

Town of Florida Select Board Meeting

Florida Town Hall
379 Mohawk Trail
Drury, MA 01343

May 8, 2024

6:02 pm meeting called to order by Neil Oleson.

Select Board members present: Neil Oleson, Tim Zelazo

Select board members absent: Mike Bedini

Others present: Joan Lewis, Vicki Winchell, Cindy Bosley, Ron Bosley, Diana Worth, Tom Brule, Stephanie Pare

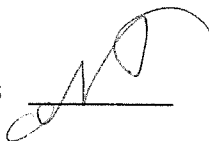
Selectboard:

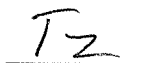
- Approval of minutes was tabled to the next meeting as they could not be approved because Mike Bedini was not in attendance.
- Attorney James Martin has completed the process of having the signed copies of the wind mill lease agreements recorded.
- Personnel policies will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Neil has requested Joan gather copies of all job descriptions to have ready for the next meeting.
- Melanie estimated the local receipts for the FY 2025 budget at \$343,000.00. The Finance Committee is being added to the next Selectboard agenda so the budget can be finalized.
- Tim has been looking over the bylaws. The board will review them when Mike is in attendance.
- Phone System Quotes – ATT has submitted a separate quote for emergency lines for the Fire and Highway Departments. The board would need to formally accept it. The board has requested Joan have the ATT representative attend a future selectboard meeting.
- Tim Zelazo made a motion to appoint Diana Worth to the position of Inspector of the Animals of the Town of Florida. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.
- Neil signed the final forms for the windows for the school building project.
- Tim Zelazo made a motion to set the date for the Annual Town Meeting on June 14, 2024, at 7pm at the Senior Center. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.
- ARPA balance discussed.

Jim White, Highway Department Supervisor:

- Jim is out of town therefore there is no highway department report.

Select Board Initials





Select Board Meeting
May 8, 2024

Joan Lewis, Town Administrator:

- Working with grants. Received \$32,000 in 2023 to do an MVP plan. Some will be used to hire someone to help write a grant for Climate Resistance that will help cover the costs of redoing culverts. Berkshire Regional Planning could be available to help.

Public Comment:

- Stephanie Pare updated the board on the software change and data collection process.
- Cindy Bosley and Stephanie Pare, on behalf of the finance committee, recommended to the selectboard that when needed, a grant writer should be hired. They also recommended a spreadsheet be kept of all grant information. Cindy sent Joan information regarding Community One Stop for Growth Grant. The deadline is June 5, 2024.
- Cindy Bosley recommended reaching out to the state representative to attend a meeting to discuss getting a line item for the town roadwork to be added into the state budget.
- Stephanie Pare meeting with the tax land representative to work on old tax title properties from decades back. Some owe more in interest and fees than the property is worth.
- Tom Brule questioned the towns' joining of the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership without bringing it to the towns people for discussion. It was discussed that it was not needed to go to the town for a public vote first. Joining does not make it so that the town can automatically put land in the conservation, it would still need to go to a town vote.
- Diana Worth discussed the following:
 - It is requested that the heating system for the dog kennel be checked. When the heat is turned on there is an awful smell. The board will inform Jim to check into it.
 - Diana questioned, as the Agriculture Animal Inspector, where do the animals go if she needs to take them as those animals could not go into the dog kennel. When it is a large animal the state vet needs to get involved.
 - Received a call that people are feeding bears on Stryker Road.
 - Warned all to be vigilant about locking doors as there are squatters in town.
- Ron asked if there was any update on Tilda Hill Road. Neil responded there is not.

Tim Zelazo made a motion to adjourn at 7:09 pm. Neil Oleson seconded. Unanimous.



 Neil Oleson, Chair

 Michael Bedini



 Tim Zelazo

Select Board Initials _____