

TOWN OF MONSON

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

December 10, 2020 – Select Board Meeting

Present – Buddy Martin, Tyler Adkins, Eric Vainio, Daniel Swain, John Moore, Richard Fowler, Bobbie Crockett

- 1) Meeting opened at 7:00PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants
- 3) Buddy Martin officially opens meeting to public comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel stated that the audit should be complete by the end of the month and the budget meetings will begin in March.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

TOWN MANGER REPORT

Daniel thanked John Moore for helping with the road work and provided updates on the following:

The Public Works Foreman cleaned out all the culverts before the snow and rain.

The plow contractor has been plowing the gravel roads but has been leaving the blade up a few inches.

The Fire Department is still working on the communication tower but will need to work with CMP on the power.

Dover Foxcroft Fire Department charged non-residents approximately \$15,000 for services last year. Bobbie Crockett asked if the town decided to charge non-residents for emergency services, will the money go directly to the fire department budget. Daniel stated that it will need to be voted on by the town. He also mentioned that all the money received from Willimantic, Blanchard and Elliotsville does go to the fire department.

Amelia Trader completed the website updates, and the content should be filled in soon.

The Homestead Exemption papers have been reviewed and some properties may not be eligible to continue getting the exemption, Daniel will send the list to Hamlins.

Index maps 1 -3 are done, Daniel will work with Hamlins to see who owns a couple of parcels.

The capital projects plan will be done for the first meeting in January. The plan next step will be a maintenance plan for the town buildings.

Daniel and the selectboard thanked the members of the beautification committee who decorated the town for Christmas, Coleen and Neil Pinkerton, John Wentworth, Glenn Poole, Dawn MacPherson-Allen, Dick Marshall and the Fire Department. Daniel also noted that Jeff Moore did not charge the town for the work he did on the outlets on the poles.

Tyler asked if the Parcel Viewer for the GIS has been figured out yet, Daniels said yes and that he will try to get a completion date.

Tyler then asked for an update on abatement notifications. Daniel stated that in the past, the town did not notify property owners of abatements. He assumed that Hamlins notified them. Going forward, the town will send notification letters.

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Eric recognized John Moore for his help with the work on the Moosehorn Road. He also mentioned that there were purchases on last months warrant for tires for the fire department and public works. The fire department tires were \$25.00 more than the public works tires, perhaps because they were studded.

Tyler asked for an update on the leftover bond money. Daniel is still working with the engineers to get a price on the ramp. They will be out next week to take measurements. The drafting will be done in January and the building will be done in the spring. When the drafting is complete, Daniel will submit the drawings to Killam's to quote the ramp.

TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE: No report

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: Daniel noted that the committee met earlier today. They have compiled a list of events and there will be a chairperson for each month as well as a sub-committee. The committee will soon begin fundraising.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Works Work Session: Daniel noted that at the last meeting there was a discussion about having a work session to the public works position. Tyler stated that the object will be to discuss the road plan, possibly capital projects and the public works job description. Daniel stated that although the work session will be less formal than a selectboard meeting, it will need to be publicized. He noted that although the meeting may be open to the public, normally only the selectboard and town manager are present. It was decided that the work session will be held in January.

Town Attorney Training Schedule: Daniel stated that the town attorney wants to build a relationship with the selectboard and discuss the board's role in town matters and also the legality of certain things. Daniel feels that the meeting should be held in January and will speak to the attorney to see if the meeting can be open to the public.

Dangerous Building Hearing Update: Daniel explained that he had planned to hold a public hearing regarding the dangerous building at 8 Mitchell St. this evening, however, the owner of the property was not properly served the notice of the hearing. The town attorney recommended postponing the hearing for another month. Daniel further explained that the deputy had left notification on the property owner's door after the third try, which is not legal. The notification must be delivered in person.

NEW BUSINESS

Beautification Committee Acceptance: Daniel explained that more people would like to be part of the town beautification committee and that they would also like to be recognized as a town committee. Daniel drew up a charge for the selectboard to sign after a few minor adjustments are made. Tyler Adkins motioned to accept the charge as read, no second motion, the charge was not accepted.

Air Purifying System Quote: Daniel presented a quote for an air purification unit for the town office, explaining that the office staff would like to install the unit due to COVID-19 concerns, as well as poor air quality in general. Tyler stated that he would like to follow procurement procedure and requested that Daniel submit pricing from at least two other vendors. Daniel will get more pricing and a special meeting will be held to approve the purchase.

RFP for IT Services: Daniel has been working on the budget and would like to explore having IT services provided to the town. He would like to send out an RFP for services as well as assessing the whole system and having it brought up to date. The selectboard approved.

Assessor Contract Ending: Daniel explained that the assessing contract is in its final year and asked the selectboard if they would like to put the contract out to bid. Eric asked how many issues there were this year. Daniel stated that there were 15 – 20 abatements and probably 25-35 general issues, including lots of typos and missing information. It was decided to put the contract out to bid.

Meeting moved to executive session for 1 MRSA Subsection 405 (6) (A) – Personnel matter at 8:30 PM.