

Selectmen's minutes of meeting June 13, 2016

Members present: Alice Boyd, Jeff Gray, Bob O'Brien,  
Dolores Harasyko

Members absent: John Skrip

Called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Alice explained that the state would like all municipalities to move towards an appointed treasurer/collector model. Jeff is opposed.

Terry Sponholz in to be interviewed for a financial position. The selectmen reviewed the two openings, one for treasurer and one for town accountant. Dennis Mountain is not interested in the accountant job. Alice feels the accountant job should take approximately 5 hours a week and the treasurer between 8 to 10 hours a week. Terry reviewed her extensive background in accounting and accounts payable. She is interested in the treasurer position. The selectmen will have a decision next week.

It is with deep respect for the Mahican Tribe that we will dedicate the opening of our meeting.

Former tax collector Edna Leavenworth in. she reviewed an upsetting phone call she got stating miss information regarding tax collections. Edna has had an excellent record in collecting taxes and working with the public. She is at a 98% collection of taxes. The selectmen thanked her for her many years of dedicated service to our town.

Reviewed the Wilber Park plaque.

Alice received a text and email from Bill Perry for a damaged tire due to rocks in the road. Jeff said there is also another person that has damaged a tire. Alice will discuss with Bob O'Brien.

Alice provided a draft of the Remote Participation Policy. Motion by Jeff, second by Alice to adopt the policy.

Bob in with highway dept. updates. They continue to grade roads. They will be doing some paving on Route 183. He wants to chip seal part of West St. and Town Hill Rd. He is going to encumber \$20,000 from highways and bridges. He ordered 300 tons of gravel from Tonlino. Jeff asked about New Hartford Rd. He is going to work on the sides and chip seal part of the top on half of the road. Jeff does not agree with this idea, he feels it is a short term fix. Alice would like a road repaired before September. Jeff does not feel skim coating is a good idea. Alice reviewed an email about 132 New Hartford Rd. where damage was done by the road side mowing. Alice responded to the property owner. She gave Bob a receipt for a mailbox that was supposed to be replaced on Sandisfield Rd. She paid for it herself. Barbara Cormier commended the highway

department for the grading work on Norfolk Rd. Alice reviewed the probation period for bob is over and she will be contacting him for a review. Discussed the website use for the highway department. Bob agreed to post roadwork. Alice asked again about the potholes in front of the post office, transfer station and town hall annex. Bob will get to it by this Thursday or Friday. Bob presented Chapter 90 reimbursement paperwork for gravel. Reviewed and signed.

Alice provided an update on Kinder Morgan. She went to the Finance Committee for a reserve fund transfer of \$5,000 for BCK Law to represent the town at the compensation hearing.

Alice provided an update on Wired West. She attends meetings every Wednesday night. She is attending another meeting this Thursday night with Tech Committee members to discuss bonding issues. Per the outside auditor we need three consecutive audits and we are not able to get a bond at this time. We would have to bond in order to continue with Wired West. Barbara Cormier asked what does it mean when Alice refers to a "bad audit". Alice explained that the last full audit was in 2007 and a cash audit in 2012. It is costly to do them annually but in order to get grants or bonds we have to have annual audits. We would not receive a favorable rating at this time.

Alice provided selectmen updates. She completed the Complete Streets paperwork. Dian Swartz has volunteered to take on the sign project.

Discussed future agenda items. We will sign encumbrances on June 26. No meeting on June 20.

Mail reviewed  
Warrants reviewed and signed  
Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Alice Boyd

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Jeff Gray