

# TOWN OF MONSON

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

## **July 8, 2021 – Select Board Meeting**

**Present** –Tyler Adkins, Eric Vainio, Sue Chase, Daniel Swain, John Moore, Brian Turner, David Slagger, Rick Clawson, Kelly Wilhelm, Georgia Underwood, Jim Payne

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:00 PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants
- 3) Tyler Adkins officially opens meeting to public comment

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Slagger, former tribal representative in the Maine Legislature, would like to participate in the Bicentennial celebration to show that there is still a relationship between Monson and the Maliseet tribe. He has a petition from 1839 that was signed by the founding fathers of Monson, supporting the tribe and feels that the town would be interested in learning the history.

Brian Turner asked if there is any information that shows whether the town saved money on road work by sending the work out to bid rather than pay a contractor by the hour. Daniel will find out. Eric Vainio feel that the town paid too much for the road work and will also do his own research on the cost.

Georgia Underwood requested a meeting with the selectboard to discuss recovery coaching. Daniel will add the topic to the next agenda.

Rick Clawson noted that a couple of yield signs on the North Guilford and Willimantic roads need to be moved or have the trees trimmed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED**

### **TOWN MANGER REPORT**

Daniel provided updates on the following:

Chad and Steve put the second floating dock in at the beach, Steve has been working in brush cutting and smoothing out gravel roads. He also finished the ramp on the recycling trailer at the transfer station and will be power washing the town office.

Daniel has been working on the issue with the dock that was donated to the town, the meeting room floor will be done on July 22, last year's audit is done and the next one will begin shortly. Daniel has also been working on filing the tax liens and is hoping the tax bills will be done by the end of the month. Allstate has finished the paving on the Willimantic and Elliotsville roads and had 120 yards of sand left over that they offered to sell to the town for \$17.00 per yard. The selectboard declined.

Brian noted that something needs to be done about the grading of the roads and feels that the person who submitted the bid should have been hired.

### **SELECTBOARD REPORT**

Eric noted that it would be a good idea to have flashing speed signs on both ends of town, and that the culverts should be checked before the coming rain. He also asked the following questions of Daniel:

When will the roadside mowing be done? Daniel will talk to Steve about it.

Is the Local Road Assistance funding for 2021/2022 automatic? Daniel stated that Monson's share is approximately \$27,000 and yes, it has been budgeted.

Have any contractors expressed interest in fixing the gym doors? No.

Sue Chase noted that the selectboard needs to appoint someone to replace her on the board of appeals and the website should be updated and made to be more user friendly. She proposed looking into creating a set of bylaws for the selectboard for purposes of clarity and professionalism. Daniel will work with her on bylaws.

At Tyler's request, Daniel provided the following updates:

The contractor who is considering building the ADA ramp has provided pricing for building materials but has provided no other information.

Premium Choice is waiting to get licenses for the poles they will need to expand their service in town. There is no timeline for when the project will be complete, but they are hoping to have it done within a year.

There will be a public session this month to discuss the comprehensive plan. Daniel will check with the consultant to see if changes can still be made to the plan.

Tyler noted that the solar panels at the transfer station need to be hosed off as they are very dusty. He also requested that Daniel speak to 997 Solar about a possible early buyout of the solar panels.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FESTIVAL COMMITTEE:** Summerfest is scheduled for July 17, 2021.

**BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE:** The committee is finalizing the schedule for brochures as well as continuing the logo design.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:** The committee will be setting up a booth at Summerfest. They are not yet sure whether they will have a fall fundraiser.

Daniel noted that Libra is interested re-planting trees in the downtown area.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**ATV Access on Steward Road:** Daniel presented a petition with signatures of residents in support of access on the Steward Road along with an anonymous letter from a resident who is opposed. Jim Payne expressed concern about speed and safety and the width of the road was also discussed. Tyler expressed concern that there are no guidelines to follow when making decisions about ATV use on roads. Eric Vainio motioned to vote on the matter, seconded by Sue Chase. Sue Chase and Tyler Adkins abstained; Eric Vainio voted No.

Tyler would like to call together interested parties, i.e., town government, ATV clubs, business owners and residents.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Ordinance Implementation:** Daniel explained that the Fire Restitution Ordinance and the PACE Ordinance both passed at the town meeting. He sent to PACE ordinance to Efficiency Maine and requested authorization from the selectboard to sign the contract.

Daniel spoke to two firms that could handle the claims for the fire restitution, Central Maine Recovery in Fairfield ME and Fire Recovery Service which is located out of state. Central Maine Recovery keeps 20% of what they recover and can get all their information from police reports. There is an additional \$10 fee if they need to get a physical copy of the police report. Fire Recovery Service charges 22% of the money recovered, 25% if there are less than 6 calls per year. The town will be responsible for getting the police reports and doing the leg work. Daniel recommends Central Maine Recovery, the selectboard agreed.

The meeting moved to Executive Session for 1 MRSA Subsection 405 (6) (H) – Code Enforcement at 7:55 pm.