

UNAPPROVED
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 12, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Rockwell, Thomas Wilson, Linda Montague, Deborah Baker and Philip E. Mazzucco.

OTHERS PRESENT: Andrea Lenhardt, Val Almosnino, Brett Lourie, William Meyer, Steven Berry, Jed Rubin, Richard Ventrella and John Thrasher.

Motion by Debbie, seconded by Charlie to approve the December minutes with minor corrections as noted. Motion carried.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

1. Andy and Debbie met with the Town's web designer and put some Town Meeting information on it and the December minutes.
2. Petitions for articles are due January 14th at 3:30 p.m. and consent of candidate forms are due by 5 p.m. on January 25th.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1.

Cash on hand	12/01/20	\$514,731.45
Receivables		169,119.35
Disbursements		70,179.33
Cash on hand	12/31/20	\$613,671.47
2. There will be a special Select Board meeting on January 19th at 6:30 p.m. to work on the budget.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. COVID-19 restrictions extended another month as there was a spike after Christmas.
2. Letter from Barbara Conrad complaining of speeding on Pawlet Mountain Road. It was the consensus of the Board to have a traffic study done in the Spring. Linda will write to Barbara and let her know of the Board's decision.
3. Vermont League of Cities and Towns has a drug testing program for employees, and encourages them to get tested.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Highway Report: Several small storms have been using the salt and sand. Oil pan replaced on white truck. Paperwork almost completed for the Better Back Roads grant for \$17,000.00.
2. Charlie will have John LaVecchia leave off a \$25,000.00 check with John Thrasher to pay for the Town Green land sale.
3. Phil got quotes on storage containers for Town Office contents when the renovation begins of the building. Alberti's delivery and pickup fees are \$284.00 each and rental of a forty foot unit is \$100.00 per month. Abernacki's fees are \$250.00.00 delivery/pick up and \$90.00 per month. 20' Pods are available too and are lined with wood. Phil will continue to do more research and Tom will call Ed Clark from NBF for more advice.
4. After discussion, Board will have Road Crew take away the boxes of papers that need to be shredded to Phil's for him to burn.
5. Bill Meyer gave a brief report on the efforts of the local Communications Union District to get broadband available in Rupert.
6. Charlie and Debbie are still putting the finishing touches on the revised Work Policy.
7. We owe Bennington County Regional Commission payments for the hazard mitigation grant work for November and January. Linda will contact Michael Batchner of BCRC and have him send us a bill.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Board signed a certificate of appreciation to be given to Merritt Morey who has terminal cancer. To leave meals off for Merritt, contact Kelli Lewis for scheduling them.
2. Health Officer Kelli Raymond is still trying to resolve the situation on Route 30 where there is a family living in highly unsanitary conditions. She has spoken to Child Protective Services and the VT Department of Health about the problem. It was suggested that she ask the Vermont League of Cities and Towns for advice.
3. Steve Berry, Pastor of the Rupert Congregational Church addressed the Board about how the Church is applying for loans and grants for making the building be ADA compliant. He is looking for the support of the Board as the Church building is one of our emergency shelters.
4. Consensus of the Board to have Pre-Town Meeting on March 1st at 7:00 p.m.

The Board went into executive session at 7:55 p.m. It came out of executive session at 8:32 p.m.

Phil and Linda signed the orders.

Motion by Debbie, seconded by Phil to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Montague
Select Board Clerk and Co-Chair