

Selectmen's minutes of meeting July 10, 2017

Members present: John Skrip, Alice, Boyd, Mark Newman, Bob O'Brien, Dolores Harasyko

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

It is with deep respect that we acknowledge the Mahican Tribe, the pathfinders of our community.

Bob provided highway department updates. They continue to prepare Town Hill Rd. and West St. for the reclaim project. Hope to start the job the end of July.

Once the Rugg bridge work starts there will be two temporary speed bumps on River Rd.

Discussed the process for hiring a part time town administrator. Alice provided suggestions for the process. John placed the ad in the Beacon, we also need to advertise in a local newspaper. Dolores will do that tomorrow with the cut off two weeks from Friday. Alice would like to hire an interim administrator to handle the large items such as Kinder Morgan, vehicle purchases, Broadband, contract negotiations and the bridge. John feels this will be too expensive. Discussion followed. Motion by Alice, second by Mark, passed unanimously to hire a temporary interim administrator. Alice has worked with this person, he will also help with the hiring process of the part time administrator. He will answer to John to avoid any conflict.

Discussed the police activity log. John has received calls from residents asking for more detailed monthly reports. Police Chief Mike Morrison responded that he already submits monthly reports to the town hall, he attaches them to his bills and sends it to the Sandisfield Times. He will continue but he will clarify them and make them more transparent.

Discussed website postings. Dawn explained that we have had two training sessions as well as one on one trainings. Each department is responsible for posting their agenda's and minutes of meetings. Discussed emails. Discussed having an evening training session.

Reviewed FY2017 encumbrances. There were only two submitted. The Tax Collector Expense for \$840.00 and the Library for \$472.77. Motion by Alice, second by Mark, passed unanimously to accept the encumbrances.

Motion by Alice, second by Mark, passed unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Terry Spohnholz from the Historical Commission.

Motion by Alice, second by Mark, passed unanimously to appoint Roger Kohler as the alternate representative between the planning board and Berkshire Regional Planning Comm.

Selectmen's updates:

Alice continues to negotiate Broadband this includes working with the Governors office.

Mark is following up on the fencing for the transfer station. Bob will get in touch with Berkshire Fencing.

John has been filling in at the town hall. He has been learning a lot from the staff. He thanked the staff for all their work. All are working hard and working well together.

Future agenda items:

Next week is the special permit hearing for the D'Andreas.

Miller Petroleum.

John explained that he will be meeting with staff on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

Simon Winchester asked for an update on the bridge. The bid's are due on August 17, 2017. Simon has been discussing the bridge with Kevin Kiwak who has suggested building a covered bridge at the Rugg bridge location. Alice explained that the strap grant for the bridge was based on the current specs and we would have to start all over again risking the strap grant. Mike Morrison suggested that the Silverbrook bridge might be a better location.

Ann Wald discussed the accident she was involved in on Route 8. She is starting a petition and will contact Mass DOT for flashing lights to slow down the traffic.

Nina Carr discussed the condition of York Lake. The State is not maintaining it, the bathrooms are locked up and there are no lifeguards. The COA usually has their annual picnic their and cannot this year. John will contact the DCR to see if perhaps the state will allow the town to use and maintain York Lake.

Mail reviewed

Warrants reviewed and signed

At 7:47 motion by Alice to enter into Executive Session for the express purpose of discussing contract negotiations and to adjourn immediately after.

Roll call vote: John, yes, Alice, yes, Mark, yes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47

John Skrip

Alice Boyd

Mark Newman

