

Selectmen's minutes of meeting June 14, 2021

Members present: George Riley, Mark Newman, Alex Bowman, Dolores Harasyko, Admin. Asst.

Called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Remote participation information provided for the public.

Reviewed and signed minutes of meetings.

Reviewed purchase order, did not sign, question on which police vehicle.

Reviewed and signed the special permit and annual business license for DayDreamz Estates, LLC.

Mark asked if the wording concerning the driveway and truck traffic was added to the special conditions, George handwrote them in.

Brad Curry in to present Chapter 90 reimbursement requests for Sandy Brook Tpk for \$215,393.95 and for Lower Sears, Beech Plain and Town Hill for \$136,834.42.

He then presented a new project request for Chapter 90 for 6 miles of chip seal for West Hubbard, West St., and S. Sandisfield Rd. He will be using the county bid. Alex asked him what other roads will come next. Brad responded that he continues to work on Town Hill, Cold Spring and Route 57. He will be doing drag shimming on the dump hill on Route 57.

Discussed paving versus chip seal.

Motion by George, second by Mark with Alex abstaining to approve the chip seal project.

Roll call vote: George, yes, Mark, yes, Alex, abstained.

Motion by George, second by Mark, passed unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Clare and Eugene English from the Board of Registrars.

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

Future agenda items:

George would like to change the summer schedule. Mark and Alex stated that the schedule was already set and they would like to stay with it as is.

Alex would like to discuss the Town Manager position, the roles and responsibilities. Mark would like to look into all 7 job openings: Town Manager, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Web Master, Admin. Asst. to Selectboard, DPW worker, DPW secretary.

George suggested starting the discussion next Monday and then if we need more time we will post and additional meeting.

Lynn Rubenstein suggested getting a temp to cover the Selectmen's office to at least cover the phone.

Barbara Cormier suggested having a senior tax workoff program for the phone coverage.

Alex asked George to present the information he has gotten from the Dept. of Local Services.

Barbara suggested the selectmen do a better job looking into the cost of appointed versus elected, she doesn't feel this has worked out.

Alex would like to look into a digital process for purchase orders and other documents instead of all the paper documents.

Barbara Cormier would like to have a Special Town Meeting to amend to Council on Aging from 5 members to 7 members. This will require a bylaw change.

Lynn Rubenstein asked who will be posting the agenda's and minutes of meetings.

Town Clerk/Admin. Asst. Dolores Harasyko explained her roles. As Town Clerk she does the postings for all boards to the bulletin board at the Town Hall Annex which is the official posting site and a copy goes in a forever binder. It is not the job of the Town Clerk or the Admin. Asst. to manage the website. That job was performed by Pauline Bakunis and Joanne Grybosh, both of whom no longer work here. Dolores explained that she does not have full access to the website and only posts the Selectmen's minutes and agendas.

Leslie Garwood would like a discussion on when we could have a meeting to discuss the Cannabis bylaw. George responded that since the vote failed at the town meeting it goes back to the Planning Board and suggested she contact them.

Reviewed mail

Reviewed and signed warrants

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

Austin Hunt is requesting a Hawkers and Peddlers license to sell educational materials door to door. George suggested that he also contact the local police department. License signed by George for \$5.00.

Mark asked if all the equipment from the town manager has been returned, cell phones, laptop, keys. No one knows, George will follow up.

Alex asked if the Town Hall Annex is opened since the Covid legislation expires June 15.

Roger Brown is bored and tired of seeing the "Pot Free Forest" signs on town property. He would like them removed. The bylaw did not pass at town meeting and the signs should be removed. George agrees but would like to wait until after the Community Outreach Meeting on Wednesday. Mark and Alex disagree and directed the DPW to remove them.

Ms. Keener from 49 S. Sandisfield Road claims the DPW blocked the culvert and made a fire pond for the fire dept. to use which has caused flooding on her property. She claims someone used a chainsaw to cut down some trees, the flooding is also ruining trees. Brad responded that the DPW did not plug the culvert, the fire dept. does not have a fire pond there. The damage has been caused by beavers. He contacted the Board of Health and got permission to unplug the clogged area to lower the water. The tree damage has been done by beavers. They are looking into a beaver deceiver or to have the beavers removed. Ms. Keener offered to pay for the beaver deceiver.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

George Riley

Mark Newman

Alex Bowman