

**Town of Readsboro
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
September 20, 2017**

Selectboard Present: Helyn Strom-Henriksen, David Marchegiani, Jim Franzinelli
Others present: Rebecca Stone, Debbie Calnan, Erik Marcus, Al Scaia, Mitchell Holland, John Pitts, Janet McLelland, Rhonda Smith, and Normajeane Marchegiani

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Additions/Deletions:

Add: Readsboro Sidewalk Project: Discussion & Action
Change (C) under New Business to read just 91 School Street – Discussion & Action

Approval of Agenda:

Helyn moved to accept the Agenda as amended. Jim seconded. So voted.

Reading & Approval of Records:

Jim moved to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of September 6, 2017, as corrected.
Helyn seconded. So voted.

Fiscal Matters:**A) Review of Budget Status Report**

Checking balance	\$ 635,376.00
Owed to school FY 2016-2017	\$963,638.72
Water Account	\$69,188.53
Sewer Account	\$62,706.2
General Fund Balance	\$ (328,262.72)

Selectboard Administrative Report:**A) Updates**

Helyn informed the Selectboard members that she received an email from Gig Zboray about listing meetings in the Community Calendar at a cost of \$11.00. The Selectboard agreed to do this and instructed Rebecca Stone to contact Amber Holland to send a check to them in that amount. David received a communication from the school PTG about making a donation to put a sign out by the bandstand. He stated that a grant is no longer available.

Helyn read the report of the Department of Public Works:

The department has been working for the last two weeks on the Grant in Aid Project, changing culverts, sloping banks and digging ditches. The project is expected to be completed by the end of September. They are scraping roads and using chloride trying to keep the dust down and slow erosion and wash boarding on the hills. The back hoe was down for a couple of days due to an electrical problem but is working now. They are finished mowing for the season. The tractor is currently out of service and is being repaired at Hudson River Tractor. The hydraulic motor is being replaced. The 1999 and 2005 Internationals are no longer part of the fleet.

B) Report of Town Administrator:

None

Old Business:

None

New Business:**A) Readsboro Sidewalk Project: Discussion & Action**

Rebecca Stone, Town Administrator, reported that the engineering company, Dufresne Group, Consulting Engineers, redesigned the sidewalks so that the project can move forward. The engineering company also submitted Amendment #1 to the contract for the Selectboard's signatures. The contract cost has gone up \$4,500 for various reasons. Rebecca gave the Selectboard a timeline from now until the work is expected to be completed in 2018.

Helyn moved to sign the Dufresne Group's, Consulting Engineers, Amendment #1. Jim Seconded. So voted.

B) Parking Permit for Always Emma's – Discussion & Action

The original request was submitted 6 months ago and approved for that period. Carrie and Richie Codogni, owners of Always Emma's, are requesting that it be approved for another year.

Helyn moved to extend the parking permit for Always Emma's until November 2018. Jim seconded. So voted.

C) Historical Society Building Repairs – Discussion & Action

Al Scaia reported that it has been a great year for the Historical Society with two standing-room-only events. He thanked the Selectboard for their support throughout the year. Mitchell Holland addressed the renovations and changes they would like to do to the building. They are requesting no more than \$2,200 to pay for the work.

David moved to allow the Historical Society up to \$2,500 in repairs in FY 2018. Helyn seconded. Jim abstained due to conflict of interest. So voted.

D) 91 School Street – Discussion & Action

New England Animal Protection representative John Pitts described their organization to the Selectboard. They are a non-profit organization that helps animals with no-kill shelters. They are looking for a place in the area for their people to stay when necessary. No animals will be kept at the property. They have a group of investors who help them as well as a bank check for \$25,000 to invest into the purchase of the building. The organization is aware of the many renovations that the building needs. The organization is asking the Selectboard to forgive the back water bill. The property has \$11,302 plus interest in back taxes. This would need to go to the BCA for consideration. Helyn asked Mr. Pitts to put this information in writing and send it to the Selectboard along with their business card.

Erik Marcus, a private citizen, spoke to the Selectboard about his desire to purchase 91 School Street. He has viewed the property inside and is aware that some of the building needs a lot of work. He plans to either rebuild them or remove them. He is asking that the water bill and taxes be forgiven. Mr. Marcus will contact Ted Hopkins, Delinquent Tax Collector, about the back taxes.

The Selectboard has a third party interested in the property as well. They will take all offers into consideration and revisit this item at the next meeting in two weeks.

Hearing of Visitors:

Normajeane Marchegiani, Utility Clerk, presented the Selectboard with the new contract for Windham Solid Waste. She printed copies for the board members so that they could review it.

Fiscal Matters:

Board reviewed mail & signed warrants.

Helyn moved to adjourn at 8:00.m. Jim seconded. So voted. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Calnan, Selectboard Clerk
September 20, 2017

UNAPPROVED