

Board of Selectmen

Minutes

June 22, 2020

Present: Mark Newman, Brian O'Rourke, George Riley, Joanne Grybosh

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

The Board reviewed and signed minutes and purchase orders as presented in files.

Terry Spohnholz was on the agenda to give update on opening library. Terry was not present nor dialed in. Board moved on to next agenda item.

Sam Mercier discussed with the Board his request for a special permit to reside in a temporary trailer while his home is being built on Sandisfield Road, Map and Lot 210-0-6. Brian explained the special permit would be good for one year and that if needed, he would have to come back to the Board for another permit should he not be completed in this time frame. Brian then explained the building permit process and Sam agreed to abide by necessary requirements. George asked how long he thinks it would take him from start to finish? Sam said within two years. There were no other comments.

Motion: Brian made a motion to grant special permit to Sam Mercier to live in trailer on property he owns for one year during construction of a single family dwelling. George seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

The Board then moved to discussing with Roger Kohler changing Planning Board fees. Roger offered suggestions on how to structure fees, primarily for subdivisions. There was discussion about the increase in real estate sales in Berkshire County during the pandemic. Brian suggested he look at fees from surrounding towns and come back to the Board with an update. Roger agreed and will ask to be put on agenda at a later date to discuss in more detail.

Mark read a request from Clare English to be appointed to the Conservation Commission.

Motion: Mark made a motion to appoint Clare English to Conservation Commission. George seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

Town Manager then gave an update on the MVP Dirt Road Study. Brad Curry did field survey of dirt roads throughout town and provided Joanne with data to input online MVP Dirt Road Survey Viewer. Due to COVID-19, BSC Group moved this project to an online platform. Sandisfield submitted all required data points and images before the deadline. Other Towns were still working on their submittals.

Joanne mentioned that she arrived at Highway Garage at 7:30 a.m. to help setup for the Annual Town Meeting. She helped Brad clean HW garage floor, doors and door handles, and cleaned both restrooms the evening before meeting. The Town's new audio system worked well and she received feedback from multiple residents saying how clear and helpful it was to be able to hear all of the discussions.

She continues to work with New Marlborough going through engineering invoices and forms required for state reimbursement. There is a conference call with BETA, Brad Curry, Chuck Loring later this week for an update on bid progress.

Joanne gave Board the system requirements for Permit Eyes software. Full Circle Technologies will provide a revised quote for building permit software.

Job postings for full time DPW employee has been posted again in multiple locations. Brad received a few calls expressing interest but no applications yet. Joanne will post to online job boards. There was discussion about a cleaning person for Town Hall, Old Town Hall, and DPW restrooms. Joanne will post for this position too.

Next was a grading update. Dave and Ralph are out on vacation. Brad took Ron, another grader operator to South Beech Plain Road today. Joanne spoke with both Brad and Ron before the Board meeting and they said there is a lot of chopping due to not having a roller and the speed of vehicles using the road. Brad indicated South Beech Plain needs a lot of material along with other roads in Town. He is having the road graded tomorrow.

Joanne informed the board that "Road temporarily closed per Board of Selectmen" will go up on Sears Road this week.

She also gave an update on Yanner Park progress. She said it is looking good and Adam Brown is happy with the work being done. We need to address how we are going to handle the cracked and sinking culvert at end of driveway. DPW has culvert pipe available. End of Town Manager Update.

Mark then asked if there were any future agenda items. At this time there were none.

The Board then said they would review mail. There was none.

The Board then signed warrants.

Mark asked if there were any topics not anticipated and there were none.

Brian made motion to adjourn meeting. George seconded. All in favor. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Mark Newman

Brian O'Rourke

George Riley

