

Selectboard Minutes  
July 21, 2021

Meeting opened at 6:35

Present: Ann Marie Visconti; Tonya Santaniello; Curt Robie  
Duane Pease, Town Administrator (TA)

Also attending: Suzanne Lemieux, Town Clerk; Skip Savery, Highway Superintendent; Joe Kearns, Finance Chair; Ron Radwich, Fire Chief; Adair Laurel- Cafarella; Judy Hoag

Minutes of last S/B meeting approved.

Board reorganization: Ann Marie and Tonya both showed interest in becoming Chair, agreed to coin flip and Ann Marie elected chair on motion by Tonya, Curt 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote 3-0.

First item on agenda was developing an Open Space plan, this would open additional areas of grant funding. Curt said the town has never started this and felt an Ad Hoc committee consisting of Conservation, Planning and citizens would be a good way to get it started. There was continued discussion among the Board and this will be discussed additionally in the near future and to also seek help from PVPC as well as CDC. Curt motioned to create Ad Hoc committee to address the Open Space issue, Tonya 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote 3-0.

Curt provided an update on the playground apparatus; he thanked Skip and the Highway Dept. for the work they have done so far. There is still additional work needed as well as the replacement of clean fill, wood chips or rubber, in the fall areas. To replace the playscape would cost in excess of \$20,000 and a decision should be made by the residents if the scape should stay where it is or be moved to the Town Hall grounds. With the development of the town Center Park, there most likely will be an increase in the use of the playground.

Veteran's contract with Northampton reviewed and signed by Ann Marie. Discussion on honoring veterans that served in Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan as there is nothing to commemorate their service.

Old business: digital speed signs have been ordered (4) and will be installed when rec'd.

New business: Tonya said Peru has asked that the town do some work on Arthur Pease Road as it becomes Curtin Rd in Peru, just would like to have it more passible.

Ann Marie said the Ford Taurus cruiser needs about \$3,000 of work and that would take the entire budget for the year.

Curt stated basketball court will have to have cracks sealed before paving and Skip will coordinate the paving when he has town roads paved.

Ron said he had obtained 3 bids for the rescue ATV including the State bid which was higher than a bid he rec'd. Curt questioned if this would have to go out to public bid, TA said he thought the new bidding adopted by the State had a limit of \$50,000 and under could be done by soliciting bids, the cost of the ATV is \$26,856.94. Ann Marie was concerned about the storing of the vehicle, Ron said he is looking to purchase a storage unit to be placed next to or close to the Fire Station.

TA advised the Gateway budget will be the statutory budget as all towns did not pass the Alternative Method.

Curt said he is looking into getting the stage lift back in operating order and also a slate is missing from the Senior Center roof and should be covered under the warranty.

Generators for the highway and fire station do not provide enough power for the departments to run all of their equipment at one time.

Town Center gazebo will be delivered on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Ann Marie said the board has to prioritize its list of needs and currently there is a need for 2 school committee representatives, and assessor and Planning board member. She has also asked Crystal Kruszyna if she would be willing to take over the position of Emergency Medical Service, Crystal will consider and get back to her.

TA will follow with Comcast regarding internet service for the Highway Garage, Senior Center and Town Hall.

Judy thanked Curt for stepping up and running for her former Selectboard seat.

Ann Marie motioned to adjourn, Tonya 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease  
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

Ann Marie Visconti, Chair

Tonya Santaniello

Curt Robie