

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES MAY 3, 2023

Present: Noah Bond, Jeanne Gervais, Heather McElroy, John Manning, Andy Martin, Lisa Cooper, Rachel Pepin, and Teresa DeBonville.

Attending virtually: Mike Strait, Joel Cope, Anne Budrewicz, and Bruce Webster.

Chairperson, Jeanne Gervais, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Updates to the agenda: Cemetery funds, wiffle ball tournament, LEMP agreement, and Brush Dump.

John Manning on behalf of the cemetery commissioners asked the board if the town could possibly come up with \$5,000.00 for repairs to the cemeteries. A motion to allow work to be done not to exceed the amount of \$5,000.00 in the cemeteries was made by Heather McElroy. Jeanne Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried. The board also mentioned that at budget 2024 time, upping the appropriation given by the town to the cemetery.

Rachel Pepin was present to ask permission to use the ballfield on July 21 and 22, 2023 for the Annual Tyler Pepin Wiffle Ball tournament. John Manning motions to approve the request for the use of the ballfield on these dates. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Noah gave the updated LEMP paperwork to the board. The board approved the paperwork, and Chairperson, Jeanne Gervais signed the document.

The board discussed opening the brush dump, and options in which the town will have in the future for the brush dump. Noah will put out a notice for hiring a brush dump attendant. In the meantime, Alan Wing will work the first and third Saturday for the month of May from 8-12; and the future of the brush dump will be discussed after that.

Public comment: Lisa Cooper was present on behalf of the woman's auxiliary to request a coin drop on Saturday May 27, 2023, from 8:30 to 10:30. Heather McElroy motions to approve the request. John Manning seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Update on possible land acquisition: Noah informed the board that the town has two options on the land acquisition between the town and Andy Martin. One option would be to let it sit before the voters, which means that the town will advertise what the plan is, and if the voters do not get a petition together with the number of signatures needed within 30 days, the deal can go through. The second option would be to hold off until town meeting 2024 and put this as an item on the warning.

Andy spoke up and said that he would not wait a year; and the option that he put before the board was that they could lease the portion of his land that the water supply was on. After much discussion on the options, the board agreed to pursue the first option, and advertise for 30 days. Joel will work with the lawyers on the draft language for the ad.

Town Manager report: Noah updated the board on the projects that each department has been working on, and the upcoming projects that they will continue to work on.

Letter/Invitation from Essex County Judges: Noah presented the board with a letter inviting the select board to a meeting at the Essex County Courthouse to meet with the side judges if they would like to go.

Approve previous meeting minutes: Tabled until the next meeting.

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

Other business: Noah told the board that the school will be holding an evacuation drill on Monday morning, May 8, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.