

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes August 5, 2019

7:00pm Meeting called to order by Chairman Jack Esposito. Also in attendance were Selectmen Kim Roberge and Tim Berry.

Chief Furlong came in to follow up on the community concerns about putting pedestrian crossing signs in the middle of Route 13. The two issues are the signs and the visibility of the cross walks. He spoke with the State and was informed that the Town is responsible for the painting of the crosswalk lines. Chief spoke with our DPW Director in regards to the painting of the crosswalks and the yearly maintenance of them. Chief also spoke with the Bureau of Traffic; the signs must say 'yield to pedestrians in crosswalk'. The town will be responsible for the placing and removal of the signs during the winter months. The cost of these signs range from \$200-\$400 apiece. One would be placed by Pinkham Ave. and the other by the General Store. The Board approved the purchase of the two signs.

7:15 pm Jess Pomeroy came before the Board to discuss the Beautification Committee. She feels that this group is far from running in compliance with what is required. She feels that it is difficult to raise her voice as Chair due to the informality of the meetings; she feels they are operating as a club, not as a budget spending committee. She is asking for guidance. She wants to make this a correctly run committee and wants a clear definition of how many voting members there are supposed to be vs the many helping hands that they now have. Roberge said that a 3 or 5 member committee board would be the best way from a voting standpoint with the rest being volunteers. The Board can facilitate the appointing of voting members and setting terms. The minutes of their meetings will need to be recorded and posted. Pomeroy stated that there was not a budget line for this committee before 2008; it had run off of donations and the two trust funds they had. The budget they now have does not even come close to covering the cost of maintaining the planters or sustaining the beds. She would like to see an increase in the budget line for next year. She questioned the ability to do fund raising as well. Esposito suggested that she come back within the next few weeks with a list of who she wants appointed and the Board can appoint and set staggered 3, 2 and 1 year terms. Esposito motioned to appoint Jessica Pomeroy as Beautification Chairman seconded by Berry. All in favor.

7:50 pm The Board reviewed the minutes of 7/22/19. Roberge motioned to approve the minutes as written seconded by Berry. All in favor.

7:55 pm David Robinson, D.R. Custom Masonry, also a town resident, came before the Board to offer his services for repairing the chimney on the Town Hall. It was explained that we are in the process of coming up with renovation plans for the Town Hall. We are not in the position to have any work done as of yet, but there will be masonry work to be done at a future date. He left his business card and will follow up at a later time.

8:00 pm The Board reviewed the proposed Request for Qualifications for the building renovation. Esposito questioned if the timeline is realistic with regard to bonding the project. Berry questioned the timeline for responses from contractors and Roberge stated that it is very realistic. Berry disagrees. Berry asked for a few minor revisions. The RFQ will be sent out to Eckman Construction, Harvey Construction, Hutter Construction and Chapman Construction. Esposito suggested also sending to CP Williams.

8:15 pm

- The Board reviewed and signed the checks and manifest. The Board signed an abatement.
- Roberge discussed her concerns with the Deputy Town Clerk salary line going over budget. Esposito agreed that the line will go over but explained that it is unavoidable. We did not anticipate the present Deputy leaving. She is doing so in two weeks for economic reasons. The new Deputy Clerk is required to put in 30 hours of observance before the State will train her. You cannot expect her to sit there unpaid. Esposito suggested looking at this again after the current Deputy is gone and things have settled down.
- Esposito brought up the MACC Base meeting scheduled for 8/12/19 where there will be discussion on rewriting the proposed agreement. He requested any new input from the Board before that time. Esposito feels that until Milford makes up their mind these meetings are going nowhere.
- Ben Crosby informed Esposito that the new truck cab has come in. It is the wrong color; it is red instead of orange. If we refuse it, it will take 4-5 months to get another one in. Crosby will be speaking with the salesman tomorrow to discuss what they are willing to do to compensate us for their error.

8:45 pm As there was no further business before the Board, Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Cleary