Select Board Meeting

April 16, 2020

7:00pm

Conducted Virtually

Present were James Trimble, David Bemis, Denise Randall, Darlene Wyman, Hannah Regier, Matt Perry, Fact TV, Janet Perry, Dan Taylor, Joanne-Sr. Solutions, Tim Stevenson, Sherry Maher, and Don Capponcelli.

David called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Adjustments to the Agenda: There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Minutes of the prior meeting: Denise made the motion to accept the minutes of the prior meeting. Jim seconded. Put to a vote. The motion carried.

Public comments: Joanne wished to thank all the volunteers that have stepped up to take the place of volunteers who are unable to work because of Corvid 19. She also stated the Sr. Solutions hotline is available for anyone seeking help. The number is 802-885-2669. Their hours are from 8:30am-4:00pm. Sherry asked if the meeting was being recorded. Darlene stated it was.

Boards and Officials: The listers provided a letter asking for an extension for the time the grand list has to be lodged. The board agreed to sign this. The deadline for the homestead declarations was discussed. Darlene stated it is usually in by June, but the state has extended the filing for homesteads is now July 15. It was discussed how this may affect the sending out of tax bills. The board considered the possibility of the due date being in October or refunding rebates. The board will readdress these issues at a later date. Denise asked about the pot holes on Route 35 that needed filling. Matt stated. The directions from the state concerning working on the highways not consistent with the stay home, stay safe policy were discussed. The culverts for Route 35 were discussed. Now would be a good time to replace them because of the limited traffic. Matt has contacted the flaggers and three contractors. Danny asked about Taylor Excavating putting in a bid. The board agreed. This will be discussed after the meeting. Denise made the motion to hire the contractor with the lowest bid. Jim seconded. Put to a vote. The motion carried. Don stated the cemetery has not set a meeting for April yet. He asked for permission to expend $136.00 for veteran’s flags for the cemeteries. He also complimented Hannah for the superb job she did on the Town’s website and setting up so the board could hold its meetings virtually. On behalf of the board, David also thanked Hannah.

State of Emergency: Tim stated anyone needing help could contact the emergency committee. The Stay Home, Stay Safe is in effect until May 15, 2020. David stated the State of Vermont and Microsoft has donated Wi-Fi equipment for hot spots around the state. David signed up for one of these spots at the Town Office. Don and Sandi will meet with them Wednesday to help set this up. Wi-Fi will be available in the parking lot only and will not affect the Town’s computers.

Taylor Hill: Danny asked about who to contact for the listers. Darlene stated he could contact Amber since she is the chair. He also asked about getting 911 numbers. Darlene can help with this. Danny asked about the time line for the board’s decision on Taylor Hill and when an appeal could be presented. David stated it was 30 days from the date the letter with the board’s decision was received. Danny also stated that in the beginning the residents of Taylor Hill were only asking for help and why was the town plowing and sanding Herring Hill and Walker Roads. The select board minutes reflect that Walker Road has been upgraded to a class 3 road. David stated that he discussed with Andy Toepfer and he indicated he has measured the road as well and the measurement on the highway map for Herring Hill goes up to the garage area. The town ends the maintenance of the road past the first house up to the garage. Danny stated the town equipment should not be on private property. David stated it is reasonable to say the town should not be on private property. Danny asked the letter stated the board was not going to do anything with Taylor Hill and it has to go to court. David stated the board turned down the petition and that is what the letter stated. Danny asked if there was anything the board would act on other than taking it to court. Danny stated that with the meetings we had we discussed doing different things. David stated the board could discuss what can be done and what can’t be done for Taylor Hill. Danny asked when we could discuss this again. It was decided to put it on the agenda for next month. Sherry asked about the timing after the February hearing. Her understanding was that the decision was made after the hearing during an executive session. David stated it was not an executive session, but a deliberative session. The decision was made when the paper work from the attorney was reviewed, then signed and sent out.

David made the motion to approve and sign the warrant. Denise seconded. Put to a vote. The motion carried.

Roads: Matt stated all the roads were in good condition. The road crew will be working on culverts and cleaning ditches. Matt asked for a computer for the town garage. David will purchase a computer and be reimbursed. Tim asked about the ledge work done on Route 35. Matt stated it was done to get the water and ledges away from the road before any paving was done.

There being no further business, David made the motion to adjourn. Denise seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Wyman, Town Clerk