

TOWN OF MONSON

"A Town Where Friendliness is More than Just a Word"

September 27, 2018 - Select Board Meeting

Present Selectboard Members: Buddy Martin, Brita Cronkite, Eric Vainio, and Town Manager, Daniel Swain.

Townfolk in attendance: Brian Turner, Jim Greenleaf, Vern Darling, Tracy Stebbins, and Bob and Roberta Jarvis

1. Meeting is open at 7:00pm

2. Selectboard reviews warrants and unapproved meeting minutes.

Selectboard signs off all approved and necessary warrants and unapproved meeting minutes.

3. Buddy Martin officially opens the meeting to **Public Comment**.

Jim Greenleaf questioned the board regarding the Executive Sessions as it seemed more than 24 hours was required to plan for this type of meeting. The board considered the objection and postponed their meeting until October 25th. Some discussion revolved around what the board is allowed to disclose and what they are not required to disclose since some of the subject matter may involve a lawsuit, or personnel.

Vern Darling raised up a point about his insurance company who has doubled his insurance because our town has an ISO rating (Insurance Service Organization) of 9 out of 10 points which is not considered good. We have dry hydrants that don't work except for three on Water Street, and one that is right across the street from Vern's Redemption Center. Even so, his insurance does not recognize the hydrant due to the ISO rating.

IT seems we need to gain access to a report, and Daniel Swain offered himself and volunteered help with Eric Melia to try and gather information. Additionally, some issues around an old *100 year drought study*, seems to be blocking progress.

Tracy Stebbins, who is pursuing the purchase of 32 Center Street, asked if there was any way she could prevent any future water damage to the property while she is trying to sift through the red tape. Tracy received her answer when it was considered that technically the town still "owns" the property, and certainly they would allow her to try and save the house/foundation from additional water and damage.

Buddy Martin closed Public Comment, and we moved on to Town Reports.

4. Town Reports:

5a) **Gym Committee:** **Jim Greenleaf** was very thorough in describing the gym project and expressed his satisfaction for a few minutes that the whole project went as planned and is near finish. The Insurance company was satisfied except for the outside of the building which still needs siding and stair replacements. Also, Brian expressed concern with the water that seeped in the basement even though the basement was sealed. He explained the water is seeping in by way of the roof when it rains. Jim Greenleaf also commented that since Molly Storer resigned from the Gym Committee could we vote in another member? Buddy Martin motioned to add Sue DeLoia as a replacement member.

5b) **Recreation Committee and Bicentennial Committees:** No report. **Festival Committee:** No report except it was noted Rebekah Anderson (not in attendance) resigned from the Festival Committee.

5. Old Business:

6a) **Town Hall Building:** Daniel Swain commented that TC Hafford could do some mold removal at \$6300.00, without doing the demo work that will be done during the old removal process. J. Killam said they could help do the work if the town wanted to do the demo themselves. Marty Gagnon spoke with Georgia Underwood about the possibility of obtaining a G.E.P. Grant which could pay for mold removal in old buildings of our area. Daniel spoke with another mold removal company who directed him to contact an Industrial Hygienist who for an additional \$500.00, would inspect the situation and identify issues. Another optional company called Mold Remediation Co., is willing to inspect the building and determine afterwards what is necessary. Daniel is expecting a call-back from them.

6b) The Surveyor will have the specifics by the next meeting.

6c) **Steward Road:** Daniel expressed that he found a company through Lucas Butler; B & B Paving out of Herman. This company explained another way to approach the problems of the Steward Road by way of shim coating. The shim comes in three size options. However, after much discussion in the room, it was decided that this was very necessary to prevent further damage. The select board determined that the best use of the money needed for this project is to go with the ¾" Shim, at \$53,910.00 to prep the road for the winter. The only fear is from previous experiences in anticipating Herrick's abrasive plowing job which could ruin the whole shim.

Eric Vainio made a motion for the 1" shim, with conditions: first, Daniel needed to contact surrounding towns to get comps on roads paved or shimmed; and if it's within reason of the bid. Since this motion seemed to inspire even more discussion, it was determined that yes, Daniel will still contact surrounding towns, but Buddy Martin made a new motion; to hire B&B Paving, with the ¾" shim at \$53,910 to fix the 22' road for the winter, pending the info Daniel collected regarding shim size and costs gathered from other towns. Brita Cronkite seconded.

6d) **Smith Animals:** Young **Bill Ranta** came to the Town Hall to complain to Daniel about the Jason and Christine Smith's pigs, because they were on his property and septic area. Daniel called the sheriff, but at that time all the area officers were attending a Sheriff's conference.

Much discussion revolved around this familiar topic. **Tracy Stebbins** suggested another angle might be using an insurance company to complain to as they may have more influence.

We determine that first we need to update our town codes and fines. **Brian Turner** suggested that the Planning Board likely has the maps of Monson's zones which could prove to be helpful with any ordinances. **Jim Greenleaf** suggested that Daniel keep calling the sheriff even if it's often.

6e) Daniel obtained several quotes from different contractors: Allen Farm, Superior Fence, and ADA Fence from Palmyra. ADA seemed to be the best with their description and offering the lowest bid as well. **Buddy Martin** made the motion to accept their bid at \$2511.87, to repair all the fences. Brita seconded the motion. It was also suggested we submit the repair bills to Herrick for what it's worth.

6f) Winter fuel Lock-in: McCusick was selected for propane and diesel. **Buddy Martin** made the motion to accept their bid at \$2.399. Brita seconded the motion

7) New Business:

7a) Lynn Henderson, who lives in Greenville would like to **be** the future animal control officer. Joe Guyotte has not resigned at this time Daniel will speak to both of them about it a plan for the future.

8) Items NOT on the Agenda:

Buddy Martin reminded the board the fire chief's truck at the transfer station who has ten days to remove the truck. The board chooses to discuss this at the Exec. Session.

Buddy Martin also remarked there is a crushed pipe that is in need of repair and the surrounding slate – for the sake of the Historical building's preservation...since they did all that work in the foundation. Buddy was concerned with the pipe freezing and causing more problems.

Public Meeting ended at 9:10pm, with the next meeting scheduled for October 11th.