Selectmen's minutes of meeting Nov. 20, 2017

Members present: John Skrip, Mark Newman, Fred Ventresco, Bob O'Brien, Dolores Harasyko, Admin. Asst.

Called to order at 7:01 p.m. Meeting is being taped

Bob provided highway dept. updates. They finished ditch runoffs, finished grading, patched Route 183. They will continue pothole patching on S. Beech Plain Rd. and Cold Spring Rd. Hinckles and MCcoy has started patching on Cold Spring Rd. They are meeting with Kinder Morgan Tuesday to discuss future repair of Cold Spring Rd.

Nina Carr reviewed an article from the Berkshire Edge regarding contaminated water from the pipeline project.

The highway department will be taking down the building at Yanner Park.

They will repair the cemetery gates next week.

No response regarding the gutters. Fred will follow up on the gutters.

They will be replacing 2 culverts on Cronk Rd. and then adding gravel to the road.

John asked Bob to check on Silverbrook Rd.

Discussed communication between the public and the highway department. The voice mail was full but is now cleared and able to take messages. Bob stated that he has not missed a call. Discussed the snow and ice budget.

Nina Carr requested the use of the Community Center for a free playgroup. They will meet Monday morning will the library is open. The Librarian and Library Trustees have approved. Since it is during regular library hours there will not be any additional costs to the town. Nina has concerns about the gutters and plumbing. Fred will follow up on these issues. Selectmen approved.

Discussed the Assessors clerk job. The town's personnel policy calls for the job to be posted in house before advertising.

Discussed the town website maintenance. Dawn is the website manager. The site needs to be updated with names, numbers and email info. Dawn responded that she does the maintenance but each board is responsible for posting their own agenda and minutes. John would like all boards to post their agendas and minutes. Fred will help with website training. John Burrows explained that the calendar is always blank. Dawn reviewed how this should happen.

Discussed surveillance cameras for the transfer station. John explained the DEP complaints. Fred discussed the situation with the Master Garbologist, Fred will continue to follow up.

Town administrator updates:

The tax rate has been set, it is the same rate at 13.29.

Fred is working on drafting a letter regarding Route 8 signs. Discussed Jake Breaks.

Discussed the grant for the cardboard compactor for the transfer station, we have missed the deadline. A representative from the DEP will work with us for the next grant application for technical assistance.

Discussed a letter to be sent to all boards and committees regarding the use of town council. Everyone will need to get permission form the Selectmen or the Town Administrator before contacting town council.

He has not made any progress on squatters. The Board of Health will be making a site visit. Fred is getting sample bylaws regarding mobile homes and campers. Bob O'Brien from the Planning Board stated that a bylaw change has to start with the planning board and be voted on at an annual town meeting. We will not meet the deadline for this upcoming towns meeting.

Selectmen updates:

John continues to meet with other towns regarding shared services.

Continues to work on broadband

Mark continues to work on transfer station issues.

John received a letter from Alice Boyd. She is asking for permission to apply for a grant for \$800,000 at no cost to the town for a CDGB grant.

John is following up on solar at Yanner Park. Paul Gaudette is concerned about taking open space away from future generations. Paul is concerned that there will be land taken to put in phase 3 lines, there will have to be lights, he also thinks that the town voted to not allow solar. John Burrows asked Paul is there are any other areas in town suitable for solar. Paul reiterated that he thinks the town voted against solar. The town clerk will research this.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

John Skrip

Mark Newman