

# Town of Sandisfield

Select Board  
October 25, 2021

Minutes for Select Board meeting held on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 7:00p.m. at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, MA

Members present: George Riley, Steve Seddon, Alex Bowman

Called to order at 7:00PM

- 1. Call to order: Note that the meeting is being recorded**
- 2. Review and sign minutes of meetings. Points to minutes**
- 3. Review and sign purchase orders**

#### **4. Discuss and take action on compensation for Acting Town Manager**

Alex states he reviewed a copy of the itemized list of tasks George had been working on as Acting Town Manager. Alex agreed with the number of hours presented in the list, and only a brief discussion of pay rate would need to be had.

During the previous meeting, George stated that \$46/hr without benefits seemed reasonable when compared to their previous Town Manager's salary. Alex believes this hourly amount is reasonable.

Alex motions to compensate the Acting Town Manager for the 243.7 hours he worked from June through September at the rate of \$45.97. The total compensation would amount to \$11,202.89. Steve seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call vote: Alex, yes. Steve, yes.

#### **5. Discuss and take action on Driveway Permit fees**

George motions to establish a \$25 driveway permit fee if the permit is not applied for in conjunction with a building permit. If the permit is applied for in conjunction with a building permit, there will be no additional fee. Alex seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call vote: George, yes. Steve, yes. Alex, yes.

#### **6. Discuss and take action on Special Permit Application**

This item is tabled.

#### **7. Discuss and take action on Roger Kohler resignation from Recreation Committee**

George motions to accept Roger Kohler's resignation from the Recreation Committee. Alex seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Roll-call vote: George, yes. Steve, yes. Alex, yes.

## **8. Acting Town Manager Updates**

### **9. Select Board Updates**

George explains the Select Board met earlier that week to amend the Town Manager contract. This revised contract was sent to the incoming Town Manager for review. Once approved and signed by him, he will give his two weeks notice at his current job and begin in Sandisfield shortly after.

The new Treasurer/ Tax Collector will begin November 5. George will write a press release to post on the town website.

George updates that once the town installs Spectrum next summer, the town can switch to Spectrum phone service instead of Magna 5.

Alarm Systems of Berkshire County visited the Town Hall and will send a proposal for an updated alarm system in the coming week.

George notes that the town has a contract with Braman, a pest control company that uses rodenticides, which can kill more than just the rodent itself. George has reached out to them to ask the company to utilize alternative pest control options on the property.

George explains that CARES Act reimbursement is due by the end of the month. The reimbursements have been submitted and George was requested to write a narrative to explain why certain items should be reimbursed.

George explains he submitted questions to Town Counsel about salaries for the Town Manager and Treasurer, and changing the Town Clerk from an elected to an appointed position. George notes that he believes this change can be done at a Special Town Meeting.

## **10. Future agenda items**

### **11. Review mail**

### **12. Review and sign warrants**

### **13. Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting**

Barbara Cormier suggests researching if Sandisfield can be considered as a "distressed town", which would make the town more eligible for grants and other financial

assistance. She explains that Winsted, CT is considered a distressed town, and wonders if Massachusetts has similar fiscal classifications.

Larry Dwyer updates that he has filed the annual report for the Green Committee, which will allow the committee to apply for a competitive grant. Once the solar panels are installed, he will look into installing heat pumps in the Town Hall. Larry is also looking into replacing the light bulbs in Sandisfield's street lights with LED bulbs.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm

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George Riley

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Alex Bowman

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Steve Seddon