

Selectmen's minutes of meeting May 10, 2021

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

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Remote participation information provided for the public.

Reviewed and signed minutes of meetings.

Reviewed and signed purchase orders.

DPW Superintendent Brad Curry in to discuss Town Hill Road ditches. Brad provided an update on Town Hill Rd. He has noticed the issues with water. Before he started with the town there were water issues. There is ledge involved which allows for more water seepage. The ditches in some areas are higher than the road, they need to subdrain. Unfortunately it has been a poor patching season, they placed stone in the larger potholes but the stone gets blown out. He has reached out to some contractors but they are all too busy. His crew is straight out busy right now. He has a small crew and a tight budget. There is also water coming off of private property draining into the road. He has the hotbox ready to go.

Chris Joyce asked if there are conservation issues once they start digging in the ditches. Brad responded that they could place waddles, that he is in touch with the Conservation Commission. He is also working on potholes on Route 183.

Discussed appointing a Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting. Moderator Simon Winchester has sent in a letter that he will not be able to moderate the meeting. Brian explained that we reached out to Moderator Candidate Dominic Konstam but he also is unavailable. Town Counsel is not able to moderate since he is not a registered voter of Sandisfield. Town Counsel suggested Brian moderate it. Motion by Mark, second by George, passed unanimously to appoint Brian O'Rourke to moderate the annual town meeting on May 15, 2021.

Roll call vote: Brian, yes, George, yes, Mark, yes.

The Council on Aging in to discuss opening the senior center for Bingo. Nina Carr explained that it has been a rough year for seniors. They are doing the chair yoga at the Old Town Hall and it is going well. They do not serve their pot luck lunch. They would like to open for Bingo with coffee and cookies. She would like to know if they can ask if people are vaccinated. She will follow up with the Great Barrington COA. They would like to have Bingo at the Old Town Hall. Motion by Brian, second by Mark, passed unanimously to allow the seniors to use the Old Town Hall.

Roll call vote: Brian, yes, George, yes, Mark, yes.

Tabled Item 6.

Motion by Brian, second by Mark, passed unanimously to appoint Jeff Bye to the Green Committee. Roll call vote: Brian, yes, George, yes, Mark, yes.

Reviewed and signed cemetery deed.

Discussed the location and format for future select board meetings. Brian suggested not having a meeting next week on the same night as the annual town election. Mark suggested having it at the Town Hall Annex. We will have it at the Annex and by Zoom.

Discussed Magna 5, Brian will follow up with Joanne.

Future agenda items:

Barbara Cormier discussed a special permit/variance.

Reviewed mail

Reviewed and signed warrants.

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

Brian addressed a special permit application referenced by Barbara Cormier. It has to be denied by the planning and zoning boards first.

Brad presented a new contract for uniforms. It is half the cost of what they are currently paying. It is through a state bid.

Motion by Brian, second by Mark, passed unanimously to enter into a new contract with Cintas for uniforms for the DPW.

Roll call vote: Brian, yes, George, yes, Mark, yes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Brian O'Rourke

George Riley

Mark Newman