

TOWN OF MONSON

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

August 27, 2020 – Select Board Meeting

Present –Eric Vainio, Tyler Adkins, Daniel Swain, Bobbie Crockett, Brian Turner, Ricky Clawson, Tim and Joy Bueschen, Loretta and Michael Dube, Georgia Underwood, John Shea, John Moore

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:30 PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants
- 3) Tyler Adkins officially opens meeting to public comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Shea explained the CDBG for Turning Page Farm. No one had any questions.

Tim Bueschen noted that the Fire Department fundraiser was a success. They raised over \$2000. Tim also requested that a notice be posted on Facebook to encourage residents to have their chimneys cleaned.

Bobbie Crockett asked for an update on the previous night's emergency selectboard meeting. Daniel explained that the selectboard met with All State Asphalt to discuss the paving invoice that was underquoted but that no decision was reached.

Brian Turner asked if the Animal Control Officer is having any luck removing the sheep from the Greenville Rd residence. Daniel has not heard anything about it but will talk to Joe.

Daniel then called the town attorney to hear a matter pertaining to a property on Doughty Pond Rd. Loretta Dube presented deeds to the property, specifically a public access road that has since been gated off. Loretta stated that per the deed, the gate is illegal and needs to be removed. Loretta also feels that the rules were not followed when the Doughty Pond subdivision was done. She requested that Daniel provide her with copies of the certified letters that were sent to the abutters when the subdivision took place. The town attorney will review the matter and Daniel will look through the subdivision records with the Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Board. The subject will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

SELECTBOARD REPORTS

Eric Vainio suggested removing the sign setback requirement from the ordinance.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Daniel stated that the Public Works Department has rented an excavator for the month and is working on the sides of the Elliotsville Rd and the bumps on Chapin Ave. Hopefully they will also have time to put the headstones in the old cemetery back where they belong.

The Fire Department is doing site work for the communication tower and the dry hydrants should be installed next week. Daniel has also met with Colleen Pinkerton to discuss involving residents in beautification projects such as flower pots and flags. Also, the Bernice Abbot print that the town owns will be appraised and the tax liens will be filed soon.

TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports

OLD BUSINESS

Road Plan Update: Daniel explained that at the last meeting, when asked why the road work has not been started, he got flustered and was unable to answer the question. He further explained that the reason the work was started late is because he thought that the town was going to sub out the work rather than have the Public Works Department do it. He also noted that Chris takes vacation in July and the department did not have an extra person to help until the end of July.

NEW BUSINESS

Crosswalk Painting Quotes: Daniel presented a quote from Fine Lines Paving & Striping for crosswalk painting. The price was \$800.00 to paint 2 crosswalks. He also reminded everyone that the town has been awarded a grant from the DOT for flashing crosswalk lights. When a site evaluation was done of the proposed crosswalk area by the gym driveway, it was determined that the crosswalk would go from the gym driveway and would end up in the middle of the Bjork residence driveway, which is unacceptable. The project itself will also cost more than anticipated because the existing sidewalks are not compliant. If the town accepts the lights, the sidewalks will need to be done. Daniel will check the town's obligations and see if the project can be put off for a year. In the meantime, Daniel will get a quote to paint only the crosswalk in front of the town office.

Canal Fence Quotes: Daniel presented 2 quotes to repair the canal fence. ADA Fence quoted \$2,259.39 to replace the existing fence. AllenFarm Fence quoted \$2,788.33 (minus \$97.40 for sales tax which will be removed from the quote) to replace the existing fence with 5 foot fencing which will be safer. No decision was reached.

Snow Roller Building: Daniel noted that John Pullen suggested building a permanent structure near the old pump station on Water St. to store the snow roller. The building will consist of 4 posts and a roof and will be done at no cost to the town. He is also looking into using the Quimby property across the street but is not optimistic about that option. Eric and Tyler gave their consent to proceed.

Selectboard Meeting Location: Daniel stated that he spoke to the Legion to see if the town can use their meeting room for selectboard meetings. Daniel feels that the current meeting area is not big enough and, also, he would like to get some work done on the room to make it look nicer. The selectboard agreed.

Daniel then presented photos and property card for a property on Mathews Rd whose owner would like to apply for the homestead exemption. There was some question as to whether or not the "house" is considered liveable. The selectboard would like more information before making a decision.

The selectboard then signed 4 more property tax abatements.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.