

Selectmen's minutes of meeting January 2, 2019

Members present: Mark Newman, Brian O'Rourke, George Riley, Fred Ventresco
Dolores Harasyko, Admin. Asst.

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Reviewed and signed minutes of meeting.

Fred provided an update on the audit review of agreed upon procedures. Town Accountant Margaret pushed for Scanlon and Assoc. to come in. We have made great progress. Scanlon was here all day and will return to complete the audit. Fred stated that if we want to take out any future loans we will need to have 3 successful audits.

Barbara Cormier in representing the Council on Aging Senior Tax Workoff program. She was approached by the Assessors office to discuss the lack of wage requirements in the application. Barbara reviewed the requirements on the application. They came to the Board of Selectmen to revise the application and all agreed to remove the income requirements. It is not up to them to determine who is the most needy. Barbara reviewed the law and would like to continue with the current application. When an application is filled out Barbara takes it to the Assessors and then to the Board of Selectmen. She is more concerned that they are eligible to do the work. Minimum wage is now at \$12.00 an hour. The work is based on minimum wage.

Fred provided a budget process update. There is a communication problem with emails from the Finance Committee. Mark has not received any of their emails. Fred will address this. There is a budget workshop tomorrow. Fred will contact the Recreation Committee to come in to the work session. The Finance Committee would like to have 5 paper packets made out in addition to the electronic version. The Selectmen all agreed that the electronic version was sufficient.

Selectmen's updates:

Brian poured the concrete slab for the gas pumps at the highway garage. The pumps are up and running but we need to have the gas reading program installed. We will upgrade the gas reading program. Brian followed up on the electrical wiring. It will be covered by the insurance claim. We will cover the additional cost to upgrade the gas reading system. Barbara Cormier commended the selectmen and the dpw on the upkeep and cleaning of the dpw area.

Brian and Mark thanked George and Nina on all their work on the Green Community.

Nina responded that there was a comment on facebook questioning what the Green Community does. George responded that there will be a brief description in the Sandisfield Times.

Mark addressed the electronics collection with the transfer station attendant. He is willing to handle the collection. Dolores reviewed the process with the Master Garbologist and they approved the process.

Mark provided the required fire extinguishers for the transfer station.

Future agenda items:

George would like to discuss transfer station policies and fines.

Reviewed mail

Reviewed and signed warrants

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

Barbara Cormier asked about stipends, she wants to know why some get a stipend in addition to an hourly pay. George explained that emergency personnel are on call 24 hours a day.

Brian reviewed the surrounding towns policies. Some towns do give a stipend and an hourly pay. Some have only salaries but the salary is much higher than what we offer. The stipend is to cover the 24 hour on call.

Barbara asked about the Route 183 pothole with the road cone in it. The selectmen will follow up with the highway department.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mark Newman

Brian O'Rourke

George Riley