

# TOWN OF MONSON

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

## May 23, 2019 – Special Select Board Meeting

Present select board members: Buddy Martin, Eric Vainio, - Town Manager, Daniel Swain.  
Townpeople –Rick Clawson and David Bjork

- 1) Meeting opened at 7:00 PM
- 2) Buddy Martin officially opens meeting to public comment

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was a lengthy discussion between Rick Clawson, the select board and Daniel about concerns that Rick had with the timeliness and effort put into some tasks around town. Some of the concerns were the holiday tree during Kris Kringle, the street sweeping (also sweeping of steward rd intersection) appearance and timing, barrels of flowers for the downtown area and overall perceived lack of pride in the town as he put it. Daniel explained the reason for most of the items and did take blame for some of the items, such as the holiday tree, which for this year will be done better and budgeted for specially.

Rick also asked the select board about doing a comparison of the price for contracting out road work versus having the town crew do it. Daniel will work on this and report back to the select board when done.

David Bjork also had a few concerns, one being by the town rented a chipper and had to haul it back and forth each day from dover, which cost the town over two hours of labor each day. Daniel explained that the chipper was rental from a company who delivered it to the town office and it stayed here for a week. David brought up the cemetery across from his house and next to the church on route 15 as it needs many new or repair headstones. Daniel said he only just recently learned it was a town cemetery and they are looking into what to do.

### **Acceptance of Bond Anticipation Note (BAN)**

The town receive three bids from banks for a BAN; ones from Androscoggin Bank, Camden National Bank and Bangor savings bank. Androscoggin Bank had put in their bid that the bank would be willing give the town a lower interest rate on the BAN if the town switched all their banking services to them. Daniel pointed out to the board that the town already had an active RFP for banking services, and it was sent to banks who were not included on the BAN

solicitation. Camden National also added an option to their bid that would have allowed the town to finance the entire bond through them instead of the Maine Bond Bank. It was the recommendation of the bond counsel that the town accept the bid from Bangor Savings as that represented the least amount of potential interest. There was a lengthy discussion amongst the select board and Daniel about the pros and cons of all the bids. In the end the board decided to hold off on deciding until Daniel contacted the bond counsel and Bangor Savings to see what their rate would be in the town switched their banking services to them.

### **Paving**

Lastly Daniel told the board that while the town was very impressed by the work of the contractor from the 2016 Bond with the cold mix asphalt he was still trying to get quotes from hot mix contractors as well.