

**TOWN OF MONSON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Minutes
November 14, 2017**

Present were: Select board Carl (Buddy) Martin, Brita Kronite, Eric Vainio, Highway Foreman Chris Later and interim town manager Daniel Swain. Several members of the town as well.

1. Open Meeting
2. Public Comment
 - A. Rebecca from Lakeshore house- Returnables at transfer station
Rebecca discussed that since the bottle redemption center closed there is now no local place to return bottles. She also stated that she has been in contact with a distributor about picking up bottles if they were left at the transfer station, with the money being donated to the snowmobile club. The issue of the area not being locked was discussed. It was decided that local business could participate if desired; Jim at the transfer station would be asked. There is also a new bottle redemption opening in the near future.
 - B. Amelia Trader- Unleashed Dogs
Amelia discussed that there are many unleashed dogs in town and there are times when she has felt very unsafe walking her dog, so do others in town. The selectmen mentioned it is something that is hard to police. More signage stating to obey the leash laws will be explored and other than that there isn't much the town can do.
3. New Business
 - A. Auditor; RFP or direct hire
Interim Town Manager Daniel Swain (TM) discussed the unreliability of the current auditors as they are a year behind in completing the audits. TM suggested that the town could either do an RFP for a new auditor or directly hire RHR Smith as the auditor. The price would be \$7500, which is off set slightly by money remaining in the audit budget. **On a motion by Brita, seconded by Eric, the selectmen voted 3-0 to hire RHR Smith to audit the fiscal year ending January 31, 2018.**
 - B. MMA Risk Management Action plan
TM asked about the report from the town's insurance company about items that need to be fixed. Eric said that most everything was completed, except for repairs to the sand/sand shed siding, mold in gym kitchen, part of the roof/sliding of the gym and updating the evacuation plan to include the town office.
 - C. Smith Large Animal Ordinance violation
After discussion and bring the new TM up to speed it was decided to put it to rest for now.
 - D. DEP inspection of Transfer station
TM showed the select board a letter from the DEP after they inspected it. TM called the inspector to follow up and see which items were of the most importance to correct, TM passed the information along to the Jim at the transfer station.
 - E. Fuel Bids
TM asked if the bids found on the TM desk had already been reviewed and approved, which they had and selected McKusick oil. TM will call to confirm they were made aware of the bid being accepted.
 - F. Budget Fixes in Trio

TM stated that he has started working in the budgetary side of town trying to clean up and figure out where all the budget lines stand. A lot of items are in odd places. TM will be working on the highway and administration budgets first.

G. Homer Hill Ditching

TM stated that most of the work is completed; what's left is to remove some fill, which Chris can do in house during the spring. Also, there is a catch basin that is clogged which Chris cleared with the bucket loader. A resident's concern about their driveway was discussed. Chris and Daniel will inspect and make sure there is enough room.

H. Seacoast Security Proposal

There was a quote for security cameras from Seacoast. The select board stated they were for the transfer station once the new gate is installed. Also, the TM will work on bids for a new gate.

I. Post Office Bid for Plowing

The previous TM had put a bid in to plow the post office, which the select board did not agree with. The select board asked the TM to see if there was a way out of it still.

J. Office Ceiling repairs

TM spoke to MMA about the ceiling and MMA stated that it was a closed claim as far as they knew. TM will begin getting quotes for work done, will also confirm with selectmen about the exact guidelines for the quotes.

K. Other items not known by the interim town manager

- Eric asked about the septic issue with a resident and it was reported that it was taken care of.
- The snow dump area at Spring Creek BBQ, Daniel will confirm the terms of the contract and sign with the owner. Rebecca from the Lakeshore House spoke about the town owned snow dump and how the road is trashed in the spring time, also that the rocks by the Libra Foundation owned dock should be moved.
- Chris stated he is working on getting all of the downed trees taken care of; he has done Indian Point and Barrow Falls roads.
- Brita suggested to TM to create a calendar of all important dates.
- No new news on the foreclosure house, meaning no bids.
- It was mentioned that the voting booths were not private enough and that the town should return to using the other booths.
- TM and Amelia will work on getting minutes and agendas on the website.
- There are residents who are worried about the survey of the cemetery because it appears the property lines may not be where they thought they were. TM will invite the surveyor to the next meeting to discuss.
- A resident wanted to confirm that they were still getting the fill from Homer Hill; it was confirmed.
- Purchasing trees for the downtown was discussed and will be done in the spring. There are tree guards in storage.

4. Old Business

5. Executive Session

- a. Under 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) Part (1) – Personnel Discussion and town legal situation discussion.

6. Meeting adjourned.