

Selectmen's minutes of meeting September 28, 2020

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

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Remote participation information provided to the public.

Brian opened the public hearing for Nstar DBA Eversource. Representative Chris Barrett explained that they are putting a new pole between existing poles # 27 and 28 on Sandisfield Road to alleviate the sag between the poles. This is in connection to the fiber optics install. Motion by Brian, second by Mark, passed unanimously to grant permission for the install of the new pole.

Reviewed and signed purchase orders.

Brian announce that they have hired a new DPW employee. His name is Austin Garrett, he has all licenses required in addition to G4. He has good reference and experience with snow plowing. He will start on October 5.

Anina Carr in to discuss chair yoga. The chair yoga classes have been well attended. She would like to move the classes indoors at the Old Town Hall. She has contacted Roger Kohler from the Board of Health regarding Covid procedures. Brian asked for a timeline, Nina responded she would like to start Oct. 7. Dolores reviewed the timeline for the State/Presidential election. There is a question as to who is deep cleaning the Old Town Hall and the Town Hall Annex. Brian explained that Joanne has been contacting local companies and has advertised on Indeed. Most companies are too busy or don't want to travel to Sandisfield. The company that cleaned the Old Town Hall will be available sometime towards the end of October. Brian asked Anina to get a recommendation from the Board of Health. If the Old Town Hall has to be cleaned after each chair yoga class that bill will have to come out of the COA budget. Brian tabled further discussion until Anina gets information from the Board of Health.

Town Manager updates:

Joanne is working closely with the finance committee on defining the budget process and forecasting.

Reviewed questions for the school budget.

Continues to work on Cares Act reimbursement.

She is meeting on Thursday in Great Barrington to discuss senior transportation.

She is working with the Green Team Committee to compile information for the annual report for energy consumption.

George added that he attended the finance committee meeting to discuss the finance committee bylaw. The finance committee does not want to own the budget.

Anina thanked Joanne in regards to the senior van issue. Joanne will continue to keep in touch with Anina.

Future agenda items:

Webmaster

Transfer station budget/operation ownership, we will discuss this at a future work session.

Transfer station fees

Chair yoga

George would like to discuss solar panels on the records storage facility.

Lynn Rubenstein would like to discuss potholes on Town Hill Road, Mark responded that this is already on Brad's schedule.

Reviewed mail

Reviewed and signed warrants

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

Nina asked about a cleaning person for town buildings. Brian responded that there have been multiple attempts to hire, posted on Indeed, Joanne has called surrounding towns and local companies. No interest yet.

Lynn Rubenstein has yet to see an update regarding broadband on the website. Jeff Bye will have an update in October.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Brian O'Rourke

George Riley

Mark Newman