

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 19, 2015

Present: Melinda Gervais-Lamoureux, Doug Niles, James Cross, Mark Castonguay, Virginia Wing, Michael Strait, Ray Fontaine, William Hawkins, Joe Arborio, Betty Gillfillan, Joel Cope, Teresa Potwin, Mark Biron, and Randy Humphrey.

Chairperson, Melinda Gervais-Lamoureux called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Update agenda: The agenda was updated to include the search grant, and a public comment from Randy Humphrey.

Public comment: Betty Gillfillan, Virginia Wing, Mark Biron, and Michael Strait were present on behalf of the Island Pond Historical Society to discuss the rent for the space at the Railroad Depot. The Historical Society approached the board about the increase over the past year's resulting in about \$3,000.00 from previous year's to the rent. The main reason for the increase in rent is the law stating that space in town-owned buildings that is not used for municipal purposes is not exempt from the education portion of the property tax bill. Ms. Gillfillan stated that the Historical Society does many things for the community, and they were inquiring about maybe working out a deal where they make a donation of \$6000 instead of being charged rent for the space, saving the town from paying the education tax on the aforesaid space. The board said they were not opposed to this idea, but were not sure on whether or not this would be feasible or legal. Joel will look into this more before giving them an answer.

Another issue that the Historical Society wanted to discuss was installing an elevator to make them handicapped accessible. Joel suggested maybe moving The Historical Society to the third floor of the town hall building, if they were willing to pay to renovate the space that they wanted in lieu of rent, since the selectboard is already considering putting an elevator in this building. The Historical Society kind of wanted to stay in the Railroad Depot though. More discussion and information about grants, laws, etc. needs to be gathered before a final decision is made.

Randy Humphrey was present to discuss if the town had any kind of a fund set up to help financially to families who experience a tragic death. The board informed Mr. Humphrey that there was no such a fund with the town. The board asked for more information from the funeral home before further consideration of this.

Mark Podgwaite was present to discuss the Lyndon Rescue contract. At this time the board decided to go into executive session to discuss this. Upon coming out of executive session at 7:30 PM, a motion was made by Doug Niles to allow Melinda Gervais-Lamoureux to sign the addendum to the contract. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Read and approve minutes: The board approved the minutes of the August 5, 2015 meeting.

Buildings and maintenance: The new heating system in the Town Hall is just about finished.

Ray informed the board that the fire escape at the town hall was broken, but has since been fixed. Also, Ray believes that someone is putting all of their household trash into the garbage cans at the town beach.

Melinda informed the board that Awesome Welding would be looking at the rail project and giving her a quote.

Joel discussed the security equipment with the board. With the pricing of equipment, Joel proposed that it would probably be cheaper to purchase two units than to try to wire cameras to one recording unit on opposite corners of the building. A motion was made by James Cross to allow Joel to purchase two recorders at a price of \$96.00 each. Doug Niles seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

The board has decided to put off purchasing a new mower until next year, as the season is wrapping up.

Roads: Joel has not heard anything new on the streetlight project.

Mark has met with Dave Antone on the Better Back Roads Grant for Taylor Road. A motion was made by Doug Niles to authorize Joel to sign the Better Back Roads Grant application. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Mark has painted crosswalks at the state park entrance, and the signage has been ordered.

Discussion on replacing the pay phone on Main Street was tabled until a later time.

Personnel: The personnel policy was tabled.

The board reviewed the time sheets.

A motion was made by Jim Cross to appoint Joe Arborio as Town Health Officer. Doug Niles seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried. Discussion was made to look into a raise in pay in next year's budget for this position. Joe Arborio was present to update the board on the dog bite issues.

Municipal Planning Grant Resolution: Joel gave the board copies to look over. The board will review and this will be discussed more at the next meeting.

Island Pond Tennis Association: The board decided to renew their membership to the Tennis Association for 3 years at a cost of \$100.00.

Waste management: The school board has met and they have approved allowing the town to put up fencing for the recycle center. The board will inform Mark to proceed with this project.

Pay orders: The board signed the pay orders for the general account and the road department account.

Budget report: The board reviewed the budget report.

Other business: Joel informed the board about the upcoming Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting on September 21, 2015.

A motion was made by Doug Niles for Joel to be an authorized signer for the search grant from USDA on behalf of the Water/Sewer Department. Jim Cross seconded the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.