



SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

June 16, 2020

ATTENDANCE: Selectman Brian Robischeau, Selectman Rick Surette, Selectman Rich Zacher, Marilou MacLean, Laurie Champy, Ed Comeau

A moment of silence was held in honor of the passing of two of Brookfield's residents, Fred Cann & Charlie Cotton.

- **Approval of Minutes:**

MOTION: Selectman Robischeau motioned to accept the minutes from May 26, 2020 as drafted. Selectman Surette seconded, all in favor, motion carries.

- **Old Business:** Selectman Robischeau will be contacting the Road Agent for an update on road project planning.

A letter was issued in response to remaining hazardous waste located at a recent logging site. The letter stated the Town will be contacting DES if debris removal is not complete by 8/15.

Selectman Surette stated Pepperill Cove is no longer interested in contracting with the Town to make the necessary repairs to the bridge on Moose Mountain Road. He suggested placing an ad for a Request for Proposal in the Foster's Daily Democrat and a local paper to reach an audience that may be interested in performing this work.

MOTION: Selectman Surette motioned to put out a notice for acceptance of Proposals. Selectman Robischeau seconded, all in favor, motion carries.

Selectman Surette agrees to draft the notice and supply to the two newspapers tomorrow morning.

The Selectmen discussed the possibility of reopening the Town Office building for public entry. The Town Clerk wishes to keep her office closed to the public and continue conducting business in the same manner that she has been. A decision will need to be made in the near future on any change in operations. The building is currently noticed to be closed to public access until 07/01.

- **New Business:** There have been multiple requests received from home owners to reduce the speed limit on certain roads in Town.

Selectman Surette reported that he has done some research on RSA's pertaining to rural speed limits. Generally, the speed limit on a rural road is 35mph, but there are some conditions that warrant exception. Exceptions however, are subject to a road speed study. Selectman Surette stated he will reach out at the State and local level for further information.

Unrelated to the requests, Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) provided notice that they will be placing traffic counting devices in Town.

The residents of Drew Farm Road have expressed desire for the Town to be responsible for the maintenance of the road. The Selectmen are waiting to hear if they will deed the road to the Town. The road is reported to be in good condition. There was discussion as to the process involved with possibly acquiring the road. A Warrant Article would need to be voted on by the Townspeople for acceptance of the road. The Selectmen wish for this to be a Petition Warrant Article and presented by the requesters as this was the method used previously for a similar situation. Selectman Zacher will provide notice to them regarding the Warrant Article process.

The Selectmen requested that Laurie reach out for annual propane supply Proposals.

The State of New Hampshire has made available \$50 million for the expansion of high speed internet to unserved areas of the state under the CONNECTING NEW HAMPSHIRE EMERGENCY BROADBAND EXPANSION PROGRAM. We have communicated with both Consolidated Communications and Spectrum urging them to use these funds to increase the broadband coverage in Brookfield.

The Town of Wakefield Water District is replacing the water lines from the 1930's. The total project cost is expected to be \$4.2M. The Wakefield Water District is requesting that Brookfield apply for a \$500,000 Grant to aid in funding this project. They have supplied the grant application. The Selectmen are awaiting answers regarding legality of distributing funds across town lines. If this is acceptable, and the Grant is awarded, a Public Hearing would need to be scheduled in order to accept the funding. No decisions made.

- **Treasurer:** Marilou MacLean provided copies of the Operating Budget complete through the end of May.

Marilou MacLean presented 3 manifests for approval in the amounts of \$9,053.82 for tonight, and \$158,488.68 & \$11,902.29 from the previous meeting.

MOTION: Selectman Zacher motioned to approve the 3 manifests presented tonight for approval. Selectman Surette seconded, all in favor, motion carries.

- **Tax Collector:** Per Marilou, the Tax Collector has made 2 deposits in the amounts of \$73,797.50 & \$94,055.62.
- **Moderator:** Bill Marsh provided a drive through voting option for the selectmen to review and consider. There is concern for staffing availability if elections are to be held in the traditional manner.

- **Planning Board:** Selectman Surette stated they will be meeting next month. He reported all seats are full with the exception of one. They will be completing the Master Plan and will be looking at the potential for senior housing and making provisions for it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.

The next regular Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2020, at 6:30pm, in the Town Office Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Champy
Administrative Assistant