**Selectmen’s Public Meeting Minutes**

**January 4, 2023**

**3:00 PM** Meeting called to order by Selectmen John **Quinlan.** Also present was Selectman Jack **Esposito** and Selectman Howard **Brown. Quinlan** feels that we have to come up with a communication policy to direct the happenings in Town. We need to come up with something that includes social media. Schwarz noted that we can set up a Town of Mont Vernon official page where we can turn off commenting if need be. Cleary noted that we need more of a town informational page vs another chatter page.

Crosby reported on the culvert situation on Brook Road. They were able to get some concrete pumped into the sinkhole they discovered when they did the onsite inspection with the engineer. They also did a repair on the inlet side; this will hopefully hold until they get to that project later in the spring. They are going to keep it down to one lane at the engineer’s recommendation at this time. They’ve added flashing lights to the barricades. They can add more signage if need be, seeing as it is going to be more of a long-term reduction of the travel lanes. **Quinlan** noted that we do not want commercial trucking of any kind going through there. A lot of people use that as a cut through from Amherst Village up to Tater Street. Slavin will research it tomorrow. Crosby can put up more ‘No Thru Trucking’ signs. We still have three months before we can install the new bridge; we do not want to inconvenience the people who live on Brook/Kendall Hill but we really need to limit the traffic. A resident of Brook Road noted that there is a large pothole on the tar part just beyond the bridge on the left. Crosby said that he has a pallet of cold patch and will address it. He said that hopefully, in coordination with the bridge/culvert project they may look at re-doing that section of road between the two bridges.

The Board discussed the War Memorial project and reimbursement to Zoe Fimbel for the overage spent.

The Board reviewed the minutes of 12/19/22. **Esposito** motioned to accept the minutes of 12/19/22 as written seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

**Esposito** made note of Town Election being on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 7:00am – 7:00pm and Town Meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 7:00pm. Warrant articles must be submitted by 2/7/23.

**Esposito** noted that for the elderly exemption, under our present tax rate, for every 100K reduction in assessed value, the individual would get a $2,800 reduction in taxes.

**Quinlan** discussed 2023 goals. We need to come up with policies: communications, bid process and personnel evaluations. The Employee Handbook needs to be updated.

**3:00 PM** As there was no further business before the Board, **Esposito** motioned to adjourn seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Cleary