

# TOWN OF MONSON

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

## **January 11, 2024 – Select Board Meeting**

**Present** –Tyler Adkins, Sue Chase, JD Walker, Marti Gagnon, Jonathan Pullen, Aaron Suomi, Kent Rich, Isaac Crabtree, Glenn Poole, Don Dunfee

**ZOOM:** Sandra Hardy, Randy Saragosa, Heather Dunfee

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:30 PM
- 2) Selectboard signs warrants and approves previous meeting minutes

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Aaron Suomi stated there is an opening for an alternate Planning Board Member as Cindy Ranta had to step down because she is on the Board of Appeals. Daina Allen is interested in filling the position and Aaron believes the Selectboard may appoint her. The Selectboard feels the position should be posted for 10 days before appointing a new member.

Aaron then stated he has an issue with the Fire Department pumping basements, mostly for insurance reasons. Other town's fire departments are not legally allowed to pump basements because of potential electrical issues. Aaron has multiple pumps that he is willing to lend to people during a flooding event and he also feels that many people are capable of buying and using their own pumps rather than having the fire department repeatedly pump their basements. It was also mentioned that the town is paying too many fire fighters to do the pumping. During the last storm 7 firefighters and 2 trucks were going back and forth between the same couple of houses. Tyler told Aaron the office will look into the insurance matter and report back at the next meeting.

Glenn Poole noted that the Historical Society has done a lot of work updating cemetery records and repairing/replacing stones, particularly in the church cemetery. There are several burials that took place in the hillside cemetery that were not recorded with the town office. Glenn suggests forming a Cemetery Committee to work with the Sexton to keep track of cemetery items. The Selectboard agreed with the idea of a committee.

### **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

No report. Town Manager not present.

## **SELECTBOARD REPORTS**

Sue asked if the flashing speed sign should be taken down for the winter. Marti has heard conflicting information and will try to find out for sure. Also, the 207 Overland group has not yet given an answer about renting the ballfield.

Sue will be updating the spreadsheet with fire department data for budget meetings. Although the town manager was not present, Sue mentioned the EV charger and the resilience grant application deadline, so they don't get forgotten. She also asked about the status of the dilapidated house on Tenney Hill. Kent isn't sure if the house has been foreclosed by the bank. Marti will check the registry for deed information.

JD mentioned that speeding on the North Guilford Rd is still an issue. He sent an email to the Fire Truck Committee, and they will be meeting soon.

Tyler announced that he will be stepping down from the Selectboard, effective January 12, 2024. He is starting a new job and will be out of town more often than he is now, but he expressed interest in serving on the budget committee. Sue and JD expressed appreciation for Tyler's time and service.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Beautification Committee:** The committee met and discussed upcoming projects for the year, such as banners on the light poles and moving the planters. Sue is researching the banners. They will need to be made from special material and have special poles due to the high winds in town.

**Recreation Committee:** The Rec. Committee will meet next Thursday. They are considering taking over the planning of the Snowroller Festival.

**Planning Board:** Jonathan stated to Planning Board is working toward the final stages of the Solar Ordinance.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**CEO Report:** No update.

**Vote on Findings from Public Hearing Regarding 19 Center St.:** Tyler motioned to deem 19 Center St. a dangerous building and proceed accordingly, seconded by JD. Vote – 3-0 .

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.