

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 21, 2020
MINUTES**

Call to Order

5:30 pm – Chairman Robertson called the meeting to order

Present: Andrew Robertson, Chairman; Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman, Fred McGarry, Alden Dill, and Cynthia McHugh, Selectmen.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Robertson asks all to rise and pledge allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Robertson stated that their first order of business is the Parks and Rec quarterly update.

Nick Lawrence – Parks and Rec Quarterly Report:

Mr. Lawrence stated that he didn't have too, too much (couldn't understand) with what they were doing but they did get baseball and softball off the ground earlier this past quarter. This was like a guinea pig for all of their programming and it seemed to go well so they continued moving forward with everything else that is they do with the with the exception of summer camp and After School.

They had Old Home Day but it looked a little different but was still a successful event and it was safe for everybody and now they have soccer underway and that seems to be working out.

From a programming standpoint, things are going okay with all things considered and they are going to try to keep running programs and keeping them safe under that state guidance as best as they can and have aspirations to bring everything back whenever they could use the building again.

That is about it about the quarterly report.

Chairman Robertson asked if anyone on the Board if they had questions for Nick.

Selectwoman McHugh asked Mr. Lawrence if he had his staff back yet and how many were back?

Mr. Lawrence stated that the only active staff that he had was himself and the assistant director. Everyone else is not back on as of now.

Chairman Robertson asked if Kevin was spending some time with Ray doing building maintenance and that sort of thing?

Mr. Harrington stated that this was correct and that Kevin would be finishing up at the end of this month and then he goes back to his part time of 20 hours and he believed that he was going back on unemployment for the time being.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if the others were on unemployment to which Mr. Harrington stated that he didn't know what they had chosen to do.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he would rephrase that and ask if they were still on the town payroll to which Mr. Harrington stated that the part timers were not. There are no Parks and Rec part time people currently active.

Chairman Robertson thanked Mr. Lawrence for his time.

Chairman Robertson stated that he knew that they had the Conservation Commission Quarterly Report in their folders but he didn't know if Serita was with them this evening as well to which she was.

Serita Frey – Conservation Commission Quarterly Report:

Chairman Robertson stated that they had her report if she would like to skim over that if she wanted.

Ms. Frey stated that she would just give the highlights since they have that in front of them.

The first item that they had in town, 325 acres of forest that is in the tree farm program and those acres need to be reinspected every six years so the Conservation Commission is working with the town forester, Tom Rameraino, to schedule that inspection.

They are also trying to reengage with the Forestry Commission and revisit long term or just general management of our town forest.

The third item, she probably won't go into detail as they are well aware of that, about notification that they received about the new (couldn't understand) Dow Road.

Chairman Robertson stated that the only thing that he would mention, that this came to him, actually Dick took the call from some Epsom residents but the Epsom Board of Selectmen currently are meeting to discuss that Dow Road situation with Mr. Eames and Mr. Noyes this evening as they met.

Ms. Frey stated that this was good to know and can't wait for an update.

Ms. Frey continued that the next item is related to the (couldn't understand) Town Forest and it has been an issue, a kind of ongoing issue but several years ago they had gotten reports that there had been ATV activity in the forest so they posted signs that indicated that motorized vehicles were prohibited in the town forest and now they have another report of new ATV traffic, campfires and so on so they are investigating that and trying to figure out what the next steps are.

It seems that the signs that they posted in 2017 have also been removed so this is an ongoing situation.

Chairman Robertson stated that maybe they could add the fire department in that conversation since there are campfires in this and giving the dryness that they are experiencing right now; they would definitely have an interest in that.

Ms. Frey stated that this is a good advice and that they would do that. That was one thing that she hadn't thought about so she will let folks know that.

Selectman McGarry asked Ms. Frey if that is something that they could involve Fish and Game on that too?

Ms. Frey stated that Fish and Game is stretched thin too, just like everyone else so it is often hard to make a lot of headway there but they will certainly try.

Selectman Dill stated that if nothing else, Fish and Game is good for getting them "No Motorized Vehicle" signs. That is about what the extent of what they will do.

Ms. Frey stated that this is a good suggestion and that they will notify so that they can replace the ones that were taken down and she will make a note of this as well.

Ms. Frey stated that she thought the last subject or the next to the last item, is that they have also been reviewing also permissible activities in the town forests and conservation areas and the one area that they haven't addressed previously is horseback riding and whether that should be an allowed use.

They talked with some folks in town who do horseback riding on trails and with everyone in their conversation suggested that our town forests as they currently stand, don't have the trails or the infrastructure for horseback riding without causing more damage so until they have the funds to upgrade the trails, the thinking was that they wouldn't be allowing horseback riding at this time.

Ms. Frey stated that she thought that those were the main items for this quarter and did they have any questions?

Multiple members thanked Ms. Frey.

Ms. Frey stated that she was also supposed to do her budget and asked if that came later?

Chairman Robertson stated that if she would like to do her budget now, that is fairly short and that she could speak to that right now since that is fairly short and that she could do it now to save having to wait on them.

Conservation Commission – Page 76

Ms. Frey stated that she thought that it was very straight forward. They have a very small budget and not much has changed.

She continued that there is really only one line item she thought that changed. They try to keep their budget pretty much the same from year to year unless they have to increase it for some reason and the only thing that they are increasing is the clerk line or what is called the part time secretary line and that is because, and it has already been approved by the Board of Selectmen earlier because they learned that their clerk wasn't being paid as much as others being hired for those positions so they increased her salary hourly pay rate so the increase here is reflective of that.

Aside from that, it is the same and she didn't know if they had questions, specific questions.

Selectman Dill stated so, it was increased to be the same as the other part time secretaries to which Ms. Frey stated that he was correct.

Chairman Robertson stated that so essentially, they were looking to go from \$2,800.00 to \$3,295.00 is the requested budget for 2021.

If there were no further questions, ...

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the 2021 budget for the Conservation Commission in the amount of \$3,295.00

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

The chairman thanked Ms. Frey and she thanked them for letting her do her budget early.

Steve Rollins – Highway Department:

Chairman Robertson stated that they had Steve Rollins from the Highway Department there with them and he stated that they had asked last week Steve, if Mr. Harrington could get ahold of him and honestly, their big concern is how he was doing on Candia and Middle Road and how much time and how far out did he think he was and to getting it all buttoned up this fall and he thought that individuals had questions too.

Mr. Rollins stated that he spoke with R & D Paving and they are planning on coming in and doing the patch work in about two weeks and about three weeks after that to do the shim overlay and he didn't see any problem with them being ready.

Chairman Robertson asked where that put it them, the last week of October or so and Mr. Rollins stated that it would be the third week of October.

Selectman Dill asked if the patch work was the Candia piece and Mr. Rollins stated that there is some on both.

Selectman Dill continued and stated that they were just doing pieces on there, and Mr. Rollins again stated that they were doing pieces on both.

Mr. Rollins stated that it would be back to "black top" in a couple of weeks as long as R & D's schedule doesn't change.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that the question that the Board discussed last week and he will say personally, that it was the right thing to do but he had some grinding done and they had talked about not grinding and the Board is interested in where he was going to take that out of his budget.

Mr. Rollins stated that by doing the grinding, it did a couple of things. It brought their hand work price down from \$125.00 a ton to \$85.00 a ton so there is a savings there plus there is a savings on man hours for preparing for saw cutting. The rental of the saw to do the saw cutting, the removing of the stuff that they saw cut so in the end it is going to be a wash and a better job.

Chairman Robertson stated that looking at that before it was ground, he was scratching his head. He is no paving expert but he didn't have a good idea how they were going to get pavement to stick to that.

Mr. Rollins stated that the plan was to saw cut it everything but you don't know how much you are repairing until you start digging it up and see what you run into which they had talked about when they did the walk and some of the patches got to be rather long and at that point, it wasn't worth hand saw cutting and removing all the pieces.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that the other concern that the Board had was the excavator. They weren't sure of the status of that. He knew that when Mr. Rollins first approached the Board about potentially purchasing it after they had it for 30 days to try it out.

Mr. Rollins stated that they were going to let them try it out for a week but it turned into two and then they rented it after that.

Chairman Robertson stated that he had assumed that when Steve told him that the town wasn't going to buy it, they would come back to him with a rental.

Mr. Rollins stated that he had that with him that night but the Board didn't want to see any of that paperwork that night. He had them prepare all the paperwork for rental, a rent to own, and all that.

Chairman Robertson asked if the town still had the excavator at this point to which Mr. Rollins stated that he did and that it was working out great.

Chairman Robertson asked him how long did he think he would have to keep it and Mr. Rollins stated it would probably be another couple of weeks. One way or another, they needed one.

Selectwoman McHugh asked how much have they used it since they have had it to which Mr. Rollins stated that they have used it quite a bit. He stated that the first couple of weeks, and this is why they gave them an extra week demo was because they didn't really do much with it but since then they have used it most every day unless they have had a call that they had to go and do something else and they have had a few of them.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that they have had it for two weeks for free and asked how long he has had it to which his answer was about a month and a half so they had one month of rental.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that it was \$6,500.00 to rent that machine and the chairman added that it was \$6,395.00 to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

Mr. Rollins stated that they had quoted him \$8,000.00 a month but then he did them a favor and cut the price which was nice.

Selectman Dill asked what's the plan with Candia Road going up the hill as they took a lot out of there today?

Mr. Rollins stated that they took out the reclaim and now they will put gravel in and then they will put the reclaim back on top and then grade it out and bring the road up like it was talked about in the walk.

Chairman Robertson stated that another thing that he would mention and this is for the benefit of the audience, before he and Mr. Harrington had been talking also with him, about Middle Road, in particular, about not being graded, gravel roads not being graded and as Steve is quick to point out, a large part of that is due to the lack of rain. There is just no moisture in the road and wanted to get that out there for the sake of the meeting. It isn't because they are intentionally not grading the gravel roads and thought that he would explain that now.

Mr. Rollins stated that the more that they loosen them up, the more washboards they will have.

Chairman Robertson remarked that they will be this way until they get rain and Selectman Dill stated that they should get rain and it is looking like they had three days coming next weekend so after that they could start grading.

Mr. Rollins stated that after that they could get out and get them straightened out and Selectman Dill added that if they didn't wait, it would just lift the fines right out of there if they do anymore to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

Selectman Dill stated that this is the driest that he has ever seen this town and the chairman asked if there were any other questions or concerns for Mr. Rollins while they have him here.

Selectwoman McHugh asked Mr. Rollins if the culverts were all set to which Mr. Rollins stated that they weren't. He continued that there are three culverts to replace.

Selectwoman McHugh asked where they were digging today, was there a culvert there to which he answered that there is one there but it doesn't need work. That is a good one.

She asked if they had covered the other side of it to which he asked if it was the side with the rock and stated that they didn't covered that end. If one or two rolls down there, they will pick them out. It is possible that they rolled down there.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if that rock came out of there to which he answered that all that rock came out of Candia Road.

She asked if it was going to stay there or was it going to be taken out to which he stated that it was going to be placed in and basically after the last time that the road was built, the wall south bound, on the left side, on Piwowarczyk is okay, so they are taking those rocks and basically, because they are lifting the road up, replace, put on top of the wall that is sticking up so they can use it for retention and put the wall back.

Selectman Dill asked if that was a metal culvert or a plastic one to which Mr. Rollins answered that he thought that it was concrete, if he remembered correctly. Selectman Dill stated that he would hate to pave over a metal culvert.

Mr. Rollins stated that they have checked it all out and it's in nice shape.

There are three further up, and Fred knows when they did the walk, there are three other pipes up there that do need to be replaced.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if that would be done before it was paved to which Mr. Rollins stated that it would definitely.

Selectman McGarry asked if one of them would be at that white house or a catch basin or rock in there?

Mr. Rollins stated, no, they were able to, the corner to Ridge Road where they cut the bank back, they were actually able to pick that apart enough that they aren't going to need a culvert there. The water is actually going to run by and down the way that it should.

So, it will save them one pipe across the road. It may need a little fine tuning and they may have a small puddle there but there won't be a puddle in the road anymore. They probed it and there is no ledge there so it is a matter of a little dressing up and it will be fine. He shot it with the laser and it may not be pitching but it is level and it is down four or five inches from the road.

Mr. Harrington stated that he did have the intent to start agreement here if the Board wants to sign it.

Chairman Robertson stated that they had the contract for Candia, Middle and South Roads and it is the "Notice to Proceed" and if the Board wants to make a motion to sign this and get it signed this evening.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to have the Chair sign the Notice to Proceed

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Mr. Harrington stated that they would probably have to put a date in to start and Selectman Dill stated that it should be two weeks from today for Candia Road.

Mr. Rollins stated that when he talked to R & D, that was when their schedule allowed them.

Selectman McHugh stated to Mr. Rollins that he was certain that they were going to be ready for them, right?

Mr. Harrington asked that the date should be two weeks from today? It is just a date to start but he needed a date to put in.

Selectman McGarry stated that they didn't have to put in two weeks from today's date, that he could just fill in a date and that they were giving them 90 days so between members, it was stated to put in today's date.

Mr. Rollins stated that they already had a date so that they would have an idea when they were coming.

Selectman Dill stated that another thing, and this doesn't have to do with paving but has Mr. Rollins heard from Eversource or Asplundh, or whoever was doing it last year with the cutting of dead ash trees, not just the ones over powerlines but that they had a couple of crews in town taking care of that.

Mr. Rollins thought that they were in town doing that right now.

Selectman Dill stated that they are trimming trees but they had a separate crew out here that was doing just right of way work, on the other side of the road, doing dead ash. He had not heard anything.

Mr. Rollins stated that they had a tree, three or four weeks ago, fall down by Gary's farm, the guy that came out from Eversource told him that they were running around marking, basically ash trees, to come down. It was going to be at least a year or two before they got them all cleaned up but they were going around hitting priority trees and then coming back around with another pass and another pass.

Selectman Dill stated that the more that they can get Eversource to take down, the less they had to do as a town to which Mr. Rollins agreed.

Chairman Robertson stated that he had been thinking about this earlier this week since it is budget time, to try and incorporate that into the Highway budget or whether they wanted a warrant article but he thought that they needed to be prepared to spend some money on tree removal because they have literally 50 dead ash trees per half mile.

Selectman Dill stated that you can see it radiating out across town.

Chairman Robertson stated that with just what is in the right-of-way across town, whether there are wires there or now, they had huge dead ash trees hanging over every road in town, for the most part and they are for the most part, in the same state of "blonding".

Mr. Rollins stated that he has a few that they are going to be taking down themselves, that the homeowners have called and they are willing to have them drop them into their land and anybody that wants that done, saves them some time and money and they would be happy to do it.

Selectman Dill stated that he didn't realize how many ash trees they had in town along the roads until they all started "blonding". The town has a lot of ash trees.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked why Paul's truck was not repaired yet. He had promised the Board that it was going to get fixed so it could be used instead of the 550. He stated that it hasn't worked since snow plow season with Mark got done.

Mr. Rollins stated that they are using the 1-ton, the 550. He stated that there isn't much of a difference in payload and they are doing short haul. Most of the stuff has been on Candia Road and staying right on Candia Road.

Chairman Robertson asked if the truck was running at this point?

Mr. Rollins stated that it still needed a brake can and the chairman asked if it was something that they could get done?

Mr. Rollins stated that they could but that it hasn't been a priority as they hadn't really needed the truck. They have been getting by with Matt and the 550. Like he stated, most of the dirt has been staying on Candia Road. The reclaim they have been hauling back to the town shed which is just around the corner. You are talking maybe one more yard on Paul's truck versus the 550.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he was thinking more on the some of the sizes of the stumps that he saw that were on the 550, he thought that it was overloaded.

Mr. Rollins stated that it actually worked out better with the 550 that they could put just one big stump on it because it is easier to just flop the tailgate down than to get everything switched back over going to dirt.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he stated that he would get it fixed and he hadn't seen it out yet. He was asked so he asked Mr. Rollins.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were other questions and hearing none, he thanked him for his time.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he had one more, a joint question between Mr. Harrington and Mr. Rollins. He would like to know at the next meeting where they were at in this budget, as to how much they are in debt as far as Candia and Middle Road reconstruction so they will know how much?

Chairman Robertson stated that they were looking for total cost.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he didn't want to get to the point that they do all this work and then they can't pave it.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that between what they budgeted and the warrant article they should be okay.

Mr. Harrington stated that he looked at the numbers today to pay for the paving contract which was sitting, he believed at \$267,000.00 right now. There is about \$188,000.00 and some change in the warrant article. That will be the first thing that he would spend. The rest of it, about \$78,000.00 out of the road reconstruction budget which has not been touched yet. There is \$257,000.00 in there so they had over \$100,000.00 left that is unanticipated at this point.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they were going to spend a half a million dollars doing these two streets?

Mr. Harrington stated that the R & D contract alone is \$267,000.00. They would have to add in the rentals that they have done and he hasn't calculated that yet. It has been coming out of the warrant budget.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he just wanted to bring it up.

Mr. Harrington stated that he thought that they were in good shape right now.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were other questions.

Seeing none, he thanked Mr. Rollins for his time.

2021 Budget Review:

Parks & Rec, Page 68

Mr. Harrington asked if Nick was still on the line which he was.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked Mr. Harrington stated that they had a new Library budget and a new Building Inspector budget.

The library, they already approved last week. The building inspector budget is due tonight and he did make some changes which will make more sense than they did last week.

Chairman Robertson stated that looking at the Parks and Rec budget, it looks like they had a budget of \$102,303.00. That is up from last year's requested budget of \$70,403.00.

Mr. Lawrence stated that the reason being is that they are trying to shift the director and assistant director salaries to the town budget. That is where the increases come from.

Mr. Harrington stated that given what happened with the COVID pandemic this year, there was no money so they basically lost a half-time a full-time position. The programs were still were operating and with the amount of work that it takes to prepare these programs, they have been piecing together time for the department to get everything ready. They have soccer going, baseball started and it really takes both of them to get it done. They were able to do some of it but more than twenty hours.

To prevent this from happening again, Nick and he talked about the recommendation to put, at least the two, full-time people in the budget. The rest of the folks from Parks and Rec would still remain the in 80 funds.

Chairman Robertson had a quick question. Was this discussed with the Parks and Rec Commission at all to which Mr. Lawrence stated that it was and that they were behind that. He also stated that he would keep the costs of the programs down in the future.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were questions for Mr. Lawrence.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if that goes with the warrant article as to what he is looking to add?

Chairman Robertson stated that instead of the assistant director coming out of the revolving fund, the way it is presented this year, it is actually included in the budget.

Mr. Harrington stated that right now, it is 50-50. 50 percent is covered by the budget, 20 hours is covered by the budget and the other 20 hours comes out of the revolving fund and when the After-School Program stopped, there was not enough revenue coming in to support keeping Kevin full time so he went down to part time.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that they also lost their part time people and Mr. Harrington stated that everybody came out of the 80 fund and the chairman added that they also came out of the revolving fund.

Mr. Harrington stated that they were 100 percent revolved and Selectwoman McHugh stated that she was say that there should have been plenty of money there to pay for the assistant.

Mr. Harrington stated that there wasn't enough because the programs themselves cover just barely the equipment costs and the fees associated with the program. With the 20 hours of Kevin's salary, there is also the FICA and Medicare coming out as well so it would continue to chew into a balance that wasn't really increasing enough to cover his 20 hours this year anyway because of what was going on.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would hope that this is something that they could adjust back so that they don't get into the programming situation that they are currently in this year. He didn't know how the rest of the Board felt.

Mr. Harrington stated that it is just difficult to hire a full-time person and have to go down to part-time hours just because half of the person's salary is covered by a flexible program income.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that covered that by him working for the town.

Mr. Harrington stated that he was able to do it this year because Ray was out but that ends at the end of this month and he goes back to unemployment. Down to 20 hours only.

Chairman Robertson stated that essentially, the 20 hours that Kevin was being paid with was the money that wasn't being paid to Ray to which Mr. Harrington agreed.

Mr. Harrington continued that it just happened to work out this year, a fluke.

Selectman Dill stated that with the revolving fund, the only thing that they could do it to take this money

Mr. Harrington stated that right now, the revolving fund balance is probably the lowest its been since he was there and there need be some start-up money going into the spring for the basketball season and carry over spring sports before other spring sports start up.

Selectman Dill stated that if they were back up and running, then this half should be available.

Mr. Harrington stated that the balances are remaining the same. The bulk of his income, his salary, was coming from the After-School Program. Otherwise all the program costs need to be raised substantially to cover for his time working in the program. With no After School program, it has cut quite a bit of the revenue out of the fund.

Chairman Robertson stated that looking at the requested budget of \$102,303.00.

Motion: Selectman McGarry moves to approve the Parks and Rec budget of \$102,303.00

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 1, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson thanked Mr. Lawrence for staying on the line.

Government Buildings – Page 20

Mr. Harrington asked if Mr. Ellis was on the line to which he was.

Chairman Robertson stated that they are looking at a requested budget of \$107,530.00 for 2021, that being up from \$99,383.00 from the prior year.

Mr. Ellis stated that the only thing that really went up this year was the price of the heating oil, propane and water testing. All three of them went up and of course his hours went up from 29 hours a week to 32 hours a week so there was an increase there.

Other than that, everything is exactly as it was.

Selectman Dill remarked that they are saving money on dump collection and Mr. Ellis stated that they were. It has gone down. They have gone down quite a bit. He is putting 3,600.00 and it was \$4,500.00 last year, \$4,900.00 last year.

Selectman Dill asked if that was because it was a better rate for the new contract and Mr. Ellis stated that it was.

They went from Waste Management who was going up, increasingly, year after year. He looked into it and talked to Pinard, and Pinard gave them the best deal and the funny thing is that all this goes to the same place, no matter what but Pinard gave them a better deal on the exact same dumpsters that they were getting from Waste Management.

The biggest hurdle that they had was getting out of the Waste Management contract. It revolves into the next year's contract with only a two-week window period to get out of it and you have to give them thirty-day notice prior to the two-week window period and that is the only way to get out of the contract. It took them a little longer to get out of the contract than they wanted to.

Now that they are with Pinard, they seem to get great service and are saving quite a bit of money.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were other questions for Ray regarding Government Buildings.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that according to Ray, his hours went up to 32 and she was wondering if they were going to go back down to what he was originally hired for?

Mr. Ellis stated that this wasn't really up to him to go back down. He was asked if he would go to 32 which is his max. He can't go over 32 hours because of his retirement from the state. He agreed to go to 32 hours and they hadn't (couldn't understand) going backwards.

With the COVID right now, he couldn't see himself going back to 29 hours because he can barely keep up with 32.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman move to approve the Government Buildings budget of \$107,530.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

George B. White Building Budget – Page 21

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a requested budget of \$96,175.00 up from the prior year's request of \$92,418.00 and ask of, he didn't know what date exactly, they have spent about \$27,674.00. I imagine that they haven't turned the heating on yet.

Mr. Ellis stated like he said on the Government Buildings, the only thing that has really gone up is the oil prices and the water treatment for the George B. White due to the PFA testing. That was quite an increase that they weren't counting on. They increased it to accommodate testing.

Electricity stayed the same. They still have their wanted repairs such as seal coating the parking lot one time and restriping it and maybe doing a walkway down to the town clerk, especially since they are cutting it up now with the new door for Kelly.

Other than that, nothing else has changed.

The chairman asked if there were any questions for Ray.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the George B. White Building budget for 2021 of \$96,175.00

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Town Hall – Page 22

Chairman Robertson stated that the requested budget is \$33,952.00 for 2021. Prior year's budget was \$32,223.00.

Mr. Ellis stated that again, the small increase would be heating oil and the dumpster went down so it is almost a wash. He is still trying to leave some maintenance money in there as far as the ceiling needs repair in the stairway. The chandelier is really losing it spackle all the way around it and plus to paint the two sides. They usually paint in the summer but he is hoping that they can get back to that again. He would like to do the two sides and leave the front and back for next year.

Mr. Ellis stated that other than that, the same.

Chairman Robertson stated not related to this budget specifically, but he had spoken to the Heritage Commission members and the Heritage Commission has a definite interest in being involved if he was thinking about window work, in particular.

Mr. Ellis stated that he talked to them about a restoration fund at some point in time because there is a lot of work that needs updating that is not in the budget to do so like the windows. All the windows need repair.

Those are big windows and all the ropes are rotted and the weights, the counterweights that lift the windows, are falling down inside. Most of them are cracked because people can't lift them. Even the stile that holds the window in the track are missing so there is some repair work that has to be done on that.

Because of their size and their height, it is going to be costly. He has gotten a couple of estimates from a couple of different people and knew that it wasn't in his budget.

He contacted them to see if they could get together a restoration budget for the town hall for repairs on the sills on the front of the building. The stairway is starting to rot from underneath and some of it has to be replaced. There are a lot of ongoing repairs at the town hall but the maintenance budget of 9,000.00 is not going to cover that.

So, he gave them a call to see if they wanted to become involved and they thought that it was a good idea. He hasn't heard what their final plan is yet but he did think that something like that would be advised (couldn't hear).

Selectman Dill stated that he thought that there was a spreadsheet issue on Line 13. It seems to be adding up but the maintenance line didn't because they went from \$2,300.00 to \$9,300.00 and the dollar change is \$1.00 over on 7.

Mr. Harrington stated that he would look at that and the chairman asked if he was looking back at 2019 because (people talking over each other).

Selectman Dill asked about sprinkler maintenance.

Mr. Ellis stated that they actually spent money on the computer in the pumphouse. The alarm has been going off for no reason and they were checking it out and there is some kind of switch relay in there that is not working properly. He found a way to reboot it but it is going to have to be replaced but he didn't want to do it until he had money to do it.

The sprinkler maintenance line he put in there because this is the estimated price of how much it is going to cost to repair the switchboard.

Mr. Harrington stated that he just wanted to clarify, the reason that there is \$2,000.00 in there, there is the annual sprinkler maintenance fee that is going into that line.

Prior to when he first got here, that expense was being dumped into a general maintenance fund and it was being buried. Again, this had been budgeted at \$1.00 so the annual maintenance itself is over \$1,000.00.

The board repair that Ray is talking about will be in the multiple \$1,000's when that finally goes.

Selectwoman McHugh asked who would do that and Mr. Harrington stated that it would be R.B. Lewis. They are trying to limp it along as far as they can get it but that is the date that the sprinkler system was put in and is getting older. They also have a fire panel and main station that is causing problems regularly and will likely be replaced sometime in the near future but again, that is a different topic.

Again, they have some panels that are getting older and they are just not resetting like they should be when there is a trouble alert.

This cost that you are seeing is the actual sprinkler maintenance that goes on every year.

Selectman Dill stated that the board would come out of the \$9,300.00 to which Mr. Harrington stated that it would likely be a warrant article or another major expense because it is going to be thousands for that board.

Mr. Ellis stated that they could put a temporary switch in to get them until they could replace it but right now, it doesn't work.

Mr. Harrington stated that what they have told them is at some point, when it trips and throws a trouble signal, it will not reset and at that point, they will have to make a decision. They haven't gotten there yet.

Selectman McGarry stated that when he went down to see the auction, he noticed in the parking lot, the striping, the marking for the parking spaces has just about disappeared. Is that something that they could end up including or could it be covered here with the maintenance line item here?

Mr. Ellis stated that he hasn't gotten a price for striping that yet. He did get a price for striping the GBW parking lot. Since then, he has gotten a gun from Nick Lawrence from Parks and Rec, and some paint and he was going to try to do some of the sprays as far as the end caps and see how far he could get. He gave him two cases of paint.

Mr. Harrington stated that they could certainly get a quote as to how much it would cost for the town hall and Selectman McGarry stated that they might as well.

The chairman asked for further questions or discussion.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the Town Hall Budget for 2021 in the amount of \$33,592.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Police Department – Page 30

Chairman Robertson stated that they are looking at a requested 2021 Police Department Budget of \$861,165.00. That's an increase from the 2020 budget of \$763,449.00 and at this point, he would turn it over to the chief and give them the highlights and explain the 12 or 13 percent difference.

Chief Duquette stated that the proposed 2021 police department budget is an increase of about 12 ½ percent over the current operating budget.

He thought it was forward to note that is a 7% increase over his proposed budget from last year. The default budgets are really starting to catch up to them.

They are looking at two items that really account for all of this.

The first one is the full-time employee line, the very first line in the budget. They are looking at an increase there of about \$46,583.00. It is weren't for the default, that increase would only be about the \$10,000.00 mark. Keeping in step with the pay scale that they put in from complaints from a couple of years ago, for pay step increases for the officers, based on satisfactory performance evaluations.

This leads to an increase in the median rate and affects the shift differential, (couldn't understand) and overtime rates and they have to remember the clerical position, office assistant is part of the whole employee line.

You will see an increase in those first four numbers on the budget sheet there.

And the second thing, they took a big hit on the retirement, NHRS this year in the tune of \$39,230.00 which they really don't have any control over.

So, those two items here literally account for the total increase of the budget.

On the operational side of things, the rest of the budget, the only other thing that you will see is one in the contract line which he was able to decrease by \$5,700.00. If they remember, they upgraded their system last year that connected that directly to regional dispatch and fortunately it puts the maintenance of things on those folks so they were able to decrease that by \$5,700.00.

The only other change that he made in the budget is that he added \$5,700.00 to the cruiser line because the number that has been in there has been a default for a number of years. They all know the cost of cars are going up and it doesn't really cover what they need to get.

Chief Duquette asked if anyone had any questions.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if \$42,000.00 will cover the new cruiser to which the chief answered that it would. If you look at when they buy them, they transitioned to the Dodge Charger which brought the cost down considerably. He will be calling tomorrow looking at another one of those so if they end up in another default budget, the number that is in there now will cover a new car and setting it up.

Vice Chairman Pitman thanked him for his answer and also stated that the insurance, retirement and things they didn't have any control over and the pay scales need to be.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Police Department budget for 2021 in the amount of \$861,165

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Highway Safety – Page 41

Chief Duquette stated that nothing has changed. There is \$1.00 in each of the five lines. That budget is one that they don't utilize except for every couple of years. They put a \$1.00 in each of those lines to keep it alive in case they find a need for it in the future.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the Highway Safety budget in the amount of \$5.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Animal Control – Page 62

Chief Duquette stated that the Animal Control budget represents an increase of 24% over the current operating budget which sounds like a lot of money but it really isn't.

If they remember, they talked about using the cruiser that they are going to take off line this year and transferring it over and using it for a vehicle for Animal Control officer.

All they did was, and they were spit balling here because they don't have a vehicle and so they added \$675.00 for gas and another \$1,000.00 for repairs, inspection and general maintenance such as tires and things like that.

They added \$1,675.00 to that budget but there is no other line in that budget that has changed.

Chairman Robertson thanked the chief and noted that the total requested for the 2021 budget was \$7,777.00.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the 2021 Animal Control budget of \$7,777.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked when the new cruiser comes in, will the other cruiser be turned over to the ACO to which the chief stated that this was correct.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 1 – Motion Carries

Building Department – Page 39

Chairman Robertson stated that this is coming back to them from last week and Mr. Harrington stated that they had new budgets in their folders.

Chairman Robertson stated that the requested Building Department budget for 2021 is \$63,573.00.

Mr. Harrington stated that he would just like to make a comment. He knew that the Board last week commented on the salary line. That was actually his error. He had put in his entire salary in the building department. His salary is equally split between the building department and the transfer station. That has been corrected now so it is accurate.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that this was the general question from last week but do folks have other questions for Rick in regard to Building Inspection.

Selectman McGarry stated that he had legal services dropping to \$1.00 from \$3,000.00 and he would like to know why.

Mr. Pelletier stated that they haven't had any in the last five or six years so he figured that he would take a shot at it.

Selectman Dill stated that he didn't know if they should drop it to \$1.00 though. It doesn't seem that prudent.

Chairman Robertson asked if they wanted to leave \$1,000.00 in there.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that last year, he used \$425.00 so she thought that they should leave it at \$1,000.00.

Mr. Pelletier stated that there are two legal lines. That line is used in the event that they end up in court or something like that and they need counsel and the other line is basically money to pay counsel when he has occasional problems or questions when he needs some advice for. That line has stayed the same.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that they both have \$1.00.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to increase Building Department line 320 to \$1,000.00

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Selectman Dill asked someone to remind him what the part-time employee is? Did they just add one?

Mr. Pelletier stated that he has had some discussions with Mr. Harrington and he could probably give the Board some more in depth information but he is going to be retiring this year and he thought that they might want to bring someone in towards the end of the year when he requested retirement so that they could familiarize themselves with that system and so forth.

He also spoke to Mr. Harrington and he hasn't made up his mind but if he retires, he might be willing to do inspections like two days a week or something but they still need someone there to run the department and do all the other stuff so probably a lot of the money would switch places when that happens and that is something that he has offered but hasn't thought through all the way at this point. That was the thought process behind it.

Selectwoman McHugh asked what line he was talking about before about the legal advice.

He stated that one line was Legal Notices and one was Legal Services and it was determined by the Board that the service line would be the one that they would use if they got sued.

Mr. Pelletier stated that it was line 810-Enforcement. That was the one that he used for advice or to write a nastygram to someone and put a little more teeth into it than coming from himself. That is what line he usually uses. It is not litigation or anything like that. It is advice or consults or something.

He stated that he recently consulted with him on the letter that they received from BCM Environmental something regarding the lake issue so that will come out of that money.

He typed up a letter and sent it to counsel for review before he sent it.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that the Board was still comfortable with \$1,000.00.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the Building Budget for 2021 in the amount of \$64,572

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Transfer Station – Page 56-60

Mr. Pelletier stated that all the increases are basically due to more trash. The town has reached the point actually about six to eight weeks ago where he can no longer get through the week with the 100-yard trailer. He is now forced to using one of the 40-yard dumpsters to finish out the week.

For the last few years, they have been overweight on the trailer at 103 or 104 thousand. They are not supposed to be over 100 thousand but they have been pushing 110, 112, 114 and the contractor that has been moving the trailers, stated that he couldn't move it anymore unless he got the loads lighter so they have been forced to use one of the 40-yard dumpsters every week now to put the additional trash in.

He believed that it is on Thursdays, when they are using the 40-yard dumpster and Tuesdays and Saturdays, they are using the 100-yard and they have been coming in at 97, 98 thousand on that.

Selectman Dill stated that he had a trash question for Mr. Pelletier and he didn't expect that he would know it off the top of his head.

He asked if they are getting more trash because more people are living in town or is it because more people are working from home?

Mr. Pelletier stated that he thought that it was a combination of both. They have more people. The last two years they have had probably 50 new families in town due to new construction and the town is going to pick up probably close to 20 this year. There are definitely more families.

Selectman Dill asked if he was going to have to look into hauling that every other week twice or how do they do that or how do they meet this long term is what he means.

Mr. Pelletier stated that the big trailer costs them somewhere around \$800.00 to haul. The 40-yard dumpster is around \$200.00 so he thought that the 40-yard dumpster is the more viable solution for a while. If they got to the point that they had to start hauling multiples of those as well as the 100-yarder, he thought that they would have to change their approach or they may have to potentially look at putting in an additional contractor to pull another trailer or something. There are a few alternatives and he didn't think that they were there yet.

This seems to be working out right now. If the load is not too heavy, the 40-yarder is not heavy and they can definitely get more material in the 40-yard. As a matter of fact, the last few weeks, they have been able to skip hauling the 40-yarder. We did every other week on that so he didn't know why people have been bringing less trash or what the reason was.

They took the summer overall, there was a definite increase in the number of people bringing trash to the dump as well as the amount of trash that has been coming.

He is also looking at the fact that it is essentially all recyclables are at nothing, zero. They are paying to get rid of that.

Selectman Dill asked even aluminum and Mr. Pelletier stated that aluminum and tin are the only things that they are making any money on and realistically, not so because those loads are not that heavy, especially aluminum, and by the time you consider hauling costs and everything else, it is pretty much a wash.

They are paying for glass. They are paying for paper. They are paying for cardboard. Scrap metal varies and sometimes they make a little bit and sometimes it's a lot, sometimes it's even, it depends.

They get paid for mixed metal so there are plastic and other things like appliances, they are 50 percent plastic and 50 percent metal so that affects the way that he honestly doesn't know how the vendor calculates what is due and that is just about a wash.

The three months they were free as far as some of the products and so forth. They ship electronics almost monthly. He used to ship electronics three times a year. He has a load going out every month. The electronics keep pouring in. He didn't know if people were storing these things. He was sure that people were storing them and when they saw that it was free for a while, they just starting bringing it in by the loads.

Again, the budget also reflects that they have an annual increase every year with both Wheelabrator and Casella contracts so that contributes to a substantially larger fees for the transfer station.

Selectman Dill asked if they were still cheaper recycling the plastic?

Mr. Pelletier stated that the last time he looked at the rates, Casella is charging them \$15.00 a ton to dispose of plastics. If he put it in the general dumpster, it is roughly around \$78.00 which is the current rate.

Selectman Dill stated that they are saving a fair amount of money by splitting that.

Mr. Pelletier stated that they are saving a fair amount of money doing it that way and paper is \$15.00 a ton, cardboard is \$15.00 a ton disposing. He was not sure, off the top of his head, what he was paying to dispose of paper but it is all down. We have pissed off the Chinese so they are not taking anything.

He remembers a couple of years ago when Gino was stockpiling paper in the trailers because they couldn't even take it anyplace. There was zero market for it. He thought that the vendors are still paying for cardboard assuming the market is going to come back and they will have a huge stockpile of material to sell.

Unfortunately, as a transfer station, they unfortunately don't have a lot of control over it. The trash comes in and the trash goes out.

Chairman Robertson stated that they actually have this budget in three, distinct portions, and he was going to start with the transfer station administration. This is the full time and part time employees and that total is \$82,587.00.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the employee section of the transfer station in the amount of \$82,587.00

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Moving on, the chairman had the transfer station waste collection/solid waste collection. This portion of the budget for the 2021 request is \$41,904.00.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the solid waste collection portion of the budget in the amount of \$41,904.00

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion: The chairman stated that this portion was down 3%

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

The chairman stated that the third portion which is for waste disposal and the costs associated with that which was what the bulk of the discussion was about which is the fees and transportation and the amount is \$292,900.00

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the amount of the 2021 budget for waste disposal at \$292,900.00

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

The chairman thanked Mr. Pelletier for his time and the chairman stated that Ms. McHugh had a question.

She asked that in his transfer station budget, is he looking into running water at the transfer station at any point?

Mr. Pelletier stated that they had talked about it. He hasn't done too much with it. He is looking right now to redo the canopy and extend it with the impact fee money and this was one of the other things on his list, and when they collected more money, to do a well and do a septic system and he thought with the building going as it is, they could probably pull that off without any tax money.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would just note that the proposed annual budget for the transfer station three portions is \$417,391.00 for the record.

The chairman stated that if there were no further questions, he thanked Mr. Pelletier for his time.

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington if they had anything else to talk about with regard to the budget to which Mr. Harrington answered that there was not.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of September 14, 2020.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the minutes of September 14, 2020

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 1 – Motion Carries

Payroll Manifest with a check date of September 22, 2020 of \$72,334.31 (gross), \$46,245.60 (net)

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Payroll Manifest as read

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Account Payable Manifest - \$537,729.57 (obviously a large chunk is going to the school)

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Accounts Payable manifest as read

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Signatures:

Chairman Robertson stated that in the signature file they don't have much this evening but they have several things from the Assessing Office.

First is a Land Use Change Tax to be levied against the Benjamin S. Kelly Revocable Trust and this is for property on South Road that came out of current use. It appears that acreage is a little short now and it is assessed at \$48,000.00 which generated a LUCT in the amount of \$4,800.00

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to collect the Land Use Change Tax as requested

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

They also have a Timber Tax levy to be levied against Mara Katz and Steven Cook in the amount of \$2,242.23 for the yield on a recent timber cut.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to levy a timber tax from Mara Katz and Steven Cook as read

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that this concludes the Signature portion, no sorry, they had one more. That concluded the Assessing part of the Signature File.

The chairman stated that the last item that they had in the Signature File is from the Deerfield Parks and Rec Commission and they are asking them to appoint John Dubiansky to fill a vacancy that has occurred on the Parks and Rec Commission.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the appointment of John Dubiansky to the Parks and Rec Commission to fill a vacancy on the Parks and Rec Commission

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: That was definitely great for the record.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Town Administrator Report:

Mr. Harrington stated that he had two items to report to them this evening.

An update on one of the properties that was put up for auction. Map 415, Lot 48, they received a bid of \$8,000.00 on that property and the Board asked him to contact the auctioneers to approach the highest bidder. The highest bidder withdrew his bid and the auctioneers approached the second highest bidder which was \$7,500.00.

That person is still interested but would like the town to confirm public access to Adam's Hill Road so that they can reach the property and they would like some letter from an attorney verifying that this research was done and that they have access to that land before they will confirm or commit to the purchase of the property so he was coming to the Board asking if the Board would like to pay to have an attorney do the research to determine and Rick Pelletier was able to determine that the Mountain Road side of Adam's Hill Road is no longer public owned. It's gone to the landowners but he feels confident, not secure but confident that the Nottingham Road side is still available to the public to pass. It is a Class VI road but it is discontinued.

Chairman Robertson stated that in his opinion they should definitely have that looked at as there has just been a real estate transaction there, he believed, and he was not sure but he believed that Melinda may have sold the land that surrounds both sides of that.

Mr. Harrington stated that they abut one side of it. Yes, that transaction did take place. There is a new owner.

Chairman Robertson stated that they wanted to make sure there is access there before they sell it.

It was asked which piece they were talking about and the vice chairman stated that it was number 18 on the list and where was Adam's Hill Road.

Chairman Robertson stated that Adam's Hill Road is, if you were driving, and for the lack of a better way to say it, if you were driving toward Nottingham on Nottingham Road and you pass the old PK Lindsay buildings, just before the Geddes cape, there is a road that goes through the field with no trespassing signs. It basically goes to the cottage lighthouse that Melinda built out there and it continues on through.

Selectwoman McHugh thought that the road came down through PK Lindsay's and went down through.

Mr. Harrington stated that it traverses though two or three lots as it goes all the way to the top of that hill.

The chairman stated that he may not be correct and that the road goes out to the camp from PK Lindsay's and she stated that she thought that was where it was because there never used to be a road there in the field until she built her cabin.

The chairman stated that either way, he thought that they should, in his opinion, should do a basic look at this.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that if they do, that doesn't mean that they have to do this with the other properties. This one just might be more profitable.

Mr. Harrington stated that this was correct. It is up to the Board as to what they want to do.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they aren't taking this other guy's bid, they are going ahead and do their own lawyer work.

Mr. Harrington stated that at this point, do they want him to have an attorney do the research work on the road but they don't want to accept the bid at \$7,500.00.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he wanted to see what the research says first.

Mr. Harrington stated that the first person has withdrawn his deposit check and it was returned but that doesn't mean that this property couldn't go into future auctions.

Selectman McGarry stated that he thought that the road came out by the cemetery and the chairman stated it was by the little cemetery.

Chairman Robertson stated that he has walked up that road and it just dies to him. He has done Babb's Hill Road by going out through the field.

Selectman Dill stated that either way, there is no sign that says Adam's Hill Road. He thought that it tied back to Mountain Road.

Mr. Harrington stated that he will talk to the attorney to do that work and get back to the Board when he finds out.

One other item. A flu clinic, which used to be held in town, which hasn't been held in many years due to lack of participation, has come back up from Lamprey River and they are offering to do a "no cost" free flu clinic in Deerfield for residents.

They are looking for a place to do it and he has spoken to Denny today and they both thought that if the Board was going to agree to a flu clinic, it would probably be best to be held at the town hall which is not being used right now. It would be done by appointment. People would be checked before they would come in so there would be one patient at a time for those interested.

They're thinking that with COVID out there and the big push to get flu vaccines, there might be more interest in the community so people don't have to travel to a larger city to get their vaccination. They could stay within our town and have that option available.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that it was a great idea and they could approve it.

Mr. Harrington stated that it would be the last three weeks in October. He didn't have anything other than that in particular. If the Board is in agreement, they could make that happen and coordinate with Lamprey.

Selectwoman McHugh asked if there was anyway that they could get them to sanitize the bathrooms after or during as they didn't want to have Ray going in there. Mr. Harrington agreed and stated that he would check into that.

That was it for him this evening.

Unfinished Business:

Vice Chairman Pitman asked where they stood regarding this job with the legal beagles to which Mr. Harrington stated that he hadn't heard yet.

Mr. Harrington stated that he believed that the last communication that they had with Upton and Hatfield was that there was a preliminary hearing on the 24th but that was likely to be continued and ask for more time. This is likely to go out weeks before an actual hearing is held.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they were still on it and Mr. Harrington is keeping up with every update that he gets but right now the step of the hearing that needs to be held and our attorney at Upton and Hatfield believes that they are going to ask for a continuance.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked how they were doing with the road agent's time cards and Mr. Harrington asked in what manner to which the vice chairman stated as to how they were being filled out.

Mr. Harrington stated that they have been passed in since he started.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it was not what they asked for and Mr. Harrington stated that there was no additional detail other than what he has been passing in.

He continued that he believed that they could look at his latest as it is in this week's payroll. Selectman McGarry stated good and was going to ask that.

Chairman Robertson asked if there was any other unfinished business?

Chairman Robertson stated that one thing that he was going to mention. He was contacted by some residents of Harvey Road today. Eversource has notified at least one landowner, possibly more, that they are going to do, begin road side cutting and trimming under the wires and the residents are concerned, to some extent, because they have seen the brontosaurus that has been working on the side of 107 and other crews and they also spoke to a representative from Asplundh Tree today, he thought that there were four or five neighbors that spoke with Scott, he believed that the name was, and they advised him that it was a scenic road. He told them that they were aware that it was a scenic road and that they have already had a public hearing regarding trimming and maintenance.

The question was put to him if the select board aware that Eversource had a public hearing regarding trimming and cleanup on the side of the Harvey Road, a scenic road and he said that he had no knowledge of such thing and he also spoke to the road agent a little bit before the meeting and no one had been in touch with him about cutting or trimming trees and brush along Harvey Road.

The chairman continued and asked Mr. Harrington if he could their community Eversource representative and see if he could get some detail about date, time, what they plan to do and let them know that Harvey Road is a scenic road and it was added that there hasn't been a public hearing.

Selectman McGarry stated that the Planning Board hasn't had a public hearing.

Chairman Robertson stated that he asked and Suzanne Steele was the one that initially contacted him.

Selectman Dill stated which was interesting because they are starting to run the radio crews out too because they have had a radio crew on Old Center and Griffin Road for the last week. A two crew but they always (couldn't understand) the source. He was not sure 100 percent what they run (couldn't understand).

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't understand either but people (couldn't understand) dust and along the highway and wanted to make sure that it wasn't happening to them.

Selectman Dill stated which actually hits what he wanted to bring up tonight and he brought it up with Steve but if Mr. Harrington could check with Asplundh and Eversource, and see if they are going to send out that special crew for the ash trees.

They took down six or eight last fall at his place as you are coming down the (couldn't understand). He has asked Asplundh a number of times and they haven't given them any feedback but Andy is right, if they aren't getting them to do it, they are going to have to start funneling a large amount of money into cutting

Mr. Harrington stated that what he wanted was to look into verification into ash tree removal throughout the town and Selectman Dill stated yes and continued that they have a special crew that they have had come in with an Asplundh crew, one that could handle whole trees. They were here last year. He has had multiple people ask if they are coming back because they have a lot of "blonde" trees hanging over roads right now.

Chairman Robertson added that they don't have any foliage on them that are dead already.

Selectman Dill continued that he had some "blonde" ones too last year that were taken down and he couldn't believe how rotten they were inside. He thought that they had just died a year ago. These things have been dead for five or six years now so they need to get a plan and Andy is right, the town is going to have to pay for it and Andy added that they aren't going to do everything, just where there are lines.

Selectman Dill stated that actually, they were cutting across the street from the lines last year which surprised him. He stated that they said that anything that could fall in either direction and his land is on the opposite side of the road and they took down fifteen and he had another twenty to go.

Selectman Dill stated that he couldn't find that time card in there. It was looking under accounts payable not payroll, that could be the reason why he couldn't find it.

Chairman Robertson asked for other business or new business?

Selectwoman McHugh stated that she thought that they should stay on that truck. She has gotten a number of reports that the truck is overloaded.

Chairman Robertson stated that whether it is a priority or not, they need their trucks going.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it has been in the garage since plow season.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that this is the fourth time that they asked him to fix it.

Mr. Harrington stated that they are alphabetical, R will be at the bottom.

Selectman Dill stated that he found it and it is the same that it was months ago. They are not getting any info.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that really, what was he supposed to write on there?

Selectman Dill stated that he has a description.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that maybe he could write where he is working, what road they are on and Selectman Dill stated that he thought that was what they asked, was for example, Candia Road, 15 hours, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, something like that.

Chairman Robertson asked if there was any action that the Board wanted to take this evening? Do you have anything? Do they want to see Steve back here next week?

Vice Chairman Pitman thought that Mr. Harrington could give him a pep talk and Mr. Harrington stated that he could certainly speak to him.

Selectman Dill stated that they had the stuff that they wanted him to fill in for information, did they not to which multiple members stated yes and that was two months ago. Did they show him what they wanted to which Mr. Harrington stated yes?

Selectwoman McHugh stated that her next question too, is, is that excavator supposed to go back on the 23rd? If he is going to need it for a couple more weeks, that is another \$6,500.00, won't they charge another \$6,500.00 for that excavator if they keep it for another two weeks?

Mr. Harrington stated that the date on the agreement that he received, ends on September 23rd which is what the date range is.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that is what Mr. Rollins stated also but he needs it for another couple of weeks so are we going to make him send it back and use something different?

Chairman Robertson stated that he would assume, as he stated that he was going to keep it for another two weeks and Selectwoman McHugh asked what that was going to cost them?

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that it was going to cost them ½ of \$6,500.00.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that it would be that at least which is why he brought up the total costs.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that they didn't have anything in writing to which Mr. Harrington stated that they had an agreement but there is no signature on it that they sent him.

Chairman Robertson stated that he is not particularly comfortable as to how they stumbled into the excavator and keeping it for another couple of weeks but he thought at this stage of the game, it is probably in their best interest to keep it for another couple of weeks to get the work done so that they could get pavement on it.

Selectman Dill stated that they are saving with not having to move it back and forth and also if it was a tracked machine, they would be moving it quite a bit.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that they used it approximately 100 hours but Selectman Dill stated that they were paying for it by the week, not by the hour.

Chairman Robertson asked for other concerns at this point?

Selectman Dill stated that his concern was that this gets done in two or three weeks. Every time that they talk, it has been another couple of weeks.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that the three weeks that they talked about last have already ended last week.

Chairman Robertson asked if they wanted Steve back on Monday to make sure that he was progressing to which the vice chairman stated yes and give them an update.

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington to get him back in here and they could talk about other things that are important.

Mr. Harrington stated that it would be on the 28th as they have a meeting next Monday.

Chairman Robertson asked for other business.

At this point, the chairman would look to citizen's comments.

Citizen's Comments:

Ms. Cady asked if any of the town's officials had noticed that the bank's repossession of a construction company, and they had a 2017 backhoe/loader, all kinds of dump trucks, one was 2019 and would it be worth looking into?

Chairman Robertson thanked Ms. Cady for her comments.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn at 7:07 pm

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next Meeting: Monday, September 28, 2020 at 5:30 pm

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Dianne L. Kimball, Recording Secretary
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen*

