

Selectmen's minutes of meeting June 28, 2021

Members Present: Alex Bowman, Chair, Mark Newman  
George Riley by remote

Called to order at 7:00pm

Remote participation information provided to the public.

Reviewed and signed minutes of meetings

Reviewed and signed purchase orders.

**3. Consideration and vote on the following annual appointments effective July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2022, with the exception of the Police Chief which will be a three year appointment effective July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2024.**

<b>Town Council</b>	<b>Kopelman &amp; Paige</b>
<b>Chief of Police</b>	<b>Michael Morrison</b>
<b>Assistant Chief of Police</b>	<b>Ralph Morrison</b>
<b>Fire Chief</b>	<b>Ralph Morrison</b>
<b>Fire Inspector</b>	<b>Ralph Morrison</b>
<b>Emergency Manage Director</b>	<b>Eric Pachulski</b>
<b>Animal Inspector</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>
<b>Veterans Service Director</b>	<b>Laurie Hils</b>
<b>Building Inspector</b>	<b>Matthew Kollmer</b>
<b>Asst. Building Inspector</b>	<b>Robert Sullivan</b>
<b>Wiring Inspector</b>	<b>Jay Reynolds</b>
<b>Asst. Wiring Inspector</b>	<b>Jeffrey Aloisi</b>
<b>Asst. Wiring Inspector</b>	<b>Robert Kimberley</b>
<b>Plumbing Inspector</b>	<b>Brian Middleton</b>
<b>Asst. Plumbing Inspector</b>	<b>Mark Levernoch</b>
<b>Tree Warden</b>	<b>Brad Curry</b>

Mark Newman approves all annual appointments. Alex Bowman is concerned with the state legislature to extend the age limit for police and fire departments. Ralph Morrison spoke with Smitty Pignatelli and the adjustment should be approved within a few weeks. Smitty suggested moving forward with the annual appointments.

Mark Newman motions to accept the annual appointments, and include a three year appointment for Police Chief. Second by Alex. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

## **Review and vote on FY2021 Encumbrances**

Fire equipment encumbrance includes fire department maintenance adding up to \$1,437.30. ALS interception adding up to \$1,697.00.

George motions to approve fire department encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

Police department encumbrances add up to \$375.46.

Alex motions to approve police department encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

Town Accountant encumbrances add up to \$197.00.

Alex motions to approve Town Accountant encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

Treasurer/ Tax Collector encumbrances add up to \$225.97.

Alex motions to approve Treasurer/ Tax Collector encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

Cemetery Committee encumbrances add up to \$200.00.

Alex motions to approve Cemetery Committee encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

## **Review and vote on End of Year Transfers**

The Select Board decides to hold off on this item until July 12. The board will ask the Finance Committee, Treasurer and Accountant to be present.

## **Continuation of Discussion of Article 3 from the previous meeting**

- **Discuss how to proceed with the following open positions: Town Manager, Town Clerk, Asst. Town Clerk, Admin. Asst. to the Selectboard, Web Master, DPW Worker, DPW Secretary.**

George has been in contact with other towns to re-evaluate the administration of the town government. Suggests the possible combination of tasks. George spoke with Sheffield and New Marlborough, and Sheffield shares one clerical person for secretary services in multiple boards.

Dolores suggests the Select Board meet with the current staff for input.

Ralph does not support another full-time position.

Barbara Cormier commends the Select Board for searching for solutions, but expresses concerns about the cost.

Mark suggests readdressing the openings at the July 1 work session.

Alex asks if a DWP worker has the authority to hire. Mark confirms that the Supervisor vets the resumes and brings the final three for the Select Board to decide and vote to hire.

Motion to table this discussion.

### **Additional Encumbrances**

60220.04 Fire Ambulance Equipment: \$2,651.09

60220.05 Fire Ambulance Training: \$1,348.91

Alex asks if training encumbrance is for training. Suggests a year end transfer which will need Finance Committee approval.

Alex motions to approve Fire Ambulance Training encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

Alex motions to approve Fire Ambulance Equipment encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

60220.00 Fire Department Maintenance: \$1,437.30

Alex motions to approve Fire Department Maintenance encumbrances. Second by Mark. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call Vote: Alex, yes. Mark, yes. George, yes.

### **Future Agenda Items**

George wants to discuss the Animal Control Officer vacancy.

Carl Nett reminded the Select Board on behalf of David Hubbard, infrastructure being flagged for the federal infrastructure bill. Carl would like someone to contact Smitty Pignatelli. Ralph has already done so, and will continue to discuss infrastructure needs. Ralph suggests conducting a meeting with state representatives.

Kathy Burrows states a future agenda item should include George's plan to follow up on AA Cemetery Services for Rich Atwood to be Cemetery Commissioner. Anyone on the Cemetery Committee can sign deeds; Kathy does not want to sign the deeds.

Margaret McClellan wants to make sure the Finance Committee and Select Board have a joint meeting to approve end of the year transfers.

### **Reviewed mail**

### **Reviewed and signed warrants.**

### **Topics not reasonably anticipated**

Mark asks if equipment has been received from the former Town Manager from two weeks ago. George responded it should have been sent by UPS. Dolores confirmed that it had not arrived.

Steve Harasyko expresses desire to recognize Dolores for years of service. Ralph and Barbara agree and are disappointed the town has yet to do so.

Barbara states that no one can get into the COA computer. Margaret will follow up with John Shannon.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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George Riley

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Alex Bowman