

Town of Sandisfield

Select Board

Minutes for Select Board meeting held on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:30PM at the Town Hall, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, MA

Members present: Steve Seddon, Alex Bowman, John Field, Jonathan Sylbert

Called to order at 6:30PM

1. Call to order: Note that the meeting is being recorded

2. Discuss and Vote on Hiring a Town Manager

Steve summarized there were two final candidates for the Town Manager position, Jonathan Sylbert and Roxanne McCaffrey. Roxanne had three years of Select Board experience in Stockbridge, MA, and brief Town Manager experience while the position was vacant in her town. However, all Select Board members felt Jonathan had more experience in municipal and appreciate the work he has already done operating as Interim Town Manager of Sandisfield.

Steve motions to move forward with contract negotiations with Jonathan Sylbert in the position of Town Manager. Alex seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

3. Brad Curry in for DPW Updates

There are a few vehicles/equipment that are currently being repaired or waiting to be repaired. Brad notes that the repairs are normal based on Sandisfield's terrain.

A total of \$91,657 has been recouped from the sale of surplus equipment. The majority of the sales were DPW equipment, but about \$15,000 came from Fire Department equipment.

Some pothole patching was done on Town Hill Road; more patching is anticipated. The paving of Route 57 & 183 is almost complete, with the exception of some cleanup along the edges of the road. Sandisfield has about 25 miles of line painting to be done. A date for the painting should be scheduled by next week. Additionally, speed sign installation will begin next week.

Brad will attend a Conservation Commission meeting to discuss culvert relining and updating their blanket notice of intent agreement for the town.

Brad reports that the engineer is waiting to hear from KP Law before proceeding with the bid specs for the No-Name culvert bridge on Route 57. It's noted that the bid may be \$200,000 more than the grant. The Select Board may need to return for Mass DOT if this happens.

It's questioned whether the town can chip-seal the driveway at Center Cemetery. Brad will explore this option.

It's noted that the stone wall on Mary Turek's property at 158 Sandisfield Rd is protruding too far into the town's right of way. Mary states she would be willing to move the wall.

4. Discuss and Vote to Order GPS Devices

Steve summarizes the plan to install GPS units in all the DPW vehicles and six pieces of their equipment. This assists in transparency and the creation of itineraries. Item is tabled.

5. Discuss and Vote to Send Community Outreach Mailer

Quotes for every-door-direct-mail were gathered, which Steve found to be cost-effective. Steve motions to have Kwik Print send out the flyers on letter size paper in black and white for \$395.00. John seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

6. Discuss Mass Audubon and Sign Letter

Steve reads the letter which notifies Mass Audubon that Sandisfield will not be pursuing any options for the nonprofit to purchase the Minery properties. Should Mass Audubon pay the back-taxes, they would be able to purchase the land without the involvement of the town. The Select Board signs the letter.

7. Interim Town Manager Updates

Jonathan reports that he has already reviewed and signed the warrants, which may assist in cutting the time spent reviewing them at the end of the Monday meeting.

Once a years-worth of data has been collected and submitted to MIIA for medical and dental insurance, they can provide a competitive bid for their own coverage.

Jonathan has lined up three grants for the town to apply for. A Human Resources grant, which would provide strength and education within this department. A Public Safety grant is also available, as well as an IT grant, which could be used for technology upgrades, including new phone systems, new software, or digitizing documents.

8. Select Board Updates

9. Future Agenda Items

- Robert Sampson property usage
- Town Manager contract negotiations in Executive Session - 9/16 @ 10:15am
- Work Session to discuss STM & Capital Plan - 9/15 @ 3:30pm
- Nelson's one-day liquor license

10. Review and sign minutes of meetings, purchase orders, warrants, and mail

11. Adjourn Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:53pm

Steve Seddon

Alex Bowman

John Field