

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2022

Present: Michael Strait, Jeanne Gervais, Heather McElroy, John Manning, Andy Martin, Ann Budrewicz, Bruce Rumball-Petre, and Teresa DeBonville. Attending virtually were Bruce Webster, and Joel Cope.

Chairperson, Michael Strait called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Updates: Lister's error, and old playground.

An error was made stating that a piece of property that went up for tax sale and was purchased by Michael Worth does not exist in any deeds recorded in the town records. This was a lister's error that has occurred; and has put this 5-acre piece of property in our grand list. A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to return Michael Worth's money to him; and we will let the new assessor's know to remove this piece of property from our grand list. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Dale Dutton has expressed interest in the old playground equipment. A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to give Dale Dutton the old playground equipment in an "AS IS" state and have a release of liability signed by Mr. Dutton. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Public comment: John Manning was present to inform the board that the cemetery is having a hard time finding someone to bid on the ground maintenance position being advertised. We have advertised the position again in both the Caledonian Record and the Newport Daily Express. The town clerk will reach out to surrounding towns to see who they contract with for their cemeteries; and see if we could maybe hire the same companies. John also informed the board that he had a "volunteer day" for cleanup at the cemetery last Saturday; and that there were a few piles of brush and debris and was wondering if the road crew would pick them up and bring them to the brush dump. Andy will do this.

Ann Budrewicz was present and questioned the updates to the water and sewer projects and the downtown revitalization project. Michael Strait informed Ann of the updates on both projects.

Road Department: Andy informed the board that he got a quote from Norman Patneude for grinding all of Pleasant Street. This quote was for \$45,000.00; but if the town uses some of its own equipment and time; Norman will knock \$15,000.00 off the quoted price.

Buildings and maintenance: Bruce has patched the roof of the Town Hall and has informed the board that there are no leaks. Bruce is waiting for a quote from Michael Sykes to fix the roof.

Bruce has re-seeded the side of the bank at the top of the hill, and will work on the guardrails in this spot.

The Brighton Elementary School kids will be planting the flowers in town again this year.

Bruce will stain the rest of the South Plant for the water department.

Recreation: Nothing.

Ordinance updates: None.

Appoint Brush dump attendant: A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to appoint Joseph Fairchild as the new brush dump attendant starting immediately. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Recreation Director: The board has decided to interview candidates B and C for the Recreation Director. Interviews will be scheduled.

Sale of the police car: Heather McElroy motions to sell the police cruiser to the Essex County Sheriff's Department for the price of \$10,000.00. Also included in this motion is the donation of a shotgun that had been donated to the town in 2010, with an authorization to transfer firearm permit. Jeanne Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Downtown camera: Trevor Colby has asked the town to purchase one more surveillance camera at the intersection. A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to purchase one more camera for the intersection. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Liquor Licenses: A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to approve the outdoor consumption permit renewal for the Essex House and Tavern. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

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

Overweight Permits: Heather McElroy motions to sign the overweight permit for Consolidated Communications. Jeanne Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Approve minutes of previous meetings: The board reviewed the minutes of the May 5, 2022 meeting and the May 11, 2022 meeting. A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to approve both sets of minutes as printed. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other business: Nothing.

Personnel: Nothing.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.