

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 16, 2019

Present: Michael Strait, Jonathan O'Keefe, Bruce Rolfe, Walt Driscoll, Richard Hannux, Bill Hawkins, Ray Fontaine, Mark Castonguay, Ed Barber, Joel Cope, Teresa DeBonville, Jeanne Gervais, Doug Niles and Heather McElroy.

Chairperson, Michael Strait called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Update Agenda: Bluff Mountain Trail. Michael asked Mark if he would plow the parking lot at the Bluff Mountain trail head, as he has been receiving calls on this matter.

Pound keeper: Bruce Rolfe was present to discuss compensation for a dog that was kept at his house for an investigation pending the court case. Mr. Rolfe informed the board that although it was policy of the town to house an animal for 10 days only, Vince Illuzzi had asked that this animal be held pending the court case. Bruce told the board that this total bill was \$1800.00. The board asked Bruce to inform them of any situation that arises like this again; as we may be accountable for the cost. The board will contact Vince Illuzzi to get more information on this situation and ask that Mr. Illuzzi cover some of the cost of this. The board informed Bruce that they would contact him on their decision on his compensation for this after speaking with Mr. Illuzzi.

Public comment: Bill Hawkins mentioned to the board that the walk bridge had not been shoveled and also that the hydrants needed to be shoveled out. The board will look into hiring someone to do these jobs.

The town has received a request to name Route 105 the "Lt. Col. Mark C. Biron Memorial Highway." Joel gave the board a copy of the state rules of the process of changing a road name to review. The board said, that although they are not opposed to changing the name, they would request that Mrs. Biron get the required number of signatures on a petition and send it to the state to do this.

Road Department: Joel gave the board a copy of the annual VTrans Certificate of Highway Mileage to sign. A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to sign the 2019 Certificate of Highway Mileage. Jeanne Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

The town has received one estimate for the box culvert project on the Arthur John Road scheduled for summer. Joel and Mark will work together on getting specific specs on what the state is looking for. The state did say that the town should order this culvert around March, as there is a long wait time on these.

Buildings and maintenance: Ray informed the board that the skating rink is flooded and ready to go.

Recreation department: Doug gave the board a paper on the court cleaning system to clean the gym floor. The board will look this over.

Budget 2019: The board went over numbers for the 2019 budget. The fire Department was present to give the board their budget requests for the 2019 year. A line item in the amount of \$4000.00 was added to purchase a generator for the fire station. A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to accept the proposed budget figures for 2019. Jeanne Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

DAV Coin Drop Request: A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to approve the Disabled American Veterans annual coin drop to be held on August 3, 2019 from 9:00-3:00. Jeanne Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Rental Rates: Tabled.

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

Approve minutes of the previous: The board reviewed the minutes of the January 2, 2019 and January 10, 2019 meetings. Jonathan O'Keefe motions to accept the minutes as printed. Michael strait seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Possible Executive session: Nothing.

Other business: Joel gave the board a copy of the equalization study to review. This document tells the town the official education tax rate, Brighton's Common Level of Appraisal, and our Coefficient of Dispersion.

Casella sent a letter to all municipalities inviting them to drop by the landfill facility or contact them on any questions on how they manage waste.

The board has asked Ray to look around for a truck for the maintenance department. The board will purchase this with monies from the equipment reserve fund and pay back this account over a three to five year period instead of borrowing money from the bank.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.