

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
December 20, 2021
MINUTES**

Call to Order

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

Present: Fred McGarry, Chairman, Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman, Cynthia McHugh and Dwight Barnes, Selectmen.

Absent: Alden Dill, Selectman (came into the meeting at 5:35 pm)

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

Chairman McGarry: First on the agenda was the longevity for lieutenant, Michael Lavoie. You have a certificate for the lieutenant. He's got 20 years of service in for the town and really applaud him for sticking with us for that amount of time and John, you'll take care of getting this to him.

Mr. Harrington: Yes, I will.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you.

And we have the fair association who would like to like to speak to us and my understanding is that you would like to go into non-public?

Mr. Wyman: No, we could actually

Vice Chairman Pitman: Don't see any need to at this point.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Vice Chairman Pitman: It's stating facts and figures. That way, we, it can be discussed afterwards if need be.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Don, did you want to

Vice Chairman Pitman: Go to the table.

Selectwoman McHugh: You too, Sean, there's one for you.

Mr. Wyman: Don Wyman, Deerfield Fair president.

For numerous years, we've always had the Deerfield Fire Department at the fairgrounds for our fire patrol and along with the EMT's.

We normally hire, or they hire different outside entities to help us out with the EMT's and with the fire.

Normally, the superintendent of Nursing or EMT's handles that part for us with regards to the ambulance and EMT coverage and the fire department normally handles their portion.

This year it changed a little bit. The fire chief decided he would bring on the ambulance coverage and he would also handle the fire which is fine. That's the part that he does.

When I first started on the director's board, many years ago, we were given a \$4,000.00 donation to George Clark then extended over to Mark Tibbetts. Mark, sometime after that asked if we could raise it to \$8,000.00 so we did, of course. Times change. Everything went up. So, it was an \$8,000.00 coverage for a number of years after that.

The new chief came in, which is expected and again, things change, prices change. We've gone up to almost \$12,000.00 donation in the past which is again, is entirely acceptable. That's what happens. People give their time.

None of us are there to make money off of this so the town, neighboring towns came in at a lower rate and helped us out. No different than the police do and along with ambulances.

So, when we get an ambulance in, that comes with complete coverage. We don't pay individual people on the ambulance board. We bring in a rig which comes with two or maybe three so if we need two rights, we have six and then there's EMT's that we hire on to float from Candia or Northwood, Nottingham, so on.

This particular year, we'd asked the chief or the chief had asked if he could put a proposal in or was going to put a proposal in, I should say.

(Selectman Dill arrived at the meeting 3:48 minutes into meeting)

He did so. The proposal was kind of staggering. It come up at \$47,000.65. We got the proposal. We've been asking for it in due time so that we could, you know, go over it, discuss it, all the things that had to be done.

We received it a week prior to the fair so we had to discuss it on the Thursday meeting before the fair. We had to ask him to come in, actually the Friday meeting that we have at the fair.

So, issues came up and we'd asked him if he could please reconsider this, look at it, see if there were any places, he could cut that \$47,000.00 bill. That was just a lot jumping from \$12,000.00 to \$47,000.00. Pretty much stated, "no". There's no place we can cut.

So, we paid, to me, an absorbent amount of money to different areas. Nottingham, Northwood, Chichester for their police coverage. We can, you know, if we had to, we could break down their prices. We have them with us.

So, I just think that we've been taken advantage of. This is not, per se, a Deerfield fair, it's the Deerfield Fair. It's our association.

One of the big things that kind of kicked me off a little bit is, we're the second highest taxpayer in town. If anybody builds a barn or house or any structure such as that and it needs them inspected, there's no charge to the inspection.

We have inspections done at the fair. We were charged two men, two days, pretty good rate. Pretty close to \$27.00, \$28.00 an hour per person and they billed us out 12 hours a day and seven hours a day equivalent for both days.

The state was also here. We didn't receive a bill from the state. They did it. To me, that's what I thought it was. If you're a taxpayer, you pay for that service. That's a service that we get as a taxpayer.

So, you know, I know we're kind of stuck between a rock and a hard place this year because we had no contract. This contract sits here, which I don't know how abiding it is. It sits here with no signature from me because the last thing we talked to the chief about is to please reconsider. Maybe go over it. Change some things. Cut some prices if he could.

Made no mention of doing that. Never came to me to do this so when the meetings after the fair came along, we'd asked, could we see this, could we get this bill. You know there's people in other towns that need to be paid. It never came forth.

Then all of a sudden, we know that the selectmen were put into a hard spot too and you had to pay those bills. You know, we can't allow our neighboring towns to put forth time that was due to them and money that was due to them and promised to them and not pay it in good faith. It's not a thing that the town does to another neighboring town. That sets a bad, bad precedence if we ever needed help again which the Deerfield Fair will. We need help every year. You know we get the different towns for the police; we get towns for EMS and fire.

One of the things that we did ask Matt, excuse me, the chief that when, if he's going to charge us this much money, normally the fire department stays in the fire department because they're allowing the kids to get on the apparatus, to ask questions. You know, they may be firefighters someday. They may be EMT's someday.

So, we'd asked if since COVID wasn't allowing anybody to do that, that we weren't letting anybody in, per the department, to get on the trucks and stuff like that inside the building so we'd asked that with that kind of money and paying that much out, please don't let anybody stay there. Do your job. Go patrol the grounds. You know, if you

need to leave, two people there for an apparatus to get rolling, that's fine. We're not coming all the way across the town of Deerfield with traffic so put everybody out there.

The EMT's, they rove all day long. You know, those people are constantly out there walking. They didn't. Almost every fireman stayed in the building all day long with not any concern to it. I'd made mention to it a couple times walking by because that's what I do. I walk around. I see what's going on. They stayed there. They didn't move.

We had two calls that went during the fair to the town and again, that's what they're there for. Our services to the town. It's not only to the fair. I understand that. But when they left, they went out to what I'm going to call. For lack of better words, simple calls.

They took four people to each call pretty much. Two rigs. Four people.

So, that never came off our bill. That stayed there so we ended up paying all the time that they were gone, we paid them to be at the fair.

So, our coverage was lacking and I'm not saying it was detrimental but it was lacking. We never got a cut on that. You know, we paid full boat.

So, from the \$47,000.65, basically with total, grand total here is \$33,620.35.

I've dug deep into it pretty much. Not really seeing where the change was, why it went down to the \$33,000.00 but that's not the point. The point taken is or given is this, I feel, we were taken advantage of in the town by the fire chief.

I see this in a couple of different areas. That's none of my business but I do see it in a couple of different areas.

I'm not here as being a person on the fire department. I'm being here as a person that's in charge of the fair. I'm not really concerned about other things in town at this point. I'm concerned about the Deerfield Fair and the well-being of that. That's what I was voted in to do so that's what I do. I take it very seriously.

So, some of the things that, you know, we can throw up and I'd like you guys to consider and to maybe, you know, stand advised of is for years, we've always contributed to the fireworks display at the Old Home Day. We give \$2,500.00 every year. There's a couple of years that we were lacking a little bit in attendance. I think we cut that down to \$1,500.00 but we were there all the time.

This past COVID year was a bad year. The town needed a place for voting sessions. Needed a place for Deliberative sessions. We allowed the town to come in and do that.

The buildings that we allow, we charge for normally and we didn't charge anything to the town because that's what neighbors in town do. If you've got a barn and I've got a horse and I need to put it in there for a day, good people will let you do that.

So, with the Deliberative sessions, you know, you think, it is five days to set that up. It's five days' worth of revenue that the fair just for rent, you know, they, we didn't want it. That was the top half of the building. Not only that, we also let you guys use the bottom of the building which is another amount that we charge.

From that point, we went to again, the Old Home Day fireworks like I mentioned. We've always done the trunk or treat from day one when it started. We always allow you to use the grounds. Again, that's a fee that we normally charge to any other person walking around. That's a charge.

The fire department trainings. We always let them use our hydrants inside the grounds. We let them stretch the hoses across our grounds. We've never denied that because God forbid something happens at the fair in an off season or any other building in this town. We want the fire department prepared.

No different when we allow the state police and the sheriff's department to come in to train in our buildings. We want them prepared. That's what we're for.

Again, you have the space, you let me use it. If I have the space, I'll let you use it. That's the kind of work that we do.

The fire trucks. Since Mark and since we built the fire building down there, George Clark, Mark Tibbetts have always parked one apparatus or another all year long. Again, that's revenue to the fair that we don't accept. We don't take anything there.

We actually offered to a prior chief, if they wanted to split the cost, we would allow them to use that fire building as a third home base. Put the ambulance in there. Put the rescue and whatever we did, if we bought an ambulance, put it in there. If you buy a rescue, put it in there. So, we've always given that, again, because we want to be able to help. If you have something centrally located to town, it works.

Again, school board sessions. We've held them down to the grounds free. We don't do anything with that. Several days set up again.

Tricky Tray, we've always allowed that to happen every time they ask.

We have bike-a-thons constantly. Whether it be Catamount or whatever. Sometimes it's not affiliated with the town. It's just people that live here in town that host it and put it on. We give that to them.

DCS. Semi-formal. They had no place to do it this year because of COVID or last year. We allowed them again to use the sheep barn.

Now, these are high dollar buildings that we allow them to use for absolutely nothing.

Graduation. Same thing. We've done that.

I just feel, and I think it needs to be looked at that, point blank, we were taken advantage of. You know, when you go from a \$12,000.00 donation to \$40,000.00, like I said, it was originally \$47,000.00; now it's \$33,000.00 but at \$33,000.00, if you look at that, we contracted or had Northwood Fire Department to help us out. All right. They came in. We paid them. You paid. The town of Deerfield paid them. We are also being asked for a \$600.00 donation to that department up and above what we paid them.

Donation, same thing with Strafford. They had an ambulance here. We paid for it. Looking for a \$150.00 donation. This isn't their asking. This is on our bill that we're paying, okay.

Donation for the Chester Fire Department. Again, \$150.00 we paid them.

Annual cost of the Deerfield Rescue. The Deerfield Rescue when we donate a \$500.00 donation to them, they restock their rig. More gauze, more band-aids, more antiseptic, whatever it is they need. That's the \$500.00 that we donate to them. They utilize it. It goes back to this town to use the way it should.

On top of the \$33,000.00 or however you want to look at, \$47,000.00, the fire department, to me, my own words, had the audacity to ask for a \$500.00 donation.

So, if you want to look at it at \$47,000.00, you add five to that or you add all of the other figures I put to that and I want to know if any of you guys can think that we just got taken advantage of?

So, I think next year... There's nothing that we can do because the state statute has us all kind of hogtied because it says right in the laws, "authority having jurisdiction". It's no different than the electrical inspector in town. State codes, the National Electric Code, can say one thing. He can go up and above that because authority has that jurisdiction.

We cannot have a fire department without the authority agreeing with it. We can an ambulance. We can hire our own ambulance company. We do not need Deerfield to have an ambulance in there. We can bring in our own EMT's from neighboring towns. We can bring in our own ambulance from neighboring towns. We don't have to have anybody get involved in that other than us. We've always done it through the town because that's the right thing to do.

The fire departments have us tied to the wall because authority having jurisdiction. We can't bring in the good old boy pumper trucks that we all know that are out there, everybody that collects these trucks and keeps them in working order. We can pull in our own regime of firemen because if the chief says no, no, you can't do it.

So, we're held and I'll use the word, we're held hostage and I think we were taken advantage of on this.

So, going into next year, I would hope that this Board, select board, would be able to, maybe rein in the chief a little bit. We didn't, we were originally going to go into a closed-door session but then we couldn't talk about this after, you know so I'd rather have it out in the open so we can all discuss it. We can all hear it. I'm not afraid to talk and I'm not afraid to answer questions so I would just hope that this town and the select board would look at what the Deerfield Fair does for the town and the good that it does for the town.

And, there's a lot of people in this town that still today, I'm not an old man by any means, but I've been to that fair for over 50 years and there still people that live in this town that feel and believe that it's the Deerfield Fair because it's owned by the town of Deerfield.

We bought and paid for that fair years ago and we pay our fair share of taxes that the fair board members years ago and the forefathers of that Board of Directors that I sat on for years and the president that I sit in now, they said, we will never and the town had said you can have no taxes years ago when they bought it and Leon Harvey and all those people back then that were townies, just as we all are, said no. We don't want to owe a dime to the fair. We will pay our fair share of taxes.

So, I think we've got to stop and think about where our fair share of taxes lies which we've never tried to do an abatement. It didn't work and that's fine. We never even appealed it. We said, Avitar says no, no. To me, that was a little bit of a precursor that our forefathers said, don't do that.

So, I allowed it to go against what the forefathers said by trying to do an abatement which was agreed years and years ago we never would do. As long as I'm on the Board, we'll never do it again.

But I think we ought to reconsider this. This is a little bit, a little bit high and I'll answer any questions that come along.

Chairman McGarry: Dwight, you have something?

Selectman Barnes: I do.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectman Barnes: First of all, all those things that you listed off that the fair does for the town and the school, it's been greatly appreciated. I've been involved in a lot of that stuff and we do appreciate that and you know, I think it is the right thing to do as well but you do it and much appreciated.

Sounds to me like we need to kind of get to the bottom of that somehow. We need to get, speak with the chief obviously. I mean, we're hearing one side of this situation. I think we need to hear the other side as well but we should get to the bottom of it clearly.

John, do you have any information about what Don referenced about the inspections.

Mr. Harrington: I don't have any involvement in that. That's strictly for the fire department.

Selectman Barnes: Oh, all those were fire inspections that took place for ...

Mr. Wyman: Correct.

Selectman Barnes: For your buildings, okay.

Mr. Wyman: Fire inspections that we have is basically put on by the state. I've been involved in life safety and the electrical committee for probably eight, nine years now.

We have to have the state come in. It was years ago before I stepped onto that, before President O'Neal asked me to step onto the board for life safety and electrical. The state, there were some threats around that the state was going to close us down for safety violations, electrically. I'm sure some of you guys are aware of that.

I asked David if I could set my own committee up and put on people that I knew. I wanted some laymen. I wanted some contractors and I wanted some electricians on my board with me and we did.

So, we set up, I made a couple of phone calls up to, back then it was Chief Degnan with the state and I told him, I said, there's a lot of bad publicity going on between the fair, the Union Leader and the Concord Monitor about the state shutting us down and he assured me that that was never a comment made.

So, I asked him, I said, I have my crew or my group. I would like you to set up a group that that's all we do so before anything goes to the press, we talk to you. Before anything does to the public, you talk to us. Every year we get together and we set up a plan for the fair.

So, we did. He set up a four-man team. I had a four-man team. We met every year from that point on. I'm still in great communication with the gentleman. He's retired. He moved out of state. He's down in Texas. I talked to him quite often just because we made a friendship.

With that, you know, we set up what we called a five-year plan. We took everything that the state was holding against us or per se held against us electrically with inadequacies at the fair and we set up that five-year plan and I took out a large amount of money from the fair and said hold this aside. We'll make these repairs.

So, in three years, we finished our five-year safety plan and we've done nothing but move forward from that point on fixing things that are still on their list but what they consider not detrimental.

So, we work with those guys and again, they have to walk around originally and the chief, the new chief, had a good idea. You know, originally, we walked around, looked at everything what I call a hard building so any vendor that was serving food we looked in their buildings. Do you have Ancil systems? Do you have electrical up to code? Do you have your fire extinguishers up to code?

Past chiefs and I walked around with our groups with the state. Awesome.

The new chief, as again, he comes up with new ideas, new things are changing. Why do we look at all the vendors that are in hard buildings when you have all these people that are going gypsy in campers so we started inspecting campers; too.

So that's just again for safety.

So, the state does it. They're in there for two days. I usually call them in for two days prior to the fair like halfway through the fair. IF you see anything you don't like, let us fix it before we get nailed the day before the fair.

Like I said, there's no charge. There's never a charge from the state. There was never a charge from the prior chiefs. Just this one here.

And, you know, it's not a lot of money but it was over \$600.00. You know, it's a lot of money, it's not a lot of money but it is, you know. If I asked somebody else to give me \$600.00 out of their pocket to pay for that I'm sure they'd say no.

Selectman Barnes: So, this work that was done locally by the chief in the fire department, that gets done at homes in town, similar types of inspections, there's no charge in the community? Is that accurate?

Mr. Wyman: I've never been charged. I've had electrical work done at my house. I put my house on a foundation. I built a barn.

Selectman Barnes: There's no charge. Other than the building permit.

Mr. Wyman: Correct. And we didn't have any building. We and if we do something down there and we build a building, we get a permit. We come in here and talk to Rick. If one of our vendors wants to tear a building down, they have to come here to get a demo permit. They have to come here to get a building permit. We do everything that every other citizen in this town does.

Selectman Barnes: Okay, so your question really is "why did you get charged for something that no one else gets charged for"?

Mr. Wyman: That's a piece of it, yes.

Selectman Barnes: Good question.

Vice Chairman Pitman: It's time to deal with it.

Chairman McGarry: Anybody else have any questions?

Selectman Dill: I think Dwight's right here. I mean one side and then we gotta hear the other side.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I think it would be, it'd be interesting to see how the chief was able to come up with these numbers and ...

Mr. Wyman: We do have his figures. We have all the figures. He did send them to us so we have everything that he charged per person whether it be an EMT, EMTI, ambulance, fire, what he was ranked as fire. Whether it be a chief or whether it just be a firefighter. We do have that whole breakdown.

My heartache on this is I know that they were paid a lot more than they have been in the past so did we just set a precedent? So, Dwight, I hate to, I'll use you as an example.

If you've been working for me for \$8.00 an hour but now this year, I pay you \$40.00 an hour, are you going to come back to work for me for \$8.00?

Selectman Barnes: No.

Mr. Wyman: So, there's my precedent. You know, have we just set a precedent so now these neighboring EMT's and neighboring firefighters they we usually paid more than \$8.00 an hour, I say that, did we just set a precedent and now they'll say no?

You know, the police department has never done that. Cut and dry. Here's your bill. This is what we're going to pay our officers. This is what we're going to pay our officers with the four-wheelers. We have never wavered from that. We go up in a yearly, bi-yearly increase because cost of living goes up so we understand that.

Sean Beausoleil: I'm a member of the Board of Directors for the fair. I think beyond the rates, I don't begrudge anybody the rates that they're due. I think it's the quantity of people that have been dedicated to the fair.

I agree we need a first responder force there to take care and stabilize any situation that may arise but we have the equivalent of 20 people here full-time. That, I think, I think that's too many. I think that's the issue we need to look at. Just the number of bodies that have been allocated more than full time to the fair.

Selectman Dill: Is there a code. I know you have to have x number of police officers for large gatherings. Is there a state code on fire or EMT?

Mr. Wyman: Like I said, I've reached, I've got the, a good friend of mine that was on a state board. There is nothing, again, having jurisdiction. They can't tell us what is safe and what isn't safe.

The police department does. They say one per 50 or whatever it may be but the fire department, I've looked through a lot of statutes. I haven't found any and what Sean is referring to is the amount of, amount of people, you know.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, I was just wondering if there was, if there was a statue.

Mr. Wyman: I've looked. I've looked and I didn't see anything and I've dug into it pretty deep.

Selectman Dill: Is this, I know you guys are on fair associations, that all the fair associations talk. Is this an issue with other fair associations at other fairs?

Mr. Wyman: A lot of, it, that's kind of a double-edged sword on that one because Stratham Fair, that's a fire put on fair.

Selectman Dill: Yeah, and it hasn't happened in a couple years.

Mr. Wyman: Right. Cheshire Fair. It's another one that's held by the fire auxiliary. Cornish. Another one fire auxiliary. Hopkinton, fire department.

We're one of the only independent and I'm not saying the only one, we're one of the only maybe a handful. Fryeburg, I think is an actual Fryeburg Fair. That's theirs. They hire in their own people, too.

Have I reached out to Maine? No, I haven't but even Topsfield, as big as that is, the fire department helps that. They put forth into that, too.

So again, you know, we're just, we're no different than you guys sitting at that table right there. You know we have something going on we have to have fire there. We have to have police there. We have to have EMT's over so many people.

Chairman McGarry: Cindy?

Selectwoman McHugh: I think too, another concern might be is that contract we signed, the fair didn't.

Mr. Wyman: Never made it to us.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, when the fair got it a week in advance, there was no chance to come back to us or no chance for them to say we're not doing this contract. They had to go. It was fair time so I think maybe our next contracts, we should be more careful about getting everybody's signatures on a piece of paper that everybody's agreeing to.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I would agree.

Selectman Dill: With more lead time.

Vice Chairman Pitman: So basically, it's bring the chief in?

Chairman McGarry: Yes, I mean they've ...

Vice Chairman Pitman: They've done a good job with their presentation.

Selectman Dill: I think that's the next one.

Chairman McGarry: Yep.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you, Don and Sean.

Both Mr. Wyman and Mr. Beausoleil thanked the select board.

Chairman McGarry: All right.

Opening the RFQ's.

Selectman Dill: Oh, Fred. Just for minutes purposes, I got here at like 5:35 pm.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Oh, hold up on that one. Yeah. That's the price.

Selectman Dill: He's making you think on your feet, John.

Chairman McGarry: Same thing on that one. Hold off.

You can open that, yeah.

Well, procedurally what we would do with the, with a qualifications-based proposal and that's what this is, we will go through and review all the packages that were provided to us. I've got a, prepared a ranking sheet with all the criteria and what I'd like to be able to do is have all of the board members go through the two proposals which I'm glad we only have two, in a way I'm glad we only have two since we, was, I was anticipating as many as seven or eight which would have taken a lot of time to go through those.

But what I would like to be able to do is to go through each one, each one of the proposals, rank them using the criteria that we've got then we make arrangements for them to come in to interview and get a good feeling as to how each of the firms would address the building and what their qualifications are and then we open the prices that they provided to us so we don't focus on the price alone.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Right.

Chairman McGarry: That's the thing. So, we want to go through and look at them and ...

Selectman Dill: So, you're not saying to do that tonight?

Chairman McGarry: No, no, no, that, this is homework.

Selectman Dill: I was about to say if we're sitting here ...

Chairman McGarry: No, no, no. This is homework.

Selectman Dill: How we know it's a Fred-based system. There's already a spreadsheet.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

So, and John's ...

Selectman Dill: So, when are you, if we're going to work on that, when do you figure, we have enough time to get this done before the new year, right?

Chairman McGarry: Certainly, before the 11th of January, yeah.

Selectman Dill: Okay, we're going to have time to do it.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, ...

Selectman Dill: That's when we have the warrant articles due.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

So, my thought would end up being probably if everyone is okay, we can get the reviews done by next meeting and next meeting we schedule interviews if that fits with everybody else.

Selectman Dill: So, you're thinking the 27th?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, to finish our reviews and then schedule the interviews.

Vice Chairman Pitman: What do we, how much time are we going to need for it? We're doing year end financials.

Do you want a different night for this?

Chairman McGarry: Well, we could, yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Do the financials ...

Selectman Dill: Which doesn't have to be, like you said last time, doesn't have to be on a Monday.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

So, what's your thought on the financials for the end of the year?

Mr. Harrington: To look at the year-end balance...

Chairman McGarry: Yes.

Mr. Harrington: We'll have an idea, the last accounts payable run is actually the end of this week so when Pete does his run-on Monday, that'll be the last accounts payable for the year. You'll have an idea over the weekend what the end balance will be for the year.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: And it can be discussed at Monday's meeting.

Selectman Dill: Over the weekend is Christmas.

Mr. Harrington: Well, I just mean he'll send out the accounts payable expenditure report which is like he always does.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Is there any harm waiting until Wednesday, just to make sure?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, we could.

Vice Chairman Pitman: There's no cast in concrete for Monday unless somebody has another ...

Chairman McGarry: Cindy.

Selectwoman McHugh: Are we involving the police committee, you know ...

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, I would like to certainly like to have them involved on the interview, yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: I've already reached out to Andy Robertson. He'd be willing to be on the interview committee.

Chairman McGarry: And of course, Gary and ...

Vice Chairman Pitman: The other Gary, what was his name?

Selectwoman McHugh: O'Connell?

Vice Chairman Pitman: O'Connell.

Selectman Dill: So, you're talking to, Dick, moving the 27th to the 29th?

Vice Chairman Pitman: Yeah.

Selectman Barnes: Yeah.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I'm not going to have time over the weekend to look at this.

Selectman Dill: It seems like a rather busy time of the year to be looking ...

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: What kind of stuff are we looking at. I mean rank wise? How engineering are we getting here?

Chairman McGarry: Get the sheet.

Mr. Harrington: It's double-sided, Fred.

Selectman Dill: I have to pass this off to the kids.

Chairman McGarry: So, we've got, looking at the company background and all that is supposed to be in each one of those packages.

Public safety experience. Key staff members, are supposed to identify the key staff members that are going to be working on the project. Local knowledge. If they show any local, any homework they may have done with regard to

the situation that we have here. Quality of the proposal and the ability to perform. Again, that should all be in there and then finally in references and that's another point.

It would probably be easiest if, because with only two, it may not be that bad but I was going to suggest for references to have John take and contact the references that each of them provides and he would give us what his ...

Selectman Dill: That makes a lot more sense and he's going to ...

Vice Chairman Pitman: They don't want all of us calling them.

Chairman McGarry: They'd be getting five phone calls for each one of these, for all the references so if that's all right with everyone else, we could do that.

So, these are the criteria that we have so having the meeting on Wednesday, is that okay with everyone?

Vice Chairman Pitman: At least it will give us a couple of days.

Mr. Harrington: That meeting date is open. The last meeting of that week, Zoning Board has the room on the Tuesday but Wednesdays open.

Chairman McGarry: Wednesdays open. Okay. Good. Well, why don't we do that then?

Mr. Harrington: To the 29th.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Mr. Harrington: Okay.

Selectman Barnes: Instead of the 27th.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: If that works for you.

Selectman Barnes: Works for me.

Selectman Dill: Oh wait. I don't think that works for me.

Chairman McGarry: The 29th?

Selectman Dill: Yeah.

But I'm not entirely sure, if that makes sense. There's been a ton of Christmas plans thrown around. I'm not quite sure if that works or not. The 27th. I'll just send an email out but don't change everything based on me.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectman Dill: I have to check with the head planner.

Selectwoman McHugh: You have your people call our people.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Okay, we're all good on that.

Chairman McGarry: I guess we're all set on that then.

Selectman Dill: We'll pick those up after the meeting.

Chairman McGarry: And I guess between now and then, you want to start looking at the references that they provide?

Mr. Harrington: I certainly can. I'll just need to make copies of those pages out of your packet because they only sent five.

Chairman McGarry: Okay. Conservation Commission. They're not here tonight.

Mr. Harrington: They sent a written report. They told me they wouldn't be here in person but they did submit a report which I sent to the Board.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of December 13, 2021

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the minutes of December 13, 2021 as written

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Vouchers/Payroll Manifest/Accounts Payable Manifest:

Accounts Payable Manifest - \$817,293.37 (\$750,000.00 to school)

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the accounts payable as presented

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: And it's a vote of unanimous.

Signatures/Correspondence:

Chairman McGarry: We have no correspondence.

Selectman Dill: Where did the Conservation Commission one get sent? Was it in Correspondence?

Mr. Harrington: I believe I sent it to you electronically. No?

Selectman Dill: No, I didn't get it.

Mr. Harrington: I'll send it out tomorrow.

Selectman Dill: Okay. Thanks, John.

Chairman McGarry: All right. We do have, John, do you want to explain this one with regard to the resigning of the layout, highway layout for Ridge Road Extension?

Mr. Harrington: Yes. The Board on October 12th signed the original laying out of Ridge Road. Unfortunately, somehow, the town clerk misplaced the original copy. I was able to provide them with a scanned, signed copy which they had stamped as received but I think for historic purposes, it should be an original, signed copy and I have already asked if Andy could come in. He will re-sign it so if the four original board members will sign it on the original date, the town clerk will record it again.

Selectman Dill: But just for records purposes. We're not changing anything.

Mr. Harrington: Nothing has changed. It's the original document.

Chairman McGarry: And the original document is attached to ...

Mr. Harrington: I have the scanned copy behind it.

Chairman McGarry: So, I don't think we really need it, we don't need a motion.

Mr. Harrington: No, it's more for record keeping and historic purposes.

Chairman McGarry: And we have a Personnel Action Request from I guess, it's from Steve with regard to a Michael Blye as a highway laborer and posing as part-time and I guess the question is, do we end up making it rather than part-time, have it as a temporary seasonal?

Steve, did you want to address that?

Mr. Rollins: Yeah, whatever you guys need it to be. It's for snowplow help mostly.

Vice Chairman Pitman: I'd start with that then.

Chairman McGarry: Then make it seasonal.

Vice Chairman Pitman: Seasonal.

Mr. Rollins: Also, he would be on the emergency list so if there was another Mother's Day flood or anything like that or a tornado so I would assume that part-time would be better than seasonal but whatever you think.

Mr. Harrington: That category is on-call seasonal temp so that would cover on-call.

Mr. Rollins: Okay, on-call seasonal temp.

Chairman McGarry: Does anyone on the Board have any questions?

Selectman Dill: So, he's just working storms then, right?

Mr. Rollins: Basically, yep or anytime we have a shortage

(Vice Chairman Pitman left the meeting at 43:40 into the meeting)

And the pay rate is \$18.00 an hour.

Selectman Dill: Is that, I assume there's a reason we came up with the \$18.00?

Mr. Rollins: That's norm, I mean.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Selectwoman McHugh: Does Mike have a CDL?

Mr. Rollins: He does not.

Selectwoman McHugh: The one ton ...

Mr. Rollins: The one ton and obviously, as we know, mechanical and can help us fix stuff and run some equipment of course.

Selectman Dill: Okay.

Do we need a motion on this?

Chairman McGarry: I think we do, do we?

Mr. Harrington: A motion for the Board chair to sign.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to have the chair sign the Personnel Action Request for Michael Blye as an on-call employee

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Selectwoman McHugh: All his paperwork and does he, does he have to have a physical, I don't know ...

Mr. Rollins: No, he wouldn't need a physical as far as license-wise is concerned. If the town requires it, that's up to them.

Mr. Harrington: The background checks still need to be done.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay. But that's all ready, that's all, it's all gone to ...

Mr. Harrington: No, it'll be gone after this is approved.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Vote: Yea 4 ~~Yea 5~~, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman McGarry: It's a vote of unanimous.

Selectman Dill: So, how did we do the other day? Everything, first storm of the year.

Mr. Rollins: Um, well other than the fact that I'm done two trucks, one town employee and I had two other trucks that didn't come in because they were broke down so we did okay.

Selectman Dill: The only complaint I got Steve was that you plowed one guy's road too often.

Mr. Rollins: Nice. That's a first.

Selectman Dill: I was going to call and tell you when I got that message. I thought that was interesting.

Mr. Rollins: That is a first. We were out, I don't know, twenty some odd hours and we only went out three times so you know, that there was a lot of hanging around, unfortunately which you know, just, it's hard. It makes it ...

Selectman Dill: Well, this guy was concerned. He thought he saw a plow on his road seven or eight times.

Mr. Rollins: Oh no, three times but it doesn't mean that, I don't know what road it was. It doesn't mean that trucks don't go over that road that are doing other roads.

Selectwoman McHugh: Or out and back.

Mr. Rollins: Right, which I think exactly was what was happening.

Chairman McGarry: Okay, thank you, Steve.

Mr. Rollins: Um, what about filling Carl's position? Any more thoughts on that or I just have to ask every time because I never get an answer.

Selectman Dill: I think we're still at the same answer.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Mr. Rollins: That you're discussing it.

Chairman McGarry: Right

Selectwoman McHugh: Why we got Mike to kind of help fill in, right?

Mr. Rollins: Okay. Thank you.

Selectman Barnes: You're on your way out?

Mr. Rollins: Excuse me?

Selectman Barnes: You're on your way out?

Mr. Rollins: Out?

Selectman Barnes: Heading out of the meeting?

Mr. Rollins: Yep.

Selectman Barnes: Before you go, Thurston Pond Road. Last I knew, Steve was going to go out and check that out. Did you have an opportunity?

Mr. Rollins: I have not yet. I will.

Selectman Barnes: Okay, just curious, thanks.

Selectman Dill: We're still hearing from the abutters so if you could check that.

Mr. Rollins: Okay.

Selectman Dill: I think it's got some snow on it now but good call.

Selectwoman McHugh: There was a water, what do you call it?

Selectman Dill: Water bar.

Selectwoman McHugh: Water bar you need to look at.

Mr. Rollins: Yep. Okay.

Selectman Barnes: It's my understanding that there's more than one now.

Mr. Rollins: More than one water bar?

Selectman Barnes: Yeah. Another three or four on the road.

Chairman McGarry and Selectman Dill: There was only one when I went out.

Chairman McGarry: I was out on Saturday.

Unless we had some extra work done between Saturday and today, there was only one.

Selectman Dill: If you could check it at some point, give us your opinion on it, Steve.

Mr. Rollins: I could give you my opinion right now but all right.

Chairman McGarry: All right. We have a Whittier Road two pole settings for Eversource.

Selectman Dill: That road probably has four poles.

Mr. Harrington: I can, I can, a little background on this. This has been going on for several months. The difference with most pole petitions and this one; Consolidated Communications is involved with it so once Eversource fills out their portion of the pole petition, it goes over to Consolidated and they haven't gotten it back yet.

So, I have a home owner that's calling me regularly as well as Eversource as to when is this going to be resolved.

They were able to provide a pole petition, excuse me, a pole location map which is really the functional part of the whole pole petition that allows the road agent to go out, take a look at where they're going to locate the poles and approve that they're going in the right place.

There's just not the additional paperwork that is going along with this but I talked to Eversource and that would help them out to move the project forward to get these poles put in.

Once Consolidated returns the formal pole petition documentation, I'll bring it to the Board and you sign it and finish up the documentation.

But Steve has already gone out and approved the location of both poles.

Selectwoman McHugh: So, we're waiting on Consolidated?

Mr. Harrington: Right and there's nothing Eversource can do. They've sent it to them quite a while ago.

Chairman McGarry: So, do we need a signature by the Board at this point?

Mr. Harrington: This would help move it forward so that Eversource could put the poles in and then once the pole petition documentation comes in, you'll see this whole thing again.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves that the Board approve the pole location and map

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Chairman McGarry: Vote is unanimous.

Selectman Dill: This kind of, it falls under our jurisdiction and it doesn't but it seems like the telephone companies here in town aren't doing much.

I mean, we've had poles that have been broken off that have, that the pole's been replaced and we've had the telephone apparatus hanging.

There's a family on 43 that's got, I don't know what the appropriate term is because I'm not a telephone person but there's something hanging right next to their driveway off the pole about eight feet up that they've called the phone company on and got no response.

You know, they're not doing much in the way of service here so I don't know if that's, like I said, it's not our purview but it is our purview because it's in town.

So, at some point, we're going to have to get after the phone company and you know...

Chairman McGarry: It really seems that way.

Selectman Dill: Yeah. They're holding up a lot of stuff and like I said, that thing hanging, if it was hanging in my driveway, I probably would have cut it down by now but they've been calling every number they can find and it's been hanging there for two weeks so it doesn't seem great.

Chairman McGarry: All right. We have, remember we had the easements from DOT before us? Well apparently, it was useful to go back to them and say we had a higher estimate on square foot value in town.

So, they came back and accepted the 60 cents a square foot that we had talked about.

Selectman Dill: So, it netted us how much extra?

Chairman McGarry: Let's see, when, one of them didn't net us any extra and on the other one it was, I don't know what the previous one, this one's \$920.00 now.

Selectman Dill: I think it went up like \$300.00 but still, \$300.00. Good job, Fred.

Selectwoman McHugh: Nice catch.

Selectman Dill: So, we have to do a motion now to ...

Chairman McGarry: A motion to have me sign on behalf of the town for both the easement deed and also this compensation.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to accept the number from DOT for the easements around Freese's Pond bridge and authorize the chair to sign for the Board

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Selectman Dill: That covers all the bases we need to cover, right?

Chairman McGarry: I think so.

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

Chairman McGarry: And it's a vote unanimous.

Mr. Harrington: Those previous prices were \$300.00 and \$570.00.

Selectman Dill: It was worth the time you put in.

And I assume that it helped the other abutter who also needed it. There was one there, was one of the private landowners that was getting that same bid so hopefully ...

Mr. Harrington: I don't know if they do the agreements individually.

Chairman McGarry: So, you'll sign as notary or ...

Mr. Harrington: I'll notarize those tomorrow.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

All right. Got those taken care of.

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Harrington: A couple items for you this evening.

First thing is I wanted to revisit the previously approved cloud server program that Steve Jamele and I had presented to the Board a couple of meetings ago.

There was an initial bid of \$1,000.00. That is slightly off. It's going to be more about \$1,500.00 for both servers. That gives us plenty of space for the near future for both of the servers.

He was told originally, \$1,000.00 for both but that wasn't quite accurate so we reduced the amount of space that we're purchasing which was way over what we needed but this is adequate enough for us and our needs right now so I just wanted to alert the Board that that price is \$1,500.00, not \$1,000.00.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectwoman McHugh: And this is just adequate now though where before we thought we were getting something that we wouldn't have been ...

Mr. Harrington: And I asked Steve that question and he said in the time he's been here twelve years, they have not gone over 500 gigabytes. I don't anticipate us using 750 gigabytes in the near future if it hasn't changed in twelve years and there's always the option to buy more at a later time. You're basically buying space.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: But this is well within our range and we still have quite a good size buffer before we max out.

I also wanted to mention you have your 2022 meeting calendar in there to review and if there's any questions, concerns or changes, let me know at the next meeting before I finalize it and post it.

Selectman Dill: Just an overall question on that.

Mr. Harrington: Yes?

Selectman Dill: And this isn't again to John, this is just to the Board. Do we need a meeting every week?

Mr. Harrington: It goes down to every other meeting in January. It only goes to every meeting starting in August once we get into budget time.

Selectman Dill: That's what I hate about SB2. I knew there was something.

Mr. Harrington: So, from January to the end of July...

Selectman Dill: Budget season starts way too early. That's the problem.

Mr. Harrington: January to the end of August it's every other meeting, I mean, every other week.

Selectman Dill: It just felt like we've been doing this ...

Mr. Harrington: This year was a lot of meetings.

Some good news. You've probably noticed in the accounts payable; Pete has been adding more and more vendors to our credit card purchases. We actually increased our credit limit in order to do that.

So far, starting from just May this year, we've already were able to accumulate \$3,025.00 in interest back to the town which be revenue going back into our accounts just from using credit cards to pay our vendors and so I anticipate that amount being higher next year when we've got a full year in. So, some good news.

That's it for me this evening.

Selectman Barnes: Is that interest or rewards from ...

Mr. Harrington: Reward credits, sorry.

Selectman Barnes: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: Sorry.

Selectman Barnes: I was just confused.

Unfinished Business:

Chairman McGarry: Unfinished business. Anybody have any questions for John?

Unfinished business. Draft warrant articles. We're just really waiting on these ...

Mr. Harrington: I'm going to leave that on there until we have that one for the police department trust fund.

Selectman Dill: So, that does bring up an MBC complaint that we haven't provided them draft warrant articles and I went round and round the other day with a member of the MBC and I told them I'd bring it up here.

Do we want to give them a list of what we've approved so far for them to look at or do we want to wait?

I don't see a problem giving them the list.

Chairman McGarry: I don't see one either.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah, let them get their job done as well so we can give them what we have.

Selectman Dill: So, if we can have that for tomorrow.

Mr. Harrington: We'll have it tomorrow.

Selectman Dill: I'll, you're not coming to tomorrow's meeting, are you?

Mr. Harrington: No.

Selectman Dill: I'll give it to them then.

Mr. Harrington: Okay.

Selectman Dill: And the same thing with the default budget, I assume.

Mr. Harrington: Well, there's three things that they typically get which are the warrant articles, the default budget and the revenue report so I can have all three ready for you tomorrow to give to them.

Selectman Dill: That would be great.

Mr. Harrington: Okay.

Selectman Dill: Because I have explained that we're waiting on one warrant article. I do think it's a little, there's no point in us holding all the other ones. We have that one that we're waiting on.

Chairman McGarry: I agree.

Selectwoman McHugh: Yeah.

Chairman McGarry: And deliberative voting sessions.

Selectman Dill: Dick asked us to push it back to this meeting.

Chairman McGarry: Okay.

Selectman Dill: Is Dick pushing it back to the next meeting?

Mr. Harrington: That is just where would the Board like to hold the voting. This is a question coming through me from the moderator.

Selectman Dill: I know Dick had asked to hold off until the fair board met again.

Selectman Barnes: The president's still here.

Selectman Dill: He's still here.

Mr. Harrington: See Donny, you stuck around.

Mr. Wyman: I may be speaking out of turn but to be really blunt, you know everything was hinging on our meeting tonight. Me personally, I don't see why we can't see like it was pretty receptive as far as I'm concerned with the director's board so I can ask that of Dick and see if we can get it across, see if we can do that. We don't normally like to do that kind of thing with email but if we can get it, I know you guys want that sooner than later.

Selectman Dill: The moderator does.

Mr. Harrington: He just wants to know if it can be a backup option should we need it.

Mr. Wyman: I would think it would probably be more than a backup option.

Mr. Harrington: If the numbers keep going the way they are.

Mr. Wyman: Well yeah, if they keep going south like they are now, yeah.

Again, you know, I think I was pretty plain in what I said. You know we have it if you need it. One hand washes the other you know. That's how that goes.

Selectman Dill: All right.

Chairman McGarry: Thank you, Don.

Selectman Dill: So, I think we'll hold off a bit.

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

New Business:

None

Other Business:

And I was going to, we do have a letter in our correspond or in our individual files here from Mr. Thompson. I do want to, did want to take and just provide a short description as to my visit out to the site which was, I believe it was on Saturday but I'm not 100 percent sure.

But I took a look at the water bar that's there. There's only one I had seen. It's immediately above the Adam's driveway.

The water bar appears to have been in place there to catch the water that's running down the middle of the road, not from the side. It's just running down the middle and kick it off to the north side of the road.

At one point, Mr., well I guess Mr. Thompson in his letter here was concerned about the water running onto his property.

The location where the water bar is, it's in what's referred to as a cut section of the road. You have embankments that go up on both sides so the road is below those embankments so it's impossible for the water to get onto Mr. Thompson's property because it has to stay within the road because it can't go uphill.

And it doesn't reach a point to get onto Mr. Thompson's property for about 175 feet further down the hill and that's the normal location of the direction where water would flow anyways.

Selectman Dill: So, this is, when I went out there, it would seem to me like this is going to prevent further erosion of that part of the road which is the point to a water bar.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Yeah, so I think Dwight had a good suggestion about bringing all parties in to discuss this with them. I don't know if we want to send out a letter to them asking them to come in to, probably not our next meeting but maybe the first meeting in January or something.

Mr. Harrington: And which parties would you want to invite in?

Chairman McGarry: Obviously Mr. Thompson, Mr. Adams and Denny ...

Selectman Barnes: And Steve, the road agent.

Chairman McGarry: And the road agent, too.

Selectman Barnes: My thought was to actually meet at the site so everybody can see it.

Selectman Dill: The only problem with that is there's a good chance it will all be covered in snow because this is a non-maintained part of the road so it's not going to be plowed.

Mr. Harrington: Do you want to have all abutters on Thurston Pond Road and Ridge Road in the meeting because the discussion may be more than just the water bar. It could be other items.

Selectman Dill: Personally, I think it's kind of got overblown.

Chairman McGarry: Well, that's kind of what my thought was too.

Selectman Dill: And I don't know if we really need a giant meeting to say that. That's my opinion.

I went out there and I saw a very simple water bar to prevent that road from getting washed out.

Selectwoman McHugh: And that's fine this time but next time, what are they going to do? Do they know ...

Selectman Dill: There is a maintenance agreement on the road, though.

Selectwoman McHugh: But they have to contact the road agent.

Selectman Dill: Agreed.

Chairman McGarry: John, you were going to check with legal to see if that agreement that was prepared in '94, whether that goes for perpetuity or whether that is ...

Mr. Harrington: I did check with counsel and he confirmed that there is a statute that I believe I passed onto the Board that gives the Board ultimate authority for all road repairs, the Board and or their road agent and supersedes an agreement.

They have an agreement to do the maintenance and hold the town harmless, however, they still would need permission before they do any work on the road.

Selectman Dill: But in your question, Fred, the way I read that agreement was that it stayed with the property regardless of owner.

Mr. Harrington: That stays with the property.

Chairman McGarry: What I did want to mention too, which I failed to that Mr. Thompson just describes this as being a trench. It's probably measuring from the bottom of the water bar to the top of the little berm that they've created, it is probably between six and eight inches.

I was able to drive over it with my car. I don't have a pick-up truck so it was just the car and I was able to drive back over it without getting stuck so it's not a moat, so to speak.

Selectman Barnes: Well, my thought was to get together at the site but Alden you're right about the weather. Maybe this is something that we could put off to the spring and you know, take a little field trip and get out there and ...

Chairman McGarry: Yeah, we can do that.

Selectman Barnes: You know, I mean, just so everybody knows we're not shoving, pushing it under the rug. We're just going to take a look at it when the weather's better and try to keep any more letters from flying around.

Selectwoman McHugh: Well, does Mr. Thompson just want us to, I'm not sure what he wants us, to educate them on what they can and cannot do? Is that what he's ...

Selectman Barnes: Well, not sure but it seems as though they felt like they did everything just exactly how they should have been doing it and in my opinion is different from that.

Selectman Dill: I think we're getting dragged into two neighbors fighting and ...

Selectman Barnes: Could well be but I mean, the agreement says it's, the work's got to be done under the supervisor and control of the road agent so that's how it should be done and the road agent didn't know anything about it. The Board of Selectmen didn't know anything about it and it says in the Class VI statutes that, you know, that it's supposed to actually happen in writing to the Board of Selectmen when people to work like that so I don't think they followed that agreement quite honestly and you know they certainly should be held to it going forward.

Chairman McGarry: My thought was to have John send out a letter quoting the statute and saying any further, any new work to be done on the road would require approval from the Board of Selectmen or the road agent and I guess probably to anybody whose an abutter to the road ...

Selectman Dill: That's what I was just about to suggest Fred. Not just the two people we're talking to but the, you know, everybody on the Class VI road.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Dill: Maybe we want to throw Ridge Road Extension in on there, too.

Chairman McGarry: Yes.

Selectwoman McHugh: Any of the roads.

Selectman Dill: Well, we have a ton of Class VI roads. We just have these two that have been issues.

Selectwoman McHugh: For now.

Mr. Harrington: You'll have me busy until June.

So, letters to abutters on Thurston Pond and Ridge Road?

Chairman McGarry: Yeah.

Selectman Dill: That seems to be the crux of our issue lately are those two roads.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

And then just citing the statute and that any future work would require notification to the Board of Selectmen and or the road agent.

Selectman Dill: We were all out there not long ago as a Board as well for the dam issue.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

All right. Anything else?

Selectman Barnes: Yes.

Chairman McGarry: Dwight.

Selectman Barnes: We received information about a situation on South Road.

Chairman McGarry: Oh, yes.

Selectman Barnes: So, I was just wondering where that is at?

Mr. Harrington: Rick and I discussed it before he left on vacation. He was going to contact town counsel and get advice on the next step to contact that resident.

Selectman Barnes: Okay.

Just as a question of procedure here. When people reach out to the Board of Selectmen for issues and we, you know since I've been here there have been a few, is there a specific policy as to how we respond to those things?

Chairman McGarry: I guess depending upon what the item is. If it's a zoning or code enforcement or whatever, we can then direct it to the building inspector.

Selectman Barnes: Okay. Well, I'm thinking about that one on Ridge Road with the stone wall and the salt getting on the grass.

Just for an example, that information, I think we had for a couple of weeks before we talked about it. My question then was does somebody reach out? I mean, it's addressed to the Board of Selectmen. I'm just thinking out loud here that perhaps John should ...

Mr. Harrington: Typically, when I get an email or a letter from someone, I reach out to them saying that I've forwarded the letter on or the email on to the Board of Selectmen as soon as I get it.

Selectman Barnes: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: So, I close that loop so they know I've received it.

Selectman Barnes: Okay. All right. That was one of the questions I had.

Mr. Harrington: And then depending on what the Board would like me to do, if they want me to respond further, then I will do that.

Selectman Barnes: Okay.

Mr. Harrington: But I usually acknowledge that I've received it and it's being forwarded.

Selectman Barnes: Good. Okay. All right and you know, perhaps in the future, that things like that come through, somebody on the Board of Selectmen also may, might be nice if they reached out to the people and just say hey, we've got the information. Thanks for sending it in and this is how we're going to approach it.

We're going to talk about it next Monday or we're going to send somebody out. Just so people know that we're listening. That's all.

Chairman McGarry: Right.

Selectman Barnes: That's all I have. Thank you.

Chairman McGarry: All right.

Selectman Dill: I did just text with my master scheduler. I'm not around that Wednesday.

Chairman McGarry: Okay

Selectman Dill: Be with it as it may.

Selectman Barnes: Does he still have to do his homework?

Chairman McGarry: He still has to do his homework.

Selectwoman McHugh: I just have a question about job descriptions.

We need to update our job descriptions, correct? Is that something we could give to the department heads and give them a project to do and then we can review them or somebody can review them?

Chairman McGarry: As far as the department heads?

Selectwoman McHugh: Job descriptions.

Chairman McGarry: Wiring up what their description is or ...

Selectwoman McHugh: Not just them, but the people that work under them?

Mr. Harrington: Are you talking about for the alternative duty that Denny was talking about?

Selectwoman McHugh: Just job descriptions in general.

Mr. Harrington: Some of them are newer than others. Unless somebody has moved out of the position, it's not typically reviewed. We are going to be going through the entire town anyway because Primex, our insurance carrier, it's part of their process that we have to include alternative job descriptions for someone that comes in that's been injured.

Rather than them taking full time off, there's alternative duty that can be assigned to someone if it's possible so we're going to be reviewing them all anyway.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

But the Joint Loss Management Committee is reviewing them, right?

Mr. Harrington: Well, Human Resources, which is me. I'll be pulling them all out and with the department heads help, making sure they're current to what the job is requiring them to do then they'll be passed onto the Joint Loss.

Selectwoman McHugh: Okay.

Chairman McGarry: Any further discussion?

Citizen's Comments:

None

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to adjourn at 6:45 pm

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

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

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 27, 2021 at 5:30 pm

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

*Submitted, as corrected and approved by Board on 12.29.21 by
John Harrington*