

Town of Readsboro
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
November 1, 2017

Selectboard Present: Helyn Strom-Henriksen, Jim Franzinelli. David Marchegiani arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Others present: Greg Chittenden, Normajeane Marchegiani, Al Scaia, Rhonda Smith, Rebecca Stone

Call to Order:

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

Agenda Additions/Deletions:

None.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Reading & Approval of Records:

Jim moved to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of October 18, 2017, as amended. Helyn seconded. So voted.

Fiscal Matters:

A) Review of Budget Status Report

Checking balance	\$ 464,345.04
Owed to school FY 2016-2017	\$763,638.72
Water Account	\$66,961.81
Sewer Account	\$63,463.84
General Fund Balance	\$ (299,293.68)

The Selectboard reviewed the Budget Status Report.

Selectboard Administrative Report:

A) Updates

Helyn reported that the Selectboard received an email from the broker for the 91 School Street property requesting that the utility fees be reduced to zero. The Selectboard was not in favor of changing their October 18th vote which was to reduce the utility fees by 50%. The Town Administrator will contact the broker accordingly.

DPW Report – the DPW staff has been busy hauling gravel, scraping roads, blowing leaves, and cutting trees and limbs on Branch Hill. The 2018 International truck came in last week. All equipment is up and running and the DPW will now be focusing on the upcoming winter season. The wind/rain storm of October 29-30th brought 4” of rain and high winds to Readsboro with minimal damage.

Report of Town Administrator (TA):

- Rain/Wind Storm Event of 10/29-10/30/17 - Vermont State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) held situational briefings every day this week via conference calls. The TA reported receiving outreach from Windham Regional Commission (WRC) office requesting

a situational report in follow up to the storm. The TA coordinated a response with the DPW Superintendent and participated in the SEOC conference calls and provided an update to the WRC. Readsboro experienced minimal erosion and downed trees, utilizing our local DPW staff, with no additional resources needed. The SEOC reported 5 state roads still closed with power outages down to approximately 36,000 as of 10/31; many town road crews credit their proactive approach to storms of this nature by performing ditch/culvert cleaning (especially this time of year with leaves) prior to the storm with overtime; keeping overtime at a minimum, rather than having to deal with larger amounts of overtime post storm

- The Department of Public Service is holding public meetings in preparation for the 2017 Vermont Telecommunications Plan by gathering input about telecommunications priorities. A member of our Broadband & Cell Committee is attending the session in Dover on November 1st
- The Windham Regional Commission has received funding to assist three towns with the development of town plan energy elements that are consistent with the provisions of Act 174. A condition of the funding requires that towns have a completed draft energy element by August 2018. Letters of interest must be submitted to WRC by November 17th
- Environmental Due Diligence in Property Transactions – Windham Brownfields Reuse Initiative and the Brattleboro Brownfields Program is hosting a workshop to discuss the importance of environmental site assessments and offer resources that will assist in the redevelopment of properties on November 17th in Brattleboro
- The University of New Hampshire is conducting an ecological assessment of the West Branch of the Deerfield River on November 1st
- Riverbank Stabilization Project – the TA received several requests for information from the DHCD grants management office related to the project and responses have been issued
- Deerfield Windmill Project – Readsboro officials met with various representatives last week and reviewed the upcoming payment schedule. The project is anticipating a commercial operations date in December 2017
- Statewide Parcel Mapping Project – the TA expects the State to announce which company has been assigned to work with Readsboro within the next two weeks
- Upcoming Selectboard Meetings:
 - Selectboard Agenda(s)
 - The TA reminded the Selectboard that they need to set a Public Hearing date based on the September 5, 2017 letter of recommendations received from the Planning Commission regarding the petition they received to repeal the Zoning Bylaws. The Selectboard will discuss setting a date at their November 15th Selectboard meeting

Old Business:

None

New Business:

A) Offer for Alpenwald Lots – Discussion & Action

An offer has been received for two (2) lots in Alpenwald. Helyn made a motion to accept the offer of Lot #19 in Section 1 of Alpenwald for \$1,000.00 from Michael Stetson. Jim seconded. So voted. Helyn made a motion to accept the offer for Lot #20 in Section 1 of Alpenwald for \$800.00 from Michael Stetson. Jim seconded. So voted.

B) Changing Over to Winter Roads – Discussion & Action

Helyn made a motion to change over to Winter roads effective October 29, 2017. Jim seconded. So voted.

C) WSWMD Memorandum of Understanding for Containers at Transfer Station - Discussion & Action

Jim made a motion to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Windham Solid Waste Management District for use of the District's surplus recycling roll off containers at the Readsboro Transfer Station. Helyn seconded. So voted.

D) Temporary Transfer Station Operator Position - Discussion & Action

The Selectboard has received applications for the temporary Transfer Station Operator position. Interviews will be scheduled the week of November 6th.

Hearing of Visitors:

Al Scaia, President of the Historical Society let the Selectboard know about the progress they are making with the upgrades to the Historical Society building. Al also shared photos. Everyone agreed that they are very pleased with the progress.

Rhonda Smith asked if the pumpkins that are near the flower barrels and bandstand area could be disposed of. The Selectboard asked the Town Administrator to follow up with the DPW Superintendent.

Everyone at the meeting remarked about how beautiful the flower barrels were this year and thanked Rhonda for her efforts.

Fiscal Matters:

Board reviewed mail & signed warrants.

Jim moved to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Helyn seconded. So voted. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Stone, Town Administrator
November 1, 2017
Approved: November 15, 2017