Minutes of the Board of Selectmen

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00PM in the Town offices on Wednesday, August 25, 2021. Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis, and John Tripp present.

The Board met with Anne Janette to discuss a change in health insurance for Town employees.

Anne explained that Fallon is no longer in our area so we have to switch providers. The Insurance Advisory Committee met and discussed their options and all agreed to go with MIIA. MIIA underwrites their own insurance (liability, worker's comp, ect) and group health insurance. They are self-funded, but the face of the insurance is Blue Cross Blue Shield. They have 147 cities and towns that they write for, Brookfield and Leicester included.

If we want to move to MIIA we have to enroll early, retirees will be moved over in January. Nothing will change on the face of it for retirees.

Anne went out to bid for insurance in early August, Harvard Pilgrim and Blue Cross Blue Shield would not give us quotes. We did receive a quote from Health New England HMO but it was expensive and unfamiliar.

MIIA is trying to take over Fallon's clients. We will sign a 2-year contract. The first year is 1.9% lower than our current rate. They don't know what the following year will look like, but it will be no more than the average increase. MIIA averages out the lowest and highest rate increases and will give us that figure.

MIIA invests money and pays direct through Blue Cross Blue Shield and the rates are based on the stock market. Anne believes the more cities and towns that join MIIA, the lower the rate will be.

The Insurance Advisory Committee was happy with MIIA, they seem very attentive and will help us switch everything over. This will be the least disruptive way forward for the retirees. It will be a big change for the active employees.

Mr. Tripp asked if the price for individuals will go up, Anne said it will go down the first year, but we can't know what the second year will bring.

Mr. Kiley agreed that it all sounds good, we don't have much choice about it.

Anne said the nice thing is that we get the Retirees done in plenty of time for January, and in February she will start distributing materials to the active employees about the change.

Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the change in health insurance to MIIA. So voted.

Ashley asked Mr. Kiley about a phone call from a lawyer, he said he would get in touch with the lawyer.

Ashley asked the Selectmen to sign a letter to a resident that is storing materials on Town property. Mr. Kiley made some edits and the Selectmen signed the letter.

At 6:25PM, there being no further business, Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre