

Town Notes

3/16/2020

Present: Higgins, Steve Bennett, Ron Price, Cindy Abbot, Jim Watermen, Joe Freeman, and Alyssa Brugger.

Selectmen Secretary Alyssa Brugger taking notes.

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

Fire Chief Jim Watermen still plans on meeting unless someone is sick, and then they will be excused for the time being. New primer for truck, \$2400 for replacement. Packing on truck 2 replaced, as well as some air leaks. Reviewing pump procedures tonight. Still gathering information for more cold-water retrieval equipment. No calls the previous week. Central Maine Cost Recovery for 2020 is \$5,820.00, we have collected \$2,114.00.

Emergency Management regarding the Coronavirus, Jim has remained in contact with the state and will provide information as soon as he hears. He advises people stay home if they don't feel well and social distancing. Ron would like a list prepared of people who should be checked in during this time. Jim will go around and see if anyone else would like to join the current list of check ins.

What contact number should people use if things progress and the town shuts down?
Information packets located at town office, mailing the information is in the works.

Public Works director not able to attend.

Letter will be going out with emergency policy regarding current situation. Select board meetings will be moving to an online video conference platform, Town Office will be locked, and all business will take place via phone or through a walk-up window.

Ron makes a motion to have Alyssa and Jake look into a replacement window for office, Steve seconds. Unanimous.

Ron makes a motion to appropriate \$49.50 for another mailing this week regarding coronavirus, Steve seconds motion. Unanimous.

Previous Town Meetings notes, Steve makes motion to approve March 2nd meeting notes as amended and place on file, Ron Seconds. Unanimous.

Steve makes motion to approve March 9th meetings as amended and place on file, Elaine seconds. Unanimous.

Alyssa presents Treasurers Report, discussion of what to pay deputies: Steve makes a motion to raise Deputy Treasurer and Deputy Clerk to \$15.00 an hour, not to exceed \$5,000.00, Ron seconds motion. Unanimous. Discussion of reviewing Town Clerk job description and Registrar of Voters discussed, conversation tabled for now.

Payroll warrant this week is \$5,459.48, A/P this week is \$1,453.63, ending checkbook balance is \$138,594.96. Town received a check for \$500.00 for used truck body.

Ron makes a motion to accept Treasures Report with payroll and A/P, Steve seconds motion. Unanimous.

Old Business: JLL associates for Post Office will cancel lost rent check from October and send a new one. Moving forward with loan to get town finances caught up, hopefully in the next year or so General Fund can increase and sustain itself.

Steve discusses idea of Simple IRA; Anyone who makes \$5,000 allowed to participate- this will match 3% of peoples gross pay if they contribute at least 3%. Do we require years of experience, what is the minimum pay?

Steve makes a motion to formally adopt a Simple IRA for the employees of the town of Freedom. The eligibility requirements are no years of experience, and anticipated \$5,000 of income in any given year, Ron seconds motion. Unanimous.

New Business: Select board needs new GA officer, Steve recommends Elaine talk with Brian about taking over. Cindy will also help with transition.

Assistant Trash Collector position open, Tim Abbot is interested, Ron will reach out to him tomorrow.

Ron makes a motion to hire Tim, Steve seconds motion. Unanimous.

Town Clerk, nothing to report.

Rec. Committee canceled their Easter event.

No other boards present.

UARRC closed through March. Trash pick up possibly Thursday, probably going to FiberRite.

Montville road situation, Elaine has made a rough draft, Select board made a few changes.

Final draft will be presented next week.

Montville trash situation, what would it cost us to do it every week?

Ron makes a motion to approve March 16th meeting notes, Steve seconds motion. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm