

**Select Board Meeting
Monday, May 10, 2021
6:00 p.m. via Zoon**

Present for the Selectboard: Bob Armstrong, Chair; Erica Goleman, Phil Kantor

Others Present: Mike Goetchius, Eversource, Gerry and Jiyana LeBlanc, Devlin Selman, Véronique Blanchard, Mary McClintock, Tom Newman, Open View Farm (two representatives), Priscilla Lynch, Ross Perry, Interim Town Administrator; Louise Beckett, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Minutes	<p>Bob called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.</p> <p><i>Approval of minutes of April 26, 2021 and May 3, 2021</i></p> <p>On a motion from Bob to approve the minutes of April 26, Erica seconded and Phil said aye, Bob said aye and Erica said aye.</p> <p>On a motion from Bob to approve the minutes of May 3, 2021 Phil seconded and Bob said aye, Erica said aye and Phil said aye.</p>
Warrants	<p>On a motion from Bob to approve the Vendor warrant for \$126,221.36, the Payroll warrant for \$115,209.02 and the Payroll deduction warrant for \$28,726.08 Erica seconded, Bob said aye, Phil said aye and Erica said aye.</p>
<i>Meetings Attended by Select Board Members</i>	<p>Erica, Phil and Bob all attended the Contract negotiations with Veronique Blanchard. Phil also attended a frontier school committee meeting and Bob also met with Kimberly MacPhee and signed the grant proposal to be submitted for climate remediation.</p>
<i>Public Comments</i>	<p>none</p>
<i>Old Business</i>	<p>At 6:10 Bob re-opened the public hearing regarding Pole 32-94M on Main Poland Road. The new pole is needed to host a transformer as the current pole is rated for 10 KBA and needs to go up to 25 KBA. To concerns voiced about the impact of the new pole on the neighborhood, the response was that the new pole is essentially the same as the one that's there now, the difference being that it will have a higher rating. There will be no LEDs. Eversource can't turn the generator off until the connections are made with the new pole to turn on the array. On a motion from Bob to sign the pole contract Erica seconded, Phil said aye, Erica said aye and Bob said aye. The hearing was then closed.</p>
<i>New Business</i>	<p>PFAS, which is reported to be cancer causing, is leaching into our drinking water. Mass DEP has offered to meet with the town during the week of May 16 as testing needs to occur in June. On a motion from Bob to agree to meet with Mass DEP on May 21st, Erica seconded, Phil said aye, Bob said aye and Erica said aye.</p>
MassDEP Free PFAS testing for selected private wells in Conway	
Sign contract with new Town Administrator	<p>On a motion from Bob to sign the three-year contract with Veronique Blanchard for the position of Town Administrator Erica seconded, Phil said aye, Bob said aye and Erica said aye..</p>

Vote to authorize FRCOG and in some cases the Highway Superintendent to bid and sign contract documents on the Town's behalf.

FRCOG does our regional purchasing and the idea is to authorize them to go after contracts on Conway's behalf. Depending on nature of the contract, some would be signed by FRCOG and some by the highway superintendent. On a motion from Bob to approve FRCOG and Ron Sweet to sign contracts, Phil seconded, Erica said aye, Bob said aye and Phil said aye.

Discuss and vote opt-out options for mosquito spraying.

Discussion: The town can only opt of the SRMCB spraying program if it has an alternative plan. Education of residents is a key-piece of any such plan and it would be reviewed by the Board of Health. A comment was made that there's a problem with spraying while we are trying to work on the pollinator project in town. To opt out, we need to have a public hearing and a certified copy of the vote.

Award Germain Scholarships

There were 10 applicants and and it was suggested that the available funds should be divided equally among the 10 applicants. Past policy has been to only spend the interest. On a motion from Bob to award \$950 to each of the 10 applicants, Erica seconded, and Phil said aye, Bob said aye and Erica said aye.

none

Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting

Town Administrator update

- The Town Clerk has ordered the electronic voting 'clickers' that the Board approved at a previous meeting.
- Met with Veronique last week in her role as Board of Health to go COVID precautions for Town Meeting. Our plans, including seating plans seem to be in sync.
- Speaking of ATM seating plans, it looks like the Gym will hold about 120 people, seated in pairs 6ft a part. Any overflow will be in the hallway from the lobby to the Art room, again seating in pairs 6ft a part. This arrangement should accommodate ~160 people.
- Chris from FCAT and I have talked and plan to meet at the School sometime in the next week or so to go over audio requirements for both the Gym and hallway.
- Alan Singer and I have also talked and proposed a meeting with the Fin Com and Capital Committees to go over the content of a brief Town financial condition at the ATM.
- To speed up office processes, is the Board OK with using your electronic signature to sign documents? Louise will always ask your permission before using the electronic version.
- Veronique and I plan on informal sessions each week to help her 'ease into' the transition process.
- I asked Michael the Account about this year's revenue compared to last year and if there are any major changes due to COVID-19. To date total general fund revenue is down about 7% from last year at this time however, that may be due to the Town sending out the second real estate bills later this year than due to COVID-19. At this time, he doesn't see any major

problems with cash flow. Apparently, the Town really lowered revenue projections in the local estimated receipts and State Aid. He believes this will keep the Town in the black.

none

Select Board member
comments and concerns

A letter was received from Carolyn Ness regarding the final covid vaccination clinic at the former Channing Bete location in South Deerfield. People were encouraged to sign up if they haven't yet had the vaccination.

Mail

None

Announcements

May 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Next Meeting:

On a motion from Bob to adjourn the meeting, Erica seconded, Phil said aye, Bob said aye and Erica said aye.

Adjourn