

- Mike Bedini made a motion to accept the license renewal for Brent Bergendahl, Poets Seat Water. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.
- Josephine Poirot spoke to the board regarding what she feels is the untimely receipt of her monthly Veterans check. She stated she was told by the Veteran's Agent (VA) in North Adams that the warrants are submitted to the town within the first few days of each month and the checks should then be sent out. Her December check was dated 12/22 however it was post marked 12/28 and received in early January. Christine reviewed the payment process to Josephine which is the payment can not be sent out until the Selectboard sign the bi-weekly warrants. Therefore, if the VA submits the warrant to Christine to pay after the first Town warrant was completed she has no choice but to hold the bill until the next warrant period, 2 weeks later. She also stated, by law, the town has to send the recipient the payment by the end of the month the payment is for. Therefore, although it may not be received at the start of the month, the town is still following the law. Brad Furlon appeared on behalf of his mother with the same issue. Christine also explained that due to variances that could happen each month, the checks may not be the same monthly. Because of this she can not pay it until she receives it from the VA. She receives them via email so she is able to back up the date they are received. Brad is going to meet with the VA to verify the information and discuss the procedure with him.

Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

- Dealing with the ice and snow
- Broke springs on truck #10. It is up and running now.
- Truck #18's rear brakes locked up. It is up and running now.
- Cleaned up a few trees that came down around town.
- The old hot water heater has been taken out of the crawl space at the Senior Center and recycled. The vent line has also been repaired.
- Mike inquired if all town equipment (that travels on the roads) is inspected and registered. Jim and Christine both replied yes except one truck that they had been waiting on the title for, which they have recently received. That truck had not been used on the roads when not registered.
- Mike questioned the need put product down on the road and then they have their plows down. Jim will discuss with the crew to instruct them to leave plows up.

Select Board Meeting

January 5, 2022

Selectmen (continued):

- Neil mentioned he would like to look into the Board of Health fees going to the BOH member who is doing the inspection vs the town paid out. Christine will check with other towns to see how they handle the situation and what the laws are around this.

Christine Dobbert, Town Administrator:

- Budget requests have been sent out to all departments. There is no state funding information released yet.
- Would like to renegotiate contract.
- Received a \$3500.00 grant for NBSW. \$500 goes towards the cost of the roll off and the balance must be used for recycling.
- The town joined the state in a lawsuit headed by the state against pharmaceutical companies for opioid addiction. It does not cost the town anything and may have no effect for the town.

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