

## Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:01PM on Tuesday, October 3, 2023 in the Town Offices. John Tripp and Brooke Canada present.

Chapter 90 Revision: Ashley explained there was an error on the Chapter 90 request from 9/25. Mrs. Canada moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to amend the 9/25/23 Chapter 90 approval vote to reflect \$160,000.00. So voted.

Highway Spending Request: Mrs. Canada moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve Highway spending request of \$600.00 for grease tub. So voted.

Community Compact IT Grant: Ashley explained the IT grant and said Tara Hayes and herself reached out to the Town Department/Committees for their IT needs. Tara and Ashley also reached out to CMGeeks, our IT contractors, to get their opinion. There were three options, Ashley read the email from Tara with the breakdown. Mrs. Canada moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to apply for the IT grant for the Town Offices. So voted.

Tucker Road: Diane and Larry Buzzel were present with a picture of flooding on Tucker Road. Due to beaver dams, there is extensive flooding and potholes, making the road dangerous to drive down. They have concerns about GPS taking drivers down that road and then either having to back up all the way, or try to get through the flooding which could cause damage to the vehicle, or for the vehicle to be stuck. Mr. Tripp said that Highway has tried to close this section of road (between Tucker Cross Rd and Bates Rd) several times but the signs/cones/barriers are always stolen. Mr. Tripp suggested jersey barriers be placed at both sides of the closed portion of the road. Mrs. Canada moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to close Tucker Road between Tucker Cross Rd and Bates Road, and to place jersey or other permanent barriers at both sides. So voted.

Tara Hayes came into the meeting with some questions about last week's meeting. Mr. Tripp had said that the Water Department, along with the Tree Warden, had requested ARPA money but were denied. Tara said that the Water Department has over \$300,000.00 in retained earnings and can use those funds to pay for tank resurfacing. Mr. Tripp said that Jamie Flamand didn't tell him about the retained earnings. Tara said that the \$80,000.00 request for a water main/hydrant from East Brookfield Road to Huck's was originally part of the Fire/Highway renovation project, but that Jason Benoit told the design team to take it out. Tara asked who authorized him to do that. Mr. Tripp didn't know. Tara said the Tree Warden just asked ARPA for funds for dangerous tree removal, and that ARPA did vote to approve the request. Mr. Tripp said he didn't know that. Tara said that Mr. Tripp was harsh last week when speaking about ARPA funds, and that she understands he doesn't want a Town Administrator. Mr. Tripp said we have other things to pay for. Ashley explained that the Water Department has already received over \$450,000.00 of the \$1.4million in ARPA funds. Tara said that herself, Ashley, and Shiela LeBlanc do a ton of extra work and semi-function as a Town Admin. She said if we were to stop doing extra it will hurt the Town, and we don't want to do that. We need a Town Administrator. Tara told Mr. Tripp he was brutal last week. Mr. Tripp asked if Tara was done and motioned to adjourn the meeting. At 6:25PM Mrs. Canada moved the motion to adjourn, Mr. Tripp seconded. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre