

TOWN OF MONSON

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

November 10, 2022 – Select Board Meeting

Present –Tyler Adkins, Sandra Hardy, Sue Chase, Marti Gagnon, Alaina Zelkan

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:00 PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

SELECTBOARD REPORTS

Sandra Hardy noted the following:

The Code Enforcement Officer needs to submit updates for the Selectboard meetings. The reports should include details and timelines for cases he is working on.

The fence has been purchased for the Church Cemetery.

Sandra is hoping the Recreation Committee will take over the planning for the New Years Day event at the gym.

Dawn MacPherson-Allen and Cindy Turner cleaned the basement at the gym. Shelves need to be installed for better organization.

There is new vandalism on the cemetery sign near the Soldiers Monument.

Tyler Adkins provided updates on the following:

Tillson, the cell phone tower company, is still interested in building the tower if a carrier is found. Tyler spoke to AT&T and was informed they are implementors of the First Net Program. Tyler will schedule a meeting to see what can be done. He also has contacts for Senators King and Collins, as well as the Governor's office. He will also reach out to them to see what can be done to expedite better cell phone service in town.

Alaina stated that all info has been sent for the GIS updates. All that's left is the Assessor needs to mark up the parcel maps to show where the changes are.

Sue Chase provided updates on the following:

The new website is coming along nicely. Someone in the office will need to keep it updated.

The "No Thru Trucks" sign on the North Guilford Rd is technically not legal because it was not authorized by the Selectboard. Alaina is working with Pete Coughlin to do a study to create a road ordinance so the Selectboard can do more with the roads.

Sue also wanted to make sure that the new rules of order for Selectboard meetings had been signed and noted that household trash should not be thrown in the demo dumpster. It may also be time to reconsider the rates for disposing of demo debris. Alaina will speak to Jim about trash being thrown in the dumpster.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

The Community Resiliency Survey-Self Evaluation is almost done. Alaina stated there are 4 more questions left to be answered and they can be discussed at the workshop. Alaina will find out how long the workshop will last, and a date and time will be scheduled.

Alaina received a quote for trim repair around the Fire Department doors, side doors on the gym, a small roof over one of the doors and repair of the front door of the town office. The quote is \$3345.00 but does not include the second door at the gym. Alaina will work on getting the work scheduled.

The price to install a new overhead door in the space next to the public works garage came in at \$15,400. This seems expensive for a temporary solution for additional space. Alaina would like to propose a new public works garage as a long-term solution. There is \$38,000 left from the 2019 bond for the municipal building. The consensus was that the overhead door would still be a good idea as it would create additional useable space even after a new garage is built.

The Fire Station floor needs to be assessed by a structural engineer. The floor is sagging and rotting due to a leak that went unaddressed for years. The heat pipes and ceiling in the public works garage are also deteriorating as a result of the water damage. The cost for the assessment will be approximately \$2,500, which can be paid from the municipal building maintenance budget or the 2019 bond.

Engstrom Tumosa Tree Service quoted \$1,100 to remove 3 trees at the corner of Center St. and Homer Hill. They will charge \$300 to remove 1 of the trees that is dead. The trees are close to the power lines so the office will check with CMP to see if they will remove them.

Someone wants to purchase a piece of town owned property on Indian Point Loop. Tyler explained that the property is tax acquired and not a buildable lot. He would like to see if there are rights of way to the property and would like to consider putting walking paths, picnic tables, a dock and possibly a small beach area for public use.

Alaina stated that of all the tax acquired properties, only the resident at 51 North Guilford Rd has made any effort to make payments. The town needs to decide whether to put the properties out for bid. Tyler expressed concern about people living in houses that the town owns. Sandra would like to treat the properties that only consist of land differently than the ones that are people's homes. Alaina will find out what the town's liability is for residences and what the procedure is for putting residences out for bid.

Bridge Engineer, Eric Calderwood will assess the Gully Brook Bridge and submit budgetary numbers. Eric feels that repairing the bridge will cost less and last as long as a new bridge.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: The pumpkin carving and costume parade went well.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Tootie Bennett will be in charge of the Christmas tree lighting.

OLD BUSINESS

EV Charging Station/Efficiency Maine Grant: One quote for \$23,280 was received for one dual charger. The power can be run from the gym. After the Selectboard reviewed the quote, Tyler Adkins motioned to approve the grant application for submission, seconded by Sue Chase.

Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative RFP: The Selectboard reviewed the RFP and approved it to be posted.

NEW BUSINESS

GA Maximums: The state sets the GA maximums, and the town must adopt them. Tyler Adkins motioned to adopt the maximums, seconded by Sandra Hardy.

Premium Choice Broadband: The town received the bill from Premium Choice for \$50,000. It had been planned to pay the money from the ARPA funds, however, the matter was not

brought to Town Meeting as planned. A special Town Meeting will be scheduled to vote on using ARPA funds to pay Premium Choice, as well as the new public works truck purchase and how to spend the remaining \$19,000 of ARPA funds. Tyler suggested using the remainder of the funds to contribute to the Village Partnership or the Town's 10% share of the EV chargers. It was also suggested that the Special Town Meeting be held after the Resiliency workshop. The meeting will likely be held the week of November 28.

Public Works Truck RFP: The Selectboard reviewed the RFP and authorized it to be released.

Meeting moved to Executive Session for 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A)- Personnel Matters at 8:00 pm.