

SPECIAL BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Zoom Meeting ID 87697638910

7:00pm

Minutes

Present: Curtis Read, Alan Brown, Laz Pinter

Guests: Bud Wright (Tree Warden), Alex McNaughton, Meg Khare, Loumarie Rodriguez, Dennis Macdonald

Mr. Read called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2020 Board of Selectmen's meeting, seconded by Mr. Pinter. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment: Alex McNaughton cited that the Town of Bridgewater's Planning and Zoning Commission's regulations contain a section on noise that defers to the State of CT's noise ordinance.

Correspondence: A resident contacted Mr. Read about construction at Level 3 Communications site on New Milford Road East (Route 67). Mr. Read discovered that there were no permits issued by the Building Department and contacted Pura who did not know of any work being done there. Mr. Read went to the site as a Zoning Enforcement Official to see who was working there and why.

Resignations: None

Vacancies: Board of Finance

Appointments: None

New Business

Tree Warden Report re dangerous trees for utilities: Mr. Wright reported that the trees that fell and caused damage during the storm were not necessarily dead trees. Eversource has not responded to him about removing trees that have been identified as dangerous. Mr. Wright feels that Eversource needs to change their program and hire people who know what they are doing to take down dangerous trees.

Tax Collector's report: Read for the record, see attached.

Tax Refunds: Mr. Brown made a motion to approve tax refunds as submitted by the Tax Collector (see attached), seconded by Mr. Pinter, all voted in favor. Motion carries.

Treasurer's report: Read for the record, see attached.

LOCIP Approval and develop bid documents: Discussion, no action taken. Mr. Read disclosed that LOCIP had approved the Town's application to purchase and improve property currently owned by the Congregational Church for a municipal parking lot and sidewalk. Mr. Read would like the BOS to formally approve the purchase along with the BOF in place of a Town Meeting (can't be held due to Covid). Mr. Pinter is concerned that there has not been an opportunity for public input. Mr. Read explained that the public as well as the Selectmen have had access to this information every step of the way. Mr. Read suggested there be a motion to set a Special BOS meeting to formally approve the purchase with the possibility of public input. No action taken.

Grange update + STEAP grant application: Mr. Read explained that he has applied for a \$100,000 grant for phase two of the Grange project, to take the Grange building down and clean up the remaining oil from the oil tank leak under the building. He has been in contact with Ned Lamont who appointed a liaison to help with communication between the Town and the State Historical Preservation Commission.

Recent Robberies: Residents from Blueberry and Bilberry wrote to Mr. Read to request his assistance to deter thieves from the area. Mr. Read proposed increased surveillance at night by Troop A and signage that indicates the increase in police presence.

Appraisal for municipal parking lot: Have not received it yet. Discussion, no action taken.

Noise Ordinance update: Discussion, Mr. Read explained that the Town does not have an ordinance, just zoning regulations regarding noise levels. No action taken.

Legitimate Farm related business: discussion. Mr. Read suggested that Planning and Zoning look into their regulations to see what is actually allowed. No action taken.

Fema and Storm cleanup: discussion, no action taken.

Old Business: no discussion

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Brown at 8:52pm, seconded by Mr. Pinter. All in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Marie Wagner
Assistant to the First Selectman