

# Minutes

## Selectmen's Meeting

### February 6, 2019

#### **Opening:**

Meeting opened at 6:30pm.

People present were:

Selectmen: Penny Sampson, Daniel McCormick, Tony Avila

Employee: Kari Hunt

Guests: Tyler Curtis, Blaine Parsons, Melissa Sanborn, Pat Haley, Michael Harvey, Jeffrey Curtis, Dustin Reynolds, Sam Solmitz, Liam Harrington, Chyanne Stone, Jerry Sullivan, Ralph Sullivan

**Minutes:** Minutes from January 15th were reviewed and accepted.

**Public Feedback:** None

#### **Treasurer:**

Warrant was reviewed and signed

Budget Committee Meeting, February 7, 2019 at 6:30pm at the Community Center.

**Old Business:** None

Penny made a motion for the Selectmen to move into Executive Session pursuant 22 M.R.S.A subsection 4306). Motion was seconded and carried. Penny made a motion to exit from executive session. Motion was seconded and carried.

#### **New Business:**

- Bolster's and Sullivan's submit a bid for the trash collection. Bolster's bid is \$75,000 and Sullivan's bid is \$77,400.00. No representatives from Bolster's was present to answer questions. Sullivan's has been collecting trash in Unity for years. Discussion about the trash sticker price increase, will need to be voted on at town meeting. Prices discussed ranged from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per sticker. Looking at past trash sticker collection and dumpster collection, town will still need to raise money for trash pickup. Selectmen are happy with Sullivan's service and made a motion to accept Sullivan's Bid.
- Selectmen have reviewed the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding with Unity College Field of Dreams). Selectmen are concerned about some of the verbiage in the MOU, and the college can also cancel at anytime. Selectmen vote not to sign the MOU.
- Selectmen sign liquor license.
- Selectmen sign the letter of termination for Sexton. Michael Berry will act as Sexton for the Town of Unity.
- Tony would like to see the Town accept an ordinance for road closure fines. Purpose is fine those that go through a closed road (i.e. a flooded road). Will research and add this to a public hearing for May.
- KVCOG is having a meet and greet with the new Executive Director, February 20th from 11:00am - 1:00pm with lunch provided. Selectmen will not be attending.

- Penny showed drafts of the new Welcome Signs. Unsure of the design and layout, Selectmen will continue to look at different designs.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- Dan opened the conversation by discussing paving the parking lot. Dan and Tony meet with 3 contractors and DOT, they received quotes and discussed the thickness, which was measured based on what was there. During last year's budget meeting there was controversy about the thickness of the pavement for that reason it was turned down to pave front gravel part of the Fire Station. Blaine asked if it was something the Selectmen would consider in the future. Dan said No, and they didn't want to revisit it until everyone was on the same page. Dan and Tony took their time to meet with companies to get estimates and do not want to waste their time with it until all members can get on "same page" with the pavement.
- In a past meeting Fire Chief, asked if the Selectmen would propose to the College to add a fire protection fee potentially to tuition, proceeds then would be placed in a fire truck replacement fund. Selectmen mentioned it in a meeting with the President of Unity College. He was adamant that they will not add money to students tuition for fire protection.
- Blaine had a questions about the False Alarm Ordinance. Who is going to "police" the ordinance and who is going to bill the business. The ordinance is for businesses in Unity only. The Fire Department will need to file a report at the town office, then the town will send the bill as needed. What if the town where to ask Unity College to give \$20,00 or \$30,000 towards a fire truck fund? Selectmen have been discouraged from asking the College for any money.

Assistant Chief, Pat Haley will be working with the new Supervisor of Public Safety at Unity College. They want to have a clear EAP (emergency action plan), this EAP will be kept on file at the fire station.

- Selectmen reviewed the Fire Department's proposed 2019/2020 budget. They had questions about increases.
  - Why is there a huge increase in Training. Last year they wanted \$3,000 for training and this year they are requesting \$7,500. Pat explained that according to the basic BLS requirements for training members are not compliant. The increase funds would allow 4-5 volunteers to attend FF1 and FF2 training. Concern: why invest into college students when they may or may not leave in 4 years? Response: College students are the ones that are joining the Fire Department and they are the ones going into the burning building. The "locals" on the department are older (Blaine is the youngest or the "locals"). Volunteers express their feelings about the training and why it is important. "Locals" are not joining the department, college students are, they are the ones that make up most of the Department. Selectmen are the ones that need to answer why there is an increase, and explain it to citizens.
  - Selectmen review the rest of the budget asking to explain the various increases. Blaine said he didn't bring figures with him as he was only told to attend the meeting unsure of what the contents of the meeting was about.
  - Penny explained that before the municipal budget is approved, the town already has to raise 1.3 million dollars (\$400,000 in loans, \$245,000 in County and 1.2 million for the School). The town is trying hard to pinch pennies and doesn't buy unless something is needed. Selectmen feel as though the Fire Department should be doing their best in trying to help save money as well.

- Penny made a motion to move into executive session with Fire Chief pursuant 22 M.R.S.A subsection 4306. Motion was seconded and carried. Penny made a motion to exit from executive session. Motion was seconded and carried.

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:45p.m.**