

Select Board
5/4/2020
Present

Select Board Secretary Alyssa Brugger taking notes.

Present: Steve Bennett, Alyssa Brugger, Ron Price, Elaine Higgins, Travis Price, Dylan Turner, Meredith Ripley, Jim Watermen, Nathan McCann, Brian Jones, and Erna Keller

Meeting started at 5:57pm

Citizen Issues or Concerns: Elaine Higgins is closing on property and needs an address. She will call the Fire Chief tomorrow to finalize concern. The FVFD has received a grant. The FVFD needs additional PPE, and will be working on purchasing extra PPE which will last a long time. Fire Chief \$55 a case of filters at \$1050.00, take out of Fire Department Capital Reserve account- Ron makes motion to approve purchase, Elaine seconds motion. Unanimous. Nate Wade, representative for Fire Tech, has a unit that will attach to the air compressor and protect two bottles from being exploded instead of the makeshift filter the FVFD has currently. Jim will pick this up in Windsor tomorrow, the total cost is >\$400.00, which will be taken out of the Reserve account. Ron makes a motion for the fire department to purchase, Elaine seconds motion. Unanimous.

Public Works Director Travis Price presents sweeping of Freedom roads is complete, they have also started grading and rolling roads. While they were working, someone ran over one of Public Works signs- a lot of damage to sign.

Last week Travis took truck 6 to the garage (Harry J. Smith), because of a stuck pin- needed a press which the garage does not have. While all that was happening Travis stopped by Pike and purchased Cold Patch and will start that as soon as rolling is complete, hopefully next week. Town of Thorndike will share Cold Patch, same as last year, Freedom charges for material, trucking and loading.

Received a phone call from someone who lives on Davis Road- the citizen would like to develop some land there and wanted to know what to do. Travis said it went well, and he explained the culvert application, etc to the individual. Travis has another culvert application that is ongoing, there are issues from previous Select Board member approvals, Travis is working with this citizen to correct this.

Met with another citizen on Beaver Ridge Road to put in a culvert, they made a plan. Travis would like the person actually installing culvert to meet with Travis/Public works to make sure everything is installed correctly.

There are a couple other possible driveway projects starting.

Overhead door seals that ended up getting dinged up this winter with wings from plows. Travis had 3 or 4 replacement pieces stored in Rec Committee storage, during the clean out, someone from the Rec Committee threw them out. Travis would like the Parks and Rec committee to replace them. Rough replacement cost is \$100.

Alyssa Brugger, representing the Rec Committee, has agreed to cover the cost of lost items.

Mintues:

Steve makes motion to approve April 20, 2020 minutes, Elaine seconds.

Elaine makes motion to approve April 27, 2020 minutes, Steve seconds, Unanimous.

Treasurer Report presented by Alyssa Brugger payroll is \$5,5146.54, A/P is \$4,859.23, and ending checkbook is \$141,027.20. We received a Post Office rent check for the month of April, and Freedom Parks and Rec received a \$500 donation. The Simple IRA is completed and deductions started this week from anyone who signed up. The new TAN numbers have been submitted and we are waiting for a response. The audit was sent in today, they need one final letter of confirmation.

Steve makes motion to approve Payroll and A/P warrants, Ron seconds motion. Unanimous.

Town Clerk Cindy Abbott was extremely busy today, she is still working on a graph that Steve requested for monthly finances over the last 4 years.

Cindy printed off the short form FEMA portal regarding coronavirus expenses. Ron also finished MEMA form 7 regarding the last snowstorm that had caused some damage.

New business: Ron has been in contact with a local farmer that has connections from around the nation, the program would ship hogs to Maine farmers to house and feed them until local butcher shops can process them. Product would then go to local food pantries.

There is concern over how this would go, lots of risk in transporting livestock that far. Who locally would be willing to put up some money to assist. The board will think this over in the next week.

Dale Rowely has a free online class next week for anyone interested.

Other Boards/Committees: None present.

Unity Area Recycling is opening back up, concerns over Freedom picking up recyclables again, Select Board doesn't believe it is worth it, they will discuss this in the future.

General Assistance meeting via Zoom at 3pm tomorrow, no new information from the town. Discussion of what to do with food donations from Unity Food pantry, Cindy had it next to the teller window today. They will try that again next week and see what happens.

Planning board will be having a Zoom meeting next week, Elaine will double check and be attending. Not sure what is happening with the board recently.

Parks and Rec will be having a meeting via Zoom tomorrow to discuss what's happening going forward.

Nothing on the appeals board.

Cemetery board, Steve and Marcus will be going around to the cemeteries to review what is needed. Cindy will be checking on flags for the town office, cemeteries, and roads to get ready for Memorial Day.

Donation request for South Freedom cemeteries sent in. Ron makes a motion to approve donation (\$500) for the town, Elaine seconds motion. Unanimous.

Budget Committee is meeting Wednesday at 6pm via Zoom. No applicants have been sent in yet. The plan is to bring up finances from last year and this year, and the budget hold. It is open to the public.

Old Business: TAN application is in, waiting to hear back. Marie Luigi (sp?) no progress on the lines on Skidgell property because she has not been able to get into the registry.

Job application sent in for the Spring Clean up assistant, Ron makes a motion to approve, Steve seconds motion. Unanimous.

Steve has been working on the policies and has finished 14 or 15 done, another dozen that need to be done. The Select Board would like another work session to go over the policies, Wednesday the 13th at 9am via Zoom.

New Business: Ron tried to get information on the Montville trash situation that will be on hold for another week- Montville is gathering information for tonnage and how much they spent last year.

Ron executive session to discuss 1 MRSA 405 (6) D, legal matter, came out at 7:49pm

Ron makes a motion to adjourn, Steve seconds motion. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.