**Selectmen’s Public Meeting Minutes**

**October 24, 2022**

**7:00 PM** Meeting called to order by Selectman Jack **Esposito.** Also present was Selectman Howard **Brown**. **Esposito** led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Jess Pomeroy came before the Board to discuss a town resident seeking to place a memorial bench on the town green. **Brown** understands what these residents are going through. He feels that we need to be careful; what we do for them we will have to offer to any other town resident. Jess stated that the scope of this project would not be just a bench; the idea included a patio with engraved stones as well. **Esposito** feels we need to form a Parks & Rec committee to come up with some ideas and set guidelines; the green is not all that big. Jess questioned if there is a better suited spot elsewhere that could be created for such situations. **Brown** would like to speak with this resident to hear from them what exactly they are wanting to do. Jess will be meeting with them next week. **Esposito** and **Brown** will join to have discussion to try to plan something for the spring.

Zoe Fimbel came before the Board to discuss putting a flower garden on the town green right in front of where Hazel Milligan lived. They would dig plants from Mrs. Milligan’s yard to create this. **Esposito** and **Brown** both agreed.

**Esposito** spoke of a letter received by Consolidated Communications seeking abatement of property taxes on telephone poles within municipal rights of way. **Esposito** has been in contact with Town Counsel who will handle this.

The Joint Loss Management Committee met last week and they have two recommendations. The first is to install a sprinkler system in the town garage truck area. The second is to upgrade the fire alarm systems in the Town Hall and the McCollom Building. We will get a few bids on both recommendations.

The Board went over the preliminary budget numbers submitted by Department Heads. Tim Berry noted that the Library Trustees are supposed to prepare a budget and present that to the Budget Committee; not the Board of Selectmen. He questioned if the Library Trustees can submit a simple warrant article for the bottom line of their budget. How is that going to happen at Town Meeting; do we rely on the Moderator to say this is a budget line item to be voted on separately with the approval or disapproval of the budget committee or are the Library Trustee’s required to submit a simple Warrant Article with the bottom line on it for the voters to approve or disapprove? It was explained that if the library wants their employees to be paid through the Town, they will have to give a detail of the budget. **Esposito** noted that the detail breakdown would be for the payroll, FICA, health insurance, etc. What they pay their employees is none of our business.

The Board reviewed the minutes of 10/17/22. **Brown** motioned to accept the minutes of 10/17/22 as written seconded by **Esposito.** All in favor.

**7:45 PM** Jay Wilson came before the Board to discuss the MACC Base contract which is a 5-year agreement. Wilson wanted Milford to hold an emergency fund for emergency repairs for all the towns for the radio equipment. Milford rejected that idea. With that rejection, Wilson feels that Mont Vernon needs to put $15,000 into a Selectmen line for emergency repairs to the microwave link system and the radio tower. Director Ray Anderson will be up here on November 7th to discuss and sign the IMA. The first meeting of the MACC Base Advisory Committee is November 1st at the Fire Station; we need a Selectmen’s Rep to be present for that. Wilson is recommending that a member of the Police Department be the new Rep to MACC Base in January of 2023.

The Board discussed a complaint that came in from a resident regarding a neighbor advertising their home as an event center.

**8:15 PM** As there was nothing further before the Board **Brown** motioned to adjourn seconded by **Esposito.**

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Cleary