

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: February 14, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Doug Haskins, Selectman/Finance Committee
Bruce Cullett, Selectman/Chief of Police
James Welch, Town Administrator
Terry Walker, Administrative Assistant
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent
Darryl Darby, Board of Health

Public Attendance: Dale Weeks

Item 1: Call to order: 6:00 P.M.

Item 2: Roll Call: Chairman Leach absent, Selectman Haskins Present, Selectman Cullett present

Item 3: State Recording status: no

Item 4: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Selectman Cullett

Item 5: Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 02/07/2022: Haskins stated no changes to the 2/7/2022 minutes will motion to approve minutes when Leach is present. Hold

Item 6: Updates from Departments:

Highway Superintendent, Russell mentioned that MassWorks bids are out, and the bid opening will be March 22, 2022 and March 29, 2022.

Russell questioned if it is possible to purchase a toolbox for the F350 with ARPA funds. The Board instructed Russell to make a list of everything he needs for the F350 and total cost of all items. Including radio, plow, undercoat, spray bedliner etc. It was agreed that new sander will be purchased next year. The sander needs to be in next year's budget for Annual Town Meeting and brought before the Finance Committee. Russell will get quotes for different sanders. Russell will also be going to Finance Committee for a new rotary mower. Both the sander and rotary mower will be FY23 budget items.

Darryl Darby, Board of Health questioned what steps must be taken to eliminate Hogweed in town. Darby asked if the state is responsible to take care of the Hogweed or will the town hire a contractor to treat and kill the Hogweed. The state has already treated one side of the road. Selectman Cullett will contact the state requesting a list of contractors to destroy Hogweed. This will be a onetime expenditure on FY23 budget. Darby mentioned that he is leaving on March 4, 2022, and he would like to attend a Finance Committee budget meeting prior to leaving town. Darby questioned if there are well regulations in the in the Town of Peru. He stated that Title V regulates septic systems but does not regulate wells. Darby mentioned that the Board of Health will be level funded for FY23 unless the Hogweed issue is part of BOH budget. Darby also mentioned that the mask mandate may end March 14th.

Jim Welch, Town Administrator will attend a school committee zoom meeting on Thursday, February 17th. Jim also mentioned that the budgets from several departments have arrived.

Public Records Request, Brian Maser, KPLaw told Jim Welch, TA to wait and get the answer form the Department of Public Records in Boston. If the town must act on the request, KP law will assist the town.

Item 7: Discussion and possible vote on securing town offices:

Amy Davidson talked to Selectboard about securing the Assessor's office and it was decided to wait until a full Selectboard is present.

All offices are ADA accessible right now and may be non-compliant with ADA guidelines if new filing cabinets and doors are installed in Assessor's Office. Hold till next week

Item 8: Discussion and possible vote on Highway Department policy for DOT physicals:

Haskins mentioned last week, he has a problem with the town paying for the DOT physicals. Haskins felt the employee should pay when it is a requirement for the job. Cullett mentioned that every two years the cost is \$85.00 per physical for 3 men. Cullett stated there is no benefit saving \$300.00 and putting the cost on the shoulders of highway guys. This has been taken care of by the town for years. Dale Weeks mentioned that towns are struggling to keep people working for the highway departments. Weeks felt that \$300.00 is a little thing for the town to keep good help and take care of their employees. Haskins motion for the town to pay for highway employees DOT physicals, Cullett second, 2-0

Item 9: Discussion and possible vote on Highway Dept. 1994 International 2500 4x4 surplus property:

Cullett motion for the 1994 International plus wing and tires that goes with the truck as surplus property, Haskins second, 2-0

Item 10: Discussion and possible vote on Highway Dept. 2001 Swenson V Box Sand/Salt spreader surplus property.

Cullett motion for the 2001 Swenson V Box Sand/Salt spreader as surplus property, Haskins second, 2-0

Item 11: Discussion and possible vote to confirm the 2022 Town Election Date and to set the 2022 Town Meeting date.

Motion by Cullett Annual Town Meeting will be Saturday, June 4, 2022 in the p.m.

Town Election June 11, 2022, times to be determined. Haskins second, 2-0

Item 12: Public Input: N/A

Item 13: Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrant: N/A

March 3, 2022 joint meeting Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen.

Item 14: Adjourn: Cullett made motion to adjourn the 2/14/2022 BOS Meeting, Haskins second, Vote 2-0. The 2/14/2022 BOS Meeting adjourned at 6:44 P.M.

Articles used:

Minutes 2/7/2022

Respectfully Submitted

Terry L. Walker

Administrative Assistant

Verne Leach, Chairman

Doug Haskins, Selectman

Doug Haskins

Bruce Cullett, Selectman

Bruce Cullett

Date Approved:

3-2-22