

TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Select Board
Approved Minutes for Meeting of October 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Municipal Building, 15 Mechanic Street, Alstead, NH 03602
Conference call: (978) 990-5000, access code 539083#

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Rock Wilson; Mary Ann Wolf; Joe Levesque (in person)

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Office Administrator; Jodi Kercewich, Transfer Station Supervisor; Steve Murrell, Police Chief; Prescott Trafton, Road Agent; Bobbie Wilson, Vilas Pool Committee (in person)

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Gordon Kemp; Marge Noonan; Judith Willis (in person)

GUESTS: Dean Vivo Amore (on phone)

CALL TO ORDER: Rock Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: At 6:00 p.m. Rock opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION ITEMS: Opened sealed bids for tax deeded property on Griffin Hill Map 9 Lot 2 Sub Lot A. Kenneth Lawrence Jr: \$800, Ron Batchelder \$500, Ken Vivo Amore \$1,435. On a motion by Joe, seconded by Mary Ann, ***the Board voted to accept the highest bid of \$1,435 from Ken Vivo Amore. The motion passed unanimously.***

Opened sealed bids for tax deeded property on 303 Gilsum Mine Rd. Map 45 Lot 11 Sub Lot 1. Gordon Kemp \$2,000 and a plate of cookies, Ken Vivo Amore \$13,989. On a motion by Joe, seconded by Mary Ann, ***the Board voted to accept the highest bid of \$13,989 from Ken Vivo. The motion passed unanimously.***

Signed: bill and payroll manifest, purchase order for safe melt in the amount of \$3,900, appointment papers for the Broadband Committee.

OLD BUSINESS: Charlotte mentioned that the East Fire Station and Ambulance worked together to clean things up and that Jesse is in the process of painting the ambulance office.

Charlotte told the Board that she had spoken to the attorney about the volunteer firefighter/ambulance and it appeared the attorney viewed them as employees because they received an hourly rate of above minimum wage and so you would need to pay them the 2-hour minimum based on that. But one of the things in the RSA was if the employer was a municipality and the employee received wages in another job then the 2-hour minimum wouldn't apply. Bottom line is that you don't have to follow the 2-hour minimum for that group.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jodi addressed the Board about the 2021 transfer station budget. The bottom line of her request was an increase of \$223 right now. She requested a bailer in the amount of \$13,722 which includes installation. Discussion took place on having a warrant article for this and have it come from the transfer station capital reserve fund. She said they need 2 new dumpsters and that she could get them from Ruggiero Trash Removal at \$4,000 each. The bottoms on the current ones are rusted out.

Steve reviewed the 2021 police budget. Currently the bottom line of his request was a decrease of \$120. Some discussion took place on whether to continue on leasing the police cruisers or put money away in capital reserve.

Prescott reviewed the 2021 highway and parks budget. Currently the bottom-line highway request was an increase of \$3,500, 2.14%. Bottom line parks request was a decrease of \$299, 2.90%. Mary Ann asked about putting the gravel out to bid. It was discussed that there are many benefits of buying local. There would be no trucking costs, no extra time to truck, saves wear and tear on the trucks, and it is able to be stored. This is currently the best deal. Prescott has a couple CIP issues but will wait for when Glenn is here.

Charlotte mentioned that she received a call about putting up a "no truck" sign on Cobb Hill. The problem with this is that by doing this it would mean all trucks and if you put a weight limit there is no way to enforce this.

Prescott told the board that the 2000 ambulance sold at the auction for \$4,500.

Discussion took place about no politicking at the transfer station. Mary Ann said that this tends to back things up. Jodi said if this is going to be a policy it would have to be for everyone. Some discussion took place on ways this could be done elsewhere at the transfer station. Rock said to wait until after the election to make the decision.

Gordon Kemp presented the second update on the broadband committee. He talked about retaining a lawyer for the bond. The engagement letter he had for the board to sign was with Devine, Millimet who does this type of thing. He said we are not obligated to pay anything. The lawyer doesn't charge any money until the end of the bonding process. If it gets voted down there is no charge. The fee is \$5,500 to \$8,750 plus the need to hire a town attorney to help us with the actual contract negotiations. The Board all agreed that this was a good idea and Rock signed the engagement letter. More discussion took place on the Board approving the RFP at the next meeting so it could go out November 1st. Gordon presented a checklist to Charlotte that she has to come up with.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of October 6: On a motion by Mary Ann, seconded by Joe; ***the Board voted to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.*** Minutes of October 8: On a motion by Joe, seconded by Rock; the Board voted to approve the minutes. Mary Ann abstained as she was not present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

INFORMATIONAL: Town offices will be closed November 3rd for Elections.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION (NPS): On a motion by Joe seconded by Rock; ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 7:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

Select Board members present were: Rock Wilson, Mary Ann Wolf and Joseph Levesque. Also present was Charlotte Comeau, Office Administrator; Prescott Trafton, Road Agent

Annual reviews for DPW and Custodian.

On a motion by Mary Ann Wolf, seconded by Joe Levesque; ***the Board voted to exit NPS and reconvene public meeting at 8:10 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

On a motion by Mary Ann, seconded by Joe; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Comeau, Office Administrator

The next meeting of the Select Board is scheduled for Tuesday, October 27th at 6:00 p.m.