

TOWN OF MONSON

"A town where friendliness is more than just a word"

February 10, 2022 – Select Board Meeting

Present –Tyler Adkins, Eric Vainio, Marti Gagnon, Jade Grenier,
John Moore, Richard Allard, Rick Clawson, Jim Payne, Sandra Hardy

ZOOM- Sue Chase, Sheila Grant, Bobbi Crockett

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:00 PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandra questioned the status of the speeding sign. Marti stated the sign is not rated for winter use. Steve is looking for the key. Tyler mentioned Downtown Affiliations, they have spoken to a representative from DOT, and they are willing to work with Monson on solutions for slowing down traffic. Sandra suggested a roundabout at the intersection of North Guilford Rd.

Richard Allard doesn't feel Chad is doing a good job. He doesn't feel enough sand is being used, feels sand should be put down on warm days, and that he is not plowing when he should. Eric questioned if there was ever 3" of snow build upon the Steward Rd. Richard and Rick both stated there was. Rick mentioned the island of snow at Steward Rd/N. Guilford Rd intersection needs to be cleaned up as there is only room enough for one vehicle to travel through the area. Sue mentioned a concerned citizen had called during the last storm regarding Elliotsville Rd and wanted to know if the shoes are on the plow. Marti stated that Steve checked the plow, and the shoes are off. Richard questioned if the trucks are DOT compliant.

Rick also questioned the resolution of the road work. Marti stated culverts will be fixed and rocked to satisfactory condition. The miscalculation of the ditching will be made up in Spring/Summer in other areas of road. Richard questioned this being done without a contract. Tyler stated the issues will be rectified.

The plowing contract was discussed to clarify issues regarding when plowing should be done. The wording of the contract will be reviewed to modify the future contract. Eric stated we are looking out for the safety of the people and Tyler suggested we pick this up at the next meeting.

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Sue asked about Year-To-Date Expenditures. Marti stated we need look over the reports and make corrections. There are mistakes with some of the accounts and those mistakes need to be clarified in order to have a clear picture of where the budget stands.

Code Enforcement Officer position: Has not yet been posted, Eric will check with other towns to see what they offer for compensation and further discussion will be had at the next meeting.

Town Manager Position – Marti had reached out to the Selectboard for dates/times they would be available to start interviews. Job position being reposted to seek more applicants.

Gym Acoustics: Sandra explained the plan to build wooden frames, 8'x10' that would have sound absorbing material and fabric over them. There would be approximately 4-8 built. She mentioned possibly donated materials and money from the budget that may be available. Eric questioned if the doors had been fixed yet – determined they had not been.

Eric stated he will be on vacation April 7-22, missing the first meeting in April. He also mentioned he will not finish his full term, will send a letter to vote on his resignation, but will continue to serve as Selectboard Member until the Annual Town Meeting in June.

TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE: No report

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: No Update. Snow Roller is next weekend.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Speaker from County Extension office to discuss invasive/native species and pollinators.

OLD BUSINESS

Remote Participation Policy: Tyler voted to adopt policy, seconded by Eric.

Generator Update: Marti stated we have been approved but it may take up to 2 months because the program is through FEMA. Only the cost of the generator is covered, the cost of the propane work and cement pad are not included. McKusick's coming Tues (Feb 15) at 9am to provide quote on propane work.

NEW BUSINESS

Office Help: Marti stated that Alaina Woodard, who has been helping in the office, will be coming in a couple days a week – Tuesday and Thursdays from 9am – 3 or 4pm to help with audit, reports, review of accounts, etc. She will be with us until the office work is wrapped up or we fill the permanent position.

Consultation – Marti stated it may be less expensive to reach out for training on specific needs and target what needs to be done now vs the auditor's training (\$5000) that includes items that may not be used again. She will be calling Vernice Boyce, if no one opposes, as she is familiar with Monson to get a quote. No opposition.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.