

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:22PM on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at the Town Offices. Dale Kiley and John Tripp were present.

Chief Mark Smith provided numbers for union negotiations. Mr. Tripp asked if Chief Smith was prepared if Green Gold doesn't catch up on payments, he said he budgeted for it. Mr. Kiley said there would still be a cut because last year the Town gave the school an extra \$300,000 that we knew we didn't have. Mr. Tripp asked if we had to deficit spend until Chris Donais retired, Mr. Kiley said no, we'll be fine. Mr. Kiley also said he's emailed Green Gold a couple times to remind them of payments.

Trevor Bruso said the cost of bags for the recycling has increased, a half load of bags will cost about \$10,000.00. Trevor said there are funds available but they've spent \$12,000 from the revolve account on repairs at the center. Mr. Kiley said he wasn't sure if you can use the revolve account to purchase the bags. Trevor said a member of Fin Comm suggested ordering a full load of bags but Trevor thought we should order half a load and see what the price is come September. Fin Comm said they would pay for half a load now. The last time they ordered bags there was a 4-month delay. Trevor said its time to raise bag fees to \$20/case, it's been over 10 years since they were raised. That will bring the cost of a bag from \$1.50 to \$2.00. The fee for the sticker will remain at \$65.00. Trevor said they've made adjustments to other fees.

Trevor also said they're supposed to get bid docs on Monday and he will send them to Mr. Kiley to review. He doesn't know how much it will cost but it'll be about \$50,000.00.

Trevor is now the public health coordinator in Leicester and has an opportunity for North Brookfield. It will be for Town employees for mental health, it will include free chair massages among other stress reduction techniques.

Trevor discussed 16 Nursery Ave (burnt out building)-The Board of Health can order a demolition but the Building Inspector should drive it as he's trained and licensed. The owner hasn't walked away from the property and may still be fighting with insurance. Mr. Kiley said it's still a derelict building, if Building Inspector condemns it as unsafe the owner has to make it safe or demolish it. Trevor also discussed a property on Elm St, the owner is still trying to get electrical services restored. There are a lot of unregistered cars, and a lot of cats.

Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to increase the bag fee to \$2.00/bag effective July 1, 2022. So voted.

ARPA Vote-Pay: Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to pay Tara Hayes out of ARPA funds through May 10th and transfer Jen payroll into Clerk payroll. So voted.

Mr. Kiley requested that Town Counsel attend the May Special and Annual Town meetings.

Jim Foyle requested a BoS member give a speech at Memorial Day services. Mr. Kiley said he would not be in Town and said to ask Jason Petraitis.

Mr. Tripp said he was talking to someone at the First Congregational Church about donating some of their frontage to the Town to accommodate a wider road and sidewalk.

Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to pay Ashley Barre \$1,500.00 from ARPA funds for covering the Town Clerk's position during her absence. So voted. *NOTE: Ashley appreciated but did not accept this pay*

There being no further business Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre