

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2017

Present: Doug Niles, Jonathan O'Keefe, Jim Cross, Bill Hawkins, Mark Castonguay, Ray Fontaine, Joel Cope, Michael Strait and Lisa Moore

Chairperson, Doug Niles called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Updated agenda: Space for the Recreational Department; Kindgom Market Complaint; Complaint about recycling center being a mess on Monday.

Doug Niles asked Bill Hawkins to address the complaint about the recycling center. Bill said that he was there last Monday, but he was sick. There was a community service person there also. He said that on Mondays the place is very hard to appear orderly after it has been filled up over the weekend. Doug told him to do his best.

Bill pointed out that Christmas and New Year's Day is on Monday, so he suggested that the recycling center be open on Tuesday instead on those days. The board agreed with this. Bill will set signs out to warn the public of the change.

Jeff Noyes was not at this meeting to address the complaint made by Kingdom Market about a person who allegedly stole items from the store. Doug will be asking Jeff how he plans to take care of this complaint. He will also invite him to the next selectboard meeting to discuss the board's expectations of him and to come up with a game plan for more communication with the board.

Doug Niles requested to use the office space in the basement that is presently used by the AA Group. It would be used for the Recreational Office, storage area and a place for aerobics classes. The board agreed to this. Doug will contact Pierre Dupuis to let him know that they will be changing the big table in the room out for folding tables. This will allow the AA Group to still meet on Fridays and allow room for recreational space also.

Doug pointed out that there is about \$865 left in the recreation budget line item. Options of what to do with this were discussed. Doug wanted to make sure that it

was okay with the board for him to go ahead and purchase equipment items with this money such as softball field equipment, a projector and portable screen. The board is fine with this.

The board pointed out that the projector and screen can come out of the Building and Maintenance line item.

Roads: Mark Castonguay said that the survey people left grade stakes along the roadside that are hard for him to avoid knocking over when he's plowing. Joel said he will get him a phone number of the survey crew.

Mark said that he's having a problem with people shoveling snow into the road. It makes him have to make extra passes.

Doug Niles asked Mark to leave a big pile of snow between Sunrise Manor & the Town Hall for recreation.

ECNRCD Better Roads Agreement: Heather Robinson would like the board to sign the road agreement. The board decided not to sign it yet because we do not know for sure that we are getting the grant.

Buildings & Maintenance:

Drinking Fountain for Gym: Doug found that the cheapest refrigerated water cooler unit was about \$942 plus installation charges. The board agreed to go ahead and order it. Doug said he will just pay for it and bring the invoice to the Town for reimbursement. Bucky Tardiff will install the unit and Ray Fontaine will assist.

Lift: The vendor and the contractor got together with Joel and a plan has been made for the installation of the lift. Eric Driscoll will be doing the work. The first thing they need to do is apply for a construction permit. The project will cost approximately \$35,000. They want to start the work in January.

Roof Bids: Tabled until January

Personnel: Doug said that he recently reread the personnel policy and he marked areas that he thinks need to be discussed. For now, they will keep the policy on the agenda.

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Moore settlement agreement: Jonathan O'Keefe made a motion to ratify the Moore settlement agreement. Jim Cross seconds. All in favor.

Ambulance Service: Jon Bouffard of Lyndon Rescue would like to raise the level of emergency service by increasing ambulance staffing at the station for 12 hours a day instead of having staff on call. He said the service has been losing money and needs to raise rates. The board has been satisfied with the service that we have now, but believes that they should consider a more reasonable pay for people who work extensive hours. The board will wait for a proposed contract to review before making any decisions in this matter.

Pay Orders: Pay orders were reviewed and signed.

Liquor License: The Liquor Board convened and Jim Cross made a motion to sign a liquor license for Hobo's Restaurant. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds. All in favor.

Budget Review: The selectboard reviewed and discussed the budget.

Approve Minutes of previous meetings: The board reviewed the minutes of December 6 & December 19, 2017. Jonathan O'Keefe made a motion to approve the minutes and Jim Cross seconds. All in favor.

Other business: There was some discussion of concerns regarding insurance coverage on Town property. The board wants to be sure of who is responsible for coverage, as sometimes it is a Community Forum event, Brighton Recreational Event or something like when horse rides are provided for the children during special events by a private owner.

There will be a Special Meeting next Wednesday night at 6:00 PM regarding the borrowing of money that will be needed for the budget because of the delinquent tax money that we lack. They will also discuss at the meeting which company to go with for heating fuel this year. Joel is still waiting on some companies to get back to him with a price quote.

Philip Kuras left a copy of the Town of Barton's Ordinance relating to junk and junk vehicles in people's yards. He would like for our Town to adopt the same. The board discussed this matter and said that though Philip has a valid point, we don't have the time or resources to enforce such an ordinance. It would also be difficult to be fair to everyone.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM