

Selectmen's minutes of meeting February 20, 2018

Members present: John Skrip, Mark Newman, Fred Ventresco,
Dolores Harasyko, Admin. Asst.

Members absent: Bob O'Brien

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting is being recorded

Item 1 Highway dept. updates will be held until the road superintendent arrives.

Reviewed the weekly payroll sheets. The selectmen would like all employees to use the same form. Motion by John, second by Mark to approve the payroll time sheet. Fred will contact all employees to start using them.

Update on the Green Community. Fred has scheduled a representative to make a presentation to the board possibly on March 19 at 7:00 p.m. The Green Community opens up avenues for grant revenue.

Discussed York Lake usage. Nina Carr collected signatures of support to reopen the facilities at York Lake. The COA was not able to use York Lake due to no restroom or water. Nina would like the selectmen to appeal to Smitty Pignatelli to reinstate the services for this coming summer. John will follow up with the DCR. Mark suggested writing a letter along with the town of New Marlborough.

Discussed the Assessors clerk position. Elaine O'Brien was the only applicant. Motion by Mark, second by John to hire Elaine O'Brien as the Assessors clerk for three days a week. Assessor Chair Bethany Perry asked why she wasn't consulted before hiring a clerk for her department. She would have appreciated knowing who was applying for the job. Jackie Bitso expressed her concerns with the lack of communication.

John reviewed the Public Records Law.

Selectmen's updates:

The Rugg Bridge (Route 57 bridge) is ahead of schedule at this time.

Nina Carr asked if it is in the contract to clean up the work site and replant grass. John will follow up with Bob on this.

John attended a meeting regarding broadband. Frontier has gone nowhere. They are looking into other companies including Matrix, Whip City, Charter and Crocker. Charles Pease asked why we didn't go in with Otis. John explained that they are fully funding their own project.

Mark provided transfer station updates. We have a good balance in the revolving dump sticker account to continue to work on the problems with the landfill and transfer station. John Fields has taken down some trees and will continue.

Town Administrator updates:

Fred continues to work on the cardboard compactor grant. He attended a meeting on the Green Community Designation. He discussed the situation at Yanner Park with bob Tarasuk, the forester regarding people entering Yanner Park to cut and pick up firewood. He is to make sure everyone is covered by insurance.

John announced that we received the Complete Streets Grant for \$50,750. This will allow us to put bicycle parking and amenities for bicycles at the Library, Old Town Hall Town Hall Annex and Wilbur Park. It will also allow for Traffic Calming solar speed signs for Route 57 and Route 183.

Discussed the signage bylaw for SARC. They are replacing the sign with a sign that is the same size as the one in place. Fred will review the bylaw.

John provided highway department updates. Some of the potholes have been filled on River Road and they plan to continue to work on them. Kathy Wilcox talked about the timing of the lights on River Road, the timing is off again. The light changes before the oncoming traffic has gone completely through.

Discussed future agenda items: York Lake, SARC signage

Kathy Wilcox complained about the ice on South Beech Plain Road. There has been hardly any use of salt or sand there this winter. The ditches are full of ice and the road has been barely plowed. John will follow up with Bob.

Reviewed mail

Reviewed and signed minutes of meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

John Skrip

Mark Newman