

# Town of Sandisfield

## Select Board

Minutes for Select Board meeting held on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 6:30PM at the Town Hall, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, MA

Members present: Steve Seddon, John Field, Robert Fedell, Jonathan Sylbert

Participants: Michael Morrison, Eric Pachulski, Matt Pachulski, Barbara Cormier, Brigitte Ruthman, David & Patricia Hubbard

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

### **2. Determine Process of Hiring a Temporary or Interim Fire Chief**

Michael Morrison and Eric Pachulski are temporarily filling in for the Fire Chief position as Co-Deputy Chiefs. The Select Board created a job description for the position, which Eric and Michael were given to review and subsequently had no recommended changes. The position will be advertised on the Town website and promoted on Facebook. There is a brief discussion on how surrounding Towns have gone about filling similar positions.

### **3. Review and Sign MOU regarding Fire Chief Position**

Jonathan put together a memorandum of understanding for the Select Board, Fire Department, and Fire Department Inc to sign. The MOU would confirm that these entities share the same goals in finding the right person to fill the role of Fire Chief. Michael refuses to sign at this time, as he wants to receive a recommendation and better understanding from a retired Fire Chief before committing to anything. Steve reiterates this document is basically an agreement for everyone to work as a team to hire the best suited candidate for Fire Chief. All three Select Board members and Eric Pachulski sign the MOU.

### **4. Discuss New Address Issuance Procedure/Policy**

A new Address Issuance application has been established. It will be available on the website and on PermitEyes.

### **5. Town Manager Updates/Project List**

Jonathan reports that MIIA has warned the health/dental insurance increase could be as much as 8% this coming fiscal year.

Jonathan announces the Town will receive an additional \$215,000 in Chapter funds this fiscal year making the total over \$700,000.

## **6. Select Board Updates**

No Select Board meeting next week, as Monday, 12/25 is a holiday. The following Monday, 1/1/24 is also a holiday, so the Board will meet Tuesday, 1/2/24 instead.

## **7. Future Agenda Items**

## **8. Topics Not Anticipated**

David Hubbard questions the plans for repairs on Dodd Rd. Jonathan confirms an announcement has already been posted online reporting that the Town is going through a multi-million dollar grant process this year and will apply for repairs on three roads, including Dodd Rd and Fox Rd. David notes that when the maintenance is to be done, the drainage gutters should not be done with oil and stone. David presents photos to the Select Board of Dodd Rd's current state, showing that the majority of the material that was just laid down has washed away in the heavy rainfall last week.

Steve agrees the Select Board needs to have a Work Session to take a broader look at the condition of the roads and begin to establish a plan on how to address the issues. John Field notes that there are many dirt roads in Sandisfield that are impassable due to the frequent thawing and freezing that has become more common throughout the years. However, despite Sandisfield's need for repairs, there is not enough funding to fix all the dirt roads at once. Jonathan reports a Dirt Road Survey has already been established, which prioritized the roads for maintenance. The Select Board intends on following that priority list.

## **9. Public Comment**

## **10. Review and vote to approve minutes of meetings**

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve minutes of the 12/11 meeting.

Steve Seddon	Aye
John Field	Aye
Robert Fedell	Aye

## **11. Review and sign purchase orders, warrants, and mail**

## **12. Adjourn Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 7:24pm

---

Steve Seddon

---

John Field

---

Robert Fedell