

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING OCTOBER 16, 2018

Chairman Kiley called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 6 PM with Mr. Petraitis and Mr. Tripp also present.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **October 2, 2018**

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve these minutes as written. So voted.

- **October 9, 2018**

Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to approve these minutes as written. So voted, with Mr. Petraitis abstaining because he was not present at that meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

- **School Warrant #1017 for \$65,729.89**
- **General Warrant #1018 for \$410,315.92**
- **Payroll Warrant #8 for \$399,185.79**

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve these warrants. So voted.

III. FINANCIAL ITEMS

A. Treasurer re: Medicare renewals

Treasurer Anne Jannette was present to ask that the Selectmen accept the recommendations of the Insurance Advisory Committee to renew the town's Medicare contracts with Blue Cross Blue Shield and Fallon Senior Plan. (Attachment #1) The Board had no questions, and Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the recommendations of the IAC. So voted.

B. Accept donation for Town House painting

Mr. Kiley reviewed a donation from William and Carol Peluso of Hillside Road for \$25 to the Town House Painting Account. (Attachment #2) Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the donation. So voted.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Head-in parking on North Common Street

Highway Superintendent Jason Benoit was present to discuss a proposal to create head-in parking along North Common Street. The change was requested by area residents, and the contractor has provided a drawing and cost estimate. (Attachment #3) Mr. Benoit stated that he has spoken to some of the neighbors and nobody seems to have an objection, and there is money remaining in the budget to do the work. The contractor is coming back in the spring to do the final paving, so the additional parking will be done at that time.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Change of Manager for American Legion liquor license

Tim Nason was present to ask the Selectmen to approve him as the new manager for the American Legion's liquor license. (Available in the Selectmen's office) There being no objections, Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the change, pending ABCC approval. So voted.

B. Sign contract for Cultural Council funds

The Board reviewed a contract from the state to provide North Brookfield with \$4,900.00 in funding for the local Cultural Council. (Available in the Selectmen's office) Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the funds. So voted.

C. Review article requests for Nov 9th STM

The Selectmen reviewed a draft warrant for the November 9th Special Town Meeting. (Available in the Selectmen's office) The final warrant will be signed next week.

D. Town Committees

Mr. Kiley noted that he and Mr. Tripp had been discussing some town committees last week, specifically the 200th Anniversary Committee. Since the Town's 200th anniversary was in 2012, there should no longer be a need for this group. Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to dissolve this committee.

E. Thank you letter from Sue Lyons

Mr. Tripp read a letter from Sue Lyons thanking various town departments for their help when she recently fell from a ladder. (Attachment #4) She praised the police, fire, and ambulance personnel for their assistance.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Kiley noted that the public has the opportunity to briefly comment through the chair.

Resident Jeff Smith of Walnut Street stated that twice this summer he e-mailed the Highway Department about trash on Hines Bridge Road, and both times the trash was removed. He thanked Mr. Benoit and the department.

He asked about a timeline for DEP approval of the landfill. Mr. Kiley noted that there is a request for funds on the November town meeting for repairs to the cap.

Mr. Smith stated that he heard a rumor that Melink had sold the solar leases on Town property. Mr. Kiley noted that they are in town this week looking at the sites, and to our knowledge the leases have not been sold.

Mr. Smith noted that the rail trail abuts the Brickyard Road parcel where solar has been proposed, and he hopes that the rail trail will be allowed to go through.

Resident Doug Powers of Shore Road was present to say that he sent a letter to the Selectmen a month ago and has not heard anything. Mr. Kiley reminded Mr. Powers

that there is a statutory process to appeal to the ZBA if he is not happy with a decision of the Planning Board or Building Inspector. Mr. Powers said that he was not aware of that.

Mr. Smith returned to the podium and asked about payments to the Town from the marijuana cultivation facility being built. Mr. Kiley explained that the Town hopes to receive \$300,000 per year for infrastructure improvements. The money is discretionary, and an advisory board will decide how the funds will be distributed to town entities.

Brandon Avery of the Historical Society noted that the Brickyard Road parcel mentioned by Mr. Smith is next to Wolcott Pond, which is historic. He hopes that this can also be incorporated into the rail trail.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Early voting schedule for state election

Mr. Petraitis reviewed the schedule for early voting between October 23rd and November 1st.

B. Hydrant flushing

Mr. Tripp noted that the Water Department will continue hydrant flushing through Friday the 26th.

C. Change in Sewer Department policy

Mr. Kiley read a memo from the Sewer Department that effective September 12, 2018 all sewer users will be billed for 100% of the water use according to the meter readings.

VIII. PENDING/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Petraitis noted that the Board needs to perambulate the Town's boundaries this year, perhaps in November when the leaves are down.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant

PROJECT STATUS AND PENDING/FUTURE SELECTMEN'S AGENDA ITEMS

PROJECT

Aztec/Mass Dev grant
Solar contracts on Municipal Property
Personnel policies
Electric aggregation
Town House restoration project
Bates Observatory
Cable license renewal
Disabilities Commission

STATUS

Pending
Pending
In progress
Pending
FOTH Capital Campaign
Pending
Pending
Pending