

# Minutes

## Selectmen's Meeting

### August 18, 2020

Meeting opened at 6:30p.m

People present were:

Selectmen: Tony Avila, Penny Picard Sampson, Dan McCormick

Employee: Kari Hunt, Blaine Parsons, Pat Haley,

Guest: Tara & Michael Berry, Jason Bosco, Ryan Parsons, Rebecca Bosco, Aubri Bosco, Riley Bosco, Denise Whitney, Larry King, Walton Murry, Ron Manewell, Peter Curry, Craig Tozier, Jordan Tozier, Jim Porter

Penny presented Aubri and Riley Bosco with the Spirit of America Award for their volunteerism in their community.

**Public Feedback: NONE**

**Minutes:** Minutes from August 4, 2020 were reviewed and approved by the Selectmen..

**Treasurer:**

- Warrants were reviewed and signed.
- Tax bills were mailed August 12, 2020, discount deadline is September 11, 2020. Mil rate stayed the same, homestead exemption increased. There should have been no increase in tax bills unless an improvement was made.

**Old Business:**

- Tanker Truck: Tony made a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA 450d. Penny seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tony calls Reliance Equipment into the session. Dan made a motion to end the executive session. Penny seconded the motion. Motion carried. There has been a lot of discussion about the tanker truck and who is responsible for the repairs. Blaine did more research and found invoices for the original repairs and payments that were made to Reliance. Based on the invoices submitted Reliance was subcontracted by Triple M. Reliance currently has the tanker truck and is waiting to hear how to proceed with the repair. Ron stated that if they repair the truck it is not a guarantee but he was going to do what he could to make sure it word. He made a couple of suggestions to Blaine to help extend the possible life of the tanker. The only other option presented was to purchase a used tank truck. Selectmen are okay with repairing the current truck.

At a Selectmen's workshop Jim made a proposal to the Selectmen to help with the cost of the tanker truck.

Jim's proposal from the Fire Association is to help Blaine with the budget. The Association is willing to help pay up to \$4,000 to help Blaine if there are shortfalls in his municipal budget. Blaine has reviewed his budget and can manage to pay the bill to repair the tanker. Due to COVID and Unity College students not returning, expenses for the FD will be a bit lower. Selectmen stated that once the FD budget is spent it is spent. Jim stated if the Association does help Blaine, they would like to be reimbursed when there is a sale of a truck, this would only be in the event that Association funds are used.. The proposal made during the Selectmen's Meeting is different then discussed during the workshop. Dan and Penny were okay with the change, however the cutoff date is January 31, 2021.

Dan made a motion to accept the proposal from the Fire Association, a written policy will need to be established for reimbursement and all parties must agree to the terms, and this is only in the event there is a shortfall in the FD municipal budget. Penny seconded the motion. Motion carried. Selectmen and Association will need to sit and work on the terms and agreement.

Dan made a motion to have Reliance repair the tanker truck. Penny seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tony made a motion to seek legal counsel for reimbursement from Triple M. Penny seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Park and Recreation: As of 08/18 they have raised \$345 in flocking sales, which will help them with the prizes for the Halloween and Christmas decorating contest.

How do we award prize money to the winners? Kari suggested getting authorization from the Selectmen to issue the check at the time the winners are determined. Selectmen will authorize this when the time arises.

Future dates of the Park and Rec meeting are TBD.

#### **New Business:**

- Penny made a motion to accept the General Assistant income maximum and minimum guidelines. Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Penny made a motion to reject the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from Unity College regarding the Field of Dreams. Dan seconded the motion. The Selectmen do not agree with some of the language in the MOU. Motion carried.
- Penny is working on a Unity ME Ad. She would like to bring people into town and would like to get estimates for ad prices. Penny made a motion to research prices to put in newspapers and magazines. Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Graffiti was painted at the bottom of Quaker Hill Rd. Originally the Director of Public Safety asked if the College could clean it? Then asked if the Town would, it is not safe for the staff from Unity College to clean it. Dan made a motion to allow the graffiti to wear naturally. Tony seconded the motion. Motion carried. Penny abstains.
- Paving RRFB: Penny recommends using Wellmen's Paving to install the RRFB and correcting the sidewalk.. \$11,000 will come from the TIF sidewalk fund and the remaining \$600 will come from the road account. The reason it is going to cost a bit more, the current sidewalk is not compliant and doing this project will make the sidewalk ADA compliant. Penny made a motion to proceed with Wellmen's Paving. Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Tony has contacted a company to complete the brush cleanup. Would like a contract signed. Selectmen reviewed it, will not sign because it stated that they won't start until 09/24. It needs to be done before the mower comes back. Tony will call and see if they can start earlier.

#### **Other Business:**

- Blaine has not heard about the hydrant at the college. Penny will send a follow up email.
- Ryan asked what was happening with Unity College. The Selectmen are trying to set up a meeting, at one point they only wanted to meet with just one person, then they asked to meet via zoom in an executive meeting with their lawyer. However in the executive session, the Selectmen would not be able to discuss the meeting to the public. Craig expressed his concern with Unity College and their purpose to improve the economy, and how it is going to devastate the town. The Town should take a proactive stance and hire legal help. A committee should be formed. Selectmen suggested reaching out to the Rotary Club, there is talk about starting a committee. In the paper it stated the College had its highest enrollment this year with 1,300 students. Board of trustees are behind Melik 100%. Dan made a motion to send paperwork to an attorney. Tony seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned: 9:15 p.m.**