

# Minutes

## Selectmen's Meeting

### June 16, 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, Melissa Sanborn, Andy Reed & Tim Parker

#### **Fire Department:**

**Tanker:** Tony asked Blain what his take on Tanker truck is. Blaine said someone is on the hook, and feels Triple M is. Triple M built the tank to spec, but not the cradle, they were paid to do the cradle, but no invoices reflecting, Reliance was paid for repair, they subcontracted the repair on 07/07/2011. There is a warranty from Triple M, and Reliance only set the tank in the truck. With the latest repair to the Tank, Reliance fixed it, but it didn't make it back to Unity before it started leaking again. When the first repair was done Reliance never tested the truck to check for a weak leak, it was sent on its way. Tony feels we should pay Reliance because the truck came back leaking and didn't pressure test it. It was roughly \$1,600. The 2nd issue, the tanker truck doesn't currently have the tank installed and it is estimated to be \$10,000 to put it in. Tony was originally quoted \$4,500 for the repair of the tanker. Tanker doesn't have the plexiglass, according to Triple M Blaine didn't want to pay the extra money for it. To build a hoist, test the tank and it up would cost \$10,000 from Reliance. PFG was at Reliance, they offered to give a free quote because they were already at Reliance, a new invoice shows a price of \$300-400 for a quote that was supposed to be free. Ron, owner of Reliance spoke with Tony. P.F.G did quote Blaine \$6,500 for the repair if Triple M, didn't go good for the repair. Tony is not impressed with the price of \$10,000 when the original price was \$4,500.

Concerns at this time:

- Tank is not in the truck
- Poly tank in a steel cradle
- Tony doesn't feel the truck is worth putting \$10,000 into.
- Tony would like to move forward going after Reliance for the faulty repairs

"New" used Truck

- Look at trucks between \$30,000 - \$40,000 (funds could be used from the Fire Truck Replacement account)
- Needs a 2,500 - 3,500 gal. with pump and must be certifiable
- Fire Department wants to be involved

Town cannot currently afford a \$250,000 truck, the town has a lot of indebtedness and it would be at least 3 years before the town could apply for a loan. In addition, Town Meeting may not be possible, leaving us with using last year budget, the school budget is increasing, the County Budget is increasing and the Town is receiving less money from the state, which puts taxpayers at risk of high taxes.

Not to fix the tanker correctly is going to cost 10k, to fix the tanker correctly looking between \$13k -15K. What does this do to the Fire Department M&O account? As of 06/16/2020 the Fire Department has spent approximately 21K, leaving approximately \$32,000 in their account, for the year, any repairs made to the tanker will come out of the M&O account.

Ron sent Tony a message that was read aloud. Does the town contact the Town Attorney or buy a used truck. Dan says we should talk with the Town Attorney, someone needs to go good for the repair. Reliance subcontracted to Triple M and Triple M should be on the line.

Pump test on the trucks were done, that cost was around \$900 - \$1500.

Blaine asked where \$15k was going to come from for the repair of the Tanker, it would come be taken out of the Fire Dept M & O account, which would only leave them approx. 15k in their account for the remainder of the year. Blaine state 15k is cheaper then a new truck.

Dan said if Reliance will do it for \$5,500 he would rather proceed with the repair.

Pat Haley stated they have an obligation to keep it in service if it is fixed.

Dan made a motion to fix the tanker for the \$5,500 if agreed upon with Reliance, if that is not the option and it is going to cost \$10,000 the Selectmen, with input from the Fire Department would look at used trucks and funds would be used from the Fire Truck Replacement account. Penny seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Blaine asked if in the near future if additional money could be raised to add more money to the Fire Truck Replacement Account. Originally \$20,000 (\$10,000 from TIF and \$10,000 from taxation) was raised at a town meeting. Andy Reed, Chairman of the Budget Committee motion to reduce the amount to \$10,000 from TIF. The purpose was to lower the taxes while we get through the loans.

**Public Feedback:** Andy Reed asked if the town had a pressure treated post for FOWL to put a tube for lead sinkers and a sign post.

**Minutes:** Minutes from June 2, 2020 were reviewed and approved by the Selectmen..

**Treasurer:**

- Warrants were reviewed and signed

**Administrative Assistant:**

- Cleaning Town Office can be done every two weeks.
- Mac's Hardware has been sold. Linda and Gerry will continue to work with the new owner.
- A complaint about Trash was made. Charlie Porter will be contacted to address the issue.
- The town should establish a procedure when with the sale of Mobile Homes. Over the last couple of years it seems as though sale information is not making its way to the town office with a mobile home, leaving the town sending tax bills to the wrong owner. Penny made a motion to establish a Mobile Home Transfer Application for the Town of Unity. Tony seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- Penny has a meeting with DOT about the RRFB (pedestrian sign) on June 22, 2020 at 9am.
- Dan asked how business was with Thorndike residents? June 1 & 2 was primarily Thorndike residents. Dan stated that if it starts to affect my job in Unity, Thorndike will have to make other arrangements. It is not fair to Unity Taxpayers, pay the Administratives salary and a majority of the time is spent waiting on Thorndike Residents.

**New Business:**

- How much does a weed whacker head cost? Selectmen table discussion.

Cemetery:

- Concern about mowing the cemeteries. Tim feels it is going good, stated he felt Fowler was but a little short. Tim will post a schedule and hours it will take to do the cemetery.
- Penny made a motion to appoint Tim Parker and Carol Litchbaum to the cemetery committee. Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Stone cleaning will begin in a couple of weeks, they will finish in Boulter.
- Cemetery Committee will need to discuss pot markers
- Does the town have money available for a family lot to be reimbursed if they clean and fix repairs. More information is needed. Is it a new family lot? Ancient lot?
- Penny made a motion to purchase 2 gallons of D2 stone cleaner. Dan seconded the motion, motion carried.

Penny made a motion to appoint Tara Berry to EDC. Dan seconded the motion, motion carried.

#### Planning Board

Selectmen spoke with the Planning Board about Mr. Porter's resignation. He stated that the Selectmen are responsible for following up with the conditions of permits, that is incorrect, it is the job of the Code Enforcement officer to do.

They talked about the Selectmen disbanded the Land Use Ordinance Committee. The Land Use needed to "marry" the Comp Plan. Blaine wanted to know if the Land Use had anything about fixing the fire hydrants? Blaine gave college until July 15th to fix the fire hydrant on Quaker Hill, no word yet. Selectmen will send a reminder to them.

Penny spoke with Matt Lee about chipping, unable to get ahold of his crew. Tony will need to rent a chipper. The Roadside mower will be back in two weeks.

Town Meeting, there are state recommendations, however these recommendations do not work with the town of Unity. Selectmen do have a call in with the MMA.

#### **Other Business:**

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**Meeting adjourned: 7:45 p.m.**