

# TOWN OF MONSON

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

## **June 23, 2022 – Select Board Meeting**

**Present** –Tyler Adkins, Sandra Hardy, Marti Gagnon, Jade Grenier, Richard Allard, Glenn Poole  
ZOOM-

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:01 PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Glenn – came on behalf of Historical Society – working hard to update cemetery records. Lakeroad Cemetery has sporadic lot markers and they feel a survey should be done to get ahead of the confusion. He mentioned a couple options to make markers for the lots – there is a machine or they can be made from plastic/wood. Tyler questioned how many lots – Glenn explained there are rows A-J with about 30 lots per row (approximately 300) and something needs to be done to clarify to people where their lots are. Sandra asked how this would be accomplished – Glenn explained a surveyor would be needed. Hillside Cemetery has an actual survey (very old, on linen) of the entire cemetery that Glenn has recreated but there have been some burials with no record (caskets found in supposedly empty lots) and there is a ‘better than average chance’ that there are no records for cremation/urn burials there. Some lots are numbered, some have granite posts. No more lots are available in Hillside but there are lots in Lakeroad Cemetery. The Church yard cemetery has been fixed up recently but there is concern that the trees need to be dealt with to keep stones from being further damaged. Glenn feels we need a sexton to prevent further confusion. Marti has spoken with Chris Later and he will provide any records he has from work he has done in the cemeteries and Ethan Annis from Lary Funeral Home will provide information on burials they have conducted. Sandra asked how long its been since we’ve had a sexton – Marti explained its been 3 or 4 years. Marti explained that she does request that people update the Town Office after they have done a burial but no one actually does. Glenn also asked about the status of the insurance for the train event in August – Jade explained that the owner of the train would need to provide coverage for the event, not the town, according to the MMA insurance agent.

Richard – concerned about the ditching work and stated it needs to be fixed. He believes that we are still owed for 1500-1600’ of ditching work that Chad Davis did not do.

**SELECTBOARD REPORTS - None**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Bicentennial Committee** – Sandra gave a run down of dates for events – July 2<sup>nd</sup> there is a BBQ and there is a Softball game that day at 4pm. Summerfest is happening on July 16<sup>th</sup>. In August there is the Big Parade that Tootie has put lots of work into – there will be 6-12 people from Monson, Mass. joining us that day.

**Beautification Committee** – Sandra explained the plants are planted and there are flag issues due to wind that Steve will need to address.

### **Old Business**

**Premium Choice Update** – Marti explained that Premium Choice finally has permits they needed to begin work. They will begin work Monday June 27<sup>th</sup> but did not give a timeline for the project. Tyler explained it will take a couple weeks to complete. Glenn asked what the result will be – Tyler stated that all town roads will have fiber internet. Richard stated that Steward Rd already has fiber available so Tyler explained that some roads do have it but this will give all roads access.

**Doughty Hill Road** – Marti spoke with the lawyer regarding the steps to move forward with the request to discontinue the road. Tyler stated that we need to know the status of the road to ensure we take proper steps moving forward. Marti explained there has been some confusion about the status of the road and Sandra feels we need more documentation and to identify the exact section. Marti requested the Selectboard give dates they are available to discuss this further with the lawyer.

**Interim Town Manager** - Marti explained that Alaina Zelkan will be appointed the Interim Town Manager after Selectboard approval. She has signed the employment agreement and agreed to be the 911 Addressing Officer as well. Tyler moved to accept the agreement, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra -both signed the employment agreement.

**Demo Bids 31 Water St** – Bidders were requested to clarify the work provided with their bids – Marti gave the Selectboard 3 sealed bids. Tyler and Sandra opened the bids – Bruce Thomas bid \$22500, THA Logging & Excavation bid \$30,000, and B+W Logging bid \$23000 and provided references. Sandra asked if Bruce Thomas had done work of this nature for the town before – Marti explained that he has provided sand. Marti stated that B+W has done a lot of this type of work and is interested in taking on these types of jobs. Richard questioned insurance requirements – Tyler explained they will be checking insurance and references so it would have been nice to have references for Bruce Thomas as well. Sandra felt B+W should be chosen (Marti agrees). Sandra moved to accept the bid from B+W Logging for \$23000 subject to equipment, insurance and reference checks, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tyler.

**Speed Bumps** – Marti explained that speeding is still an issue in town. Speed bumps were mentioned before, but this would be a temporary solution and are not for winter use. Tyler mentioned that speed bumps are rated for different speeds and we need to look into a long term option. He also discussed that they had met with DOT again and should have a scope of services in the next few days. This work will focus on the areas with sidewalks in town. More discussion needs to be had with DOT regarding short and long term plans, but this program will not address the speed issues on North Guilford. Sandra stated she has had discussions with concerned citizens about the traffic speed issues on North Guilford Rd. Marti also mentioned the speed sign that has only had half a screen working due to a burnt light board and the keys were missing. Marti has ordered new locks and the light board, which should be here by the beginning of next week. It appears someone messed with the wires and may have caused the damage. Sandra asked about the cost of a new sign, Tyler believes it will be several thousand. Sandra also asked if the sign could be placed further up Rte 15, closer to the Blanchard Rd.

**Plow Contract** – Marti stated that the plow contract needs some typos and numbers fixed before putting the ad out for bids. Ad will run 2-3 weeks. Tyler stated they should be reviewing bids by the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in July so we are not stuck again. Marti explained the bids came back last time and had to be put back out again so the expectations need to be clear and we do not want to be in that situation again.

**New Business - None**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm**