

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes August 3, 2020

7:00 PM Meeting called to order by Selectboard Chairman, John Esposito. Also in attendance were Selectmen Kim Roberge and Tim Berry.

Esposito led the meeting in a moment of silence.

Board reviewed the minutes of 7/20/20. Berry motioned, seconded by Roberge to accept the minutes of July 20, 2020 as written. Berry; yes, Roberge; yes, Esposito; yes.

Esposito brought up a letter received from Dawn Pappas in response to our inquiry of there being an RV on their property that may have been being lived in.

Pappas stressed that this was not the case and that it was fully shut down and winterized in October. They continue to use the RV as a respite from Covid restraints and a place to gather while they clean up their property.

Esposito said that he has no problem with the way they are using their RV.

Roberge agreed, said that she thought they misinterpreted our minutes, but that the letter gives plenty of clarification regarding what they were using the RV for.

Berry feels that the whole thing could have been avoided with a little more communication.

Esposito said that he heard that we need to sign a contract to get the streetlight project into the queue.

Berry said that David Brooks has the contract and that Alyson Miller had a check for 50% cut from the Trustees of the Trust Funds for submission with the contract.

Roberge said that she has no problem with Esposito signing the contract.

Esposito said that he would like to have all the Selectmen read it over before he signs it.

Brooks said that the work will be complete before the end of 2020. He has one question; about the need for a police detail for work with a single bucket truck. He assumes it won't be needed.

Esposito relayed the results of the SRLD meeting he went to last week. He thought that the contract was too restrictive for the glass to go to Keene only. They will fine us if the load is contaminated. There is a place in New London that will take all glass. Dennis Slocomb will make the determination of where to take it on an individual load basis. The cost is the same.

For plastic, we can recycle #1; clear plastic only. If the load looks contaminated, Slocomb will make the determination to take it to the incinerator with the rest of the trash.

On September 10, 2020 the SLRD meeting will be here in the Fire Station meeting room.

Berry said that he spoke to the transfer station attendants on Saturday and both the glass and the aluminum loads are contaminated. Someone put sheetrock into the aluminum container. We have to follow the rules, or there will be no recycling. We should not have to hire another person to make sure a few individuals do the right thing.

Esposito said that the recommendation is to restack the cardboard on Tuesday so that more can go in the load.

He also said that Crosby, the DPW Director has found a person to fill in at the transfer station in case one of the attendants calls out.

There is no money in the budget to hire a permanent 3rd person this year.

Roberge said that adding the glass to recycling didn't seem to pose a hardship to the attendants.

Esposito asked Berry if he had taken the 3 roof quotes out of the office and was told yes.

Berry added that the proposals are all different – they are not quoting apples to apples.

Roberge said that she thought one was all-encompassing.

Berry doesn't want to go back to the ones that didn't give a full quote; he feels that the one who did was only \$50 different than the others and included more. Only one included the flat roof on the bell tower, and was going to use PVC trim on the bell tower. His charge for flashing the chimneys was half the price of another quote. One of the companies has changed shingle manufacturers to what Berry feels is a lesser quality.

Roberge agreed that only one company gave us a complete envelope.

Esposito asked if we could inquire about the other work from the companies that didn't quote it to give us information that is comparing apples to apples.

Roberge said that 2 quotes do not address the bell tower at all.

Berry said that he would call to get updated quotes with all work included.

Esposito asked Berry to inquire how they proposed to handle the power lines.

Berry would like to give a stipend in the way of Hazzard Pay to the Transfer Station attendants. He feels that these two men have had to deal with the public on a regular basis and not only with the nice people. He explained that the State of NH gave hazard pay to the police officers and firefighters, and he feels that the Transfer Station workers deal with the public as much as, and maybe more, than the PD and FD. He wants to reward them with \$100 each.

Esposito said that he doesn't have any problem with that.

Roberge said that she would not consent to this without having time to think about it; it is too short notice for her. If you are looking for a decision that evening, she needs notice in advance. She said that she will probably support it, but just needs time to think about it.

Esposito said that this issue brings up a point that needs to be made. Things like this, added to the agenda on Monday, don't give the other Board members time to think about them. The agenda will be made on Thursday afternoon. If you want something on the agenda it needs to be in to Brown by 12:00pm on Thursday.

Roberge brought up that a Department Head has complained that the Selectboard does not publish their agendas. She asked if they could start being put on the website. Brown said that she would do that.

Esposito asked if 92 Old Wilton Road's permits were all squared away.

Roberge said that they did turn in a new application, but that there is a proposed structure in the setbacks. The Building Inspector will suggest to them that they separate their projects so that they can proceed with some while they go through the ZBA to get a variance for the item in the setback.

Esposito asked if the Building Inspector has contacted them.

Roberge said that he hadn't since he could never get through to them, and all correspondence should go through their attorney. She also said that Esposito should call the building inspector in if he wants to speak to this. She asked Crosby if he had had any trouble getting through to the property owners and was told yes.

Esposito said that we are to deal with the Attorney now, so we should have no trouble getting through. Lets get this over and done.

Crosby asked how you do an in person visit through the lawyer.

Esposito asked Crosby if he had purchased the floor markings for social distancing that need to be installed in the Town buildings.

Crosby said that he is having trouble finding them.

Roberge said that she wants the gap in the plexiglass in the Town Hall filled in.

Crosby said that Chip Day did have the leftover pieces that may fit.

Roberge was adamant that it should be a full barrier for the safety of the employees and to facilitate a soft opening in the future.

Esposito asked Brown about the cost of getting the tax deeded piece of property on Weston Hill Rd. ready for sale.

Brown said that Attorney Quinn's charge could be as much as \$7500 and then there would be the considerable expense of publishing the very large ads in multiple papers/dates.

Berry said that we need to figure a way to spend the money this year and not realize the gain till next year.

Esposito said it would be better to get it all done this year.

Roberge said that we should get on it in September. She wants Brown to find out how much money Quinn would need this calendar year to get started.

Roberge spoke to Matt Wheaton on the Town Hall renovations. He should be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Although bond and interest rates are at an all time low, mechanical contractors are increasingly hard to find and have increased their prices.

Esposito said that a 2-million-dollar bond for 20 years has a rate of 1.5%, and for 5 years it is .57%.

Roberge said that our July bill tax collection rate is 94 – 95%.

Esposito asked Roberge for an update on the Library Trustees meeting.

Roberge said that most of the discussion revolved around the road. There were no commitments made.

Berry let the Board know that the State said that the culvert project for Brook Road has come back from the State as not complete. We want to get proposals back for year end.

Esposito said that the aerator is in at Carleton Pond, but he doesn't know about the lights.

Crosby said that he will be talking to Wilson tomorrow about this.

Roberge agreed that there was a light for skating planned.

Roberge mentioned the letter received from Milford regarding MACC and stating that they will be pulling out. The Milford representative tasked the MACC director to come up with a plan for a 12-month improvements plan for just improvements to MACC. She hopes that someone asked the Milford Selectmen what their intent is: just to get numbers, or to support a 12-month plan.

Esposito said that Milford wants to shut it down. We are whistling in the dark if we think MACC will survive intact.

Berry said that Milford wants the 3 towns to pony up the money for one year to have an upgraded MACC till they pull out.

Esposito said that he doesn't want to write any more letters or go to any more meetings.

8:30 PM As there was no further business before the Board, Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to adjourn.

Roberge; yes, Berry; yes, Esposito; yes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Brown