

SELECTMEN MEETING

7:00 pm VIA ZOOM

Tuesday February 8, 2021

ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN Lacy Badeau, Jon Beekman, Nathaniel Sparling, Toby Pond and Brian Holman

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE George Boff, Joseph Young, Michael Carlson, Timothy Pepper, William Pepper, Dean Pepper, George Joseph, Brent St. Clair, Ellie Andrews, Roberta Manter, and Joe Stevenson

PLEDGE Stated

PUBLIC COMMENTS Tim Pepper expressed concerns regarding the Selectmen's decision to post the public roads maintained by the Town. A 20 minute discussion ensued regarding Mr. Pepper's concern. Roberta Manter for 5 minutes of the expressed concern regarding the road she lives on and need for winter maintenance by anyone that can help them including the Town. Fayette Fire Chief Marty Maxwell asked for an update regarding broadband and then presented a need for a new or used air compressor to fill the new air packs that were purchased by the Town last year. Marty estimated the cost is between \$5,000 to \$6,000 and was looking for the ok from Selectmen to use the carry over monies the department has been able to keep in the operational budget each year. The BOS decided to take it up under new business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

TOWN MANAGER REPORT The Budget Committee had the opportunity to meet last Thursday. Each Committee member accepted assignments for sections of the municipal budget and will engage more of the public and department leaders in the budget process. We have had two storm events the last one of most significance and we had 2 fewer staff to address the storms correctly and adequately. Mark accepted this as his personal responsibility and a failure to secure enough manpower to do the job.

Old Business None

New Business

22-12 Friends of Starling Hall Board Appointment Motion was made to appoint Jon Beekman and Brian Holman as Alternate when Jon is not available made by Toby Pond did not proceed with lack of a second. Joe Young pointed out that it needs to be one and only one Selectmen on the Board. Toby amended his motion to appoint Jon Beekman to the Friends of Starling Hall seconded by Brian Holman Vote 5 in favor 0 opposed.

22-13 Municipal Wage Scale Jon Beekman asked to acquire the MMA salary survey and to consider the use of the ARPA funds. Lacy reviewed the scales provided by Livermore and Jay and suggested the use of ARPA funding aswell. Lacy stated the importance of maintaining the workforce and staff that we currently have because of the expense to hire and replace them. No other discussion or action was taken by the Board.

22-14 Truck Sander –Tabled to next Meeting

22-15 Town Meeting Timeline- The discussion was to have an in-person Annual Town Meeting on June 14th, 2022 at 6 p.m.

The process begins when the BOS receives the 1st Draft of the 2022-23 budget on March 8th, A joint meeting will be held between the BOS and Budget Committee March 22nd,

Both will meet with the School Committee on April 5th for a school budget workshop, The BOS will review draft municipal warrant articles for Annual Town Meeting April 19th, and approve those articles on May 4th, the School Committee and BOS will have a public hearing on the budgets May 17th, and School will finalize its articles on May 24th joint meeting may be required that night. May 25th the Warrant is posted for Town Meeting to be held on June 14, 2022.

Jon Beekman made a motion to hold Annual Town Meeting on June 14th, 2022 at 6 p.m. and if necessary reconvene on June 16th, 2022 at 6 p.m. seconded by Brian Holman Vote 5 in favor 0 opposed

Mark informed the BOS that the Referendum Vote for Broadband date selected at a previous meeting will not work and a different date will need to be chosen. Mark suggested the April vacation week as the special referendum date.

22-16 Return to in-person meetings

Jon Beekman stated he made the request and asked the Board to consider the use of Starling Hall as the location. Lacy expressed concerns about the use of Starling whereas there is not ADA compliant accessibility. Brian stated he could go either way and keep in mind the last time we met at the school we were all exposed. Toby asked if there were ADA access issues at the Hall. Lacy stated that we have better participation rates in Zoom. Toby asked about the ADA issue and Jon confirmed that there is no access currently. Ellie concurred that Zoom has been very good for participation. Jon stated that he had limited accessibility to these meetings which has been denied several times. Toby asked that we try to get the technology needed to allow for both in person and on-line. Lacy asked that Mark investigate how both ZOOM and whether or not in-person meetings can take place at the School. Tabled for next meeting.

22-17 Warrants

Motion to approve Town and School Accounts payable/payroll warrants #16 to be signed at the Town Office by Brian Holman seconded by Jon Beekman

Jon inquired about the payment to Purdy Powers and Lacy \$451K payment to RSU 38 for tuition.

Vote 5 in Favor 0 opposed.

22-18 Minutes Tabled

22-19 Selectmen Comments

Brian Holman pointed out that the roads are getting more narrow and need to be pushed back. Toby stated that although we were short-handed for public works crew why were the on call back-ups not called in? Mark responded that he underestimated the severity of the storm and hoped that the 3 employees that did respond could keep the roads opened adequately. Clearly that was a mistake and it created an embarrassing outcome particularly on Russell Road. The Town's people have come to expect a far better response from public works than what took place on what turned out to be the largest snow storm of the year. Lacy suggested that a substitute driver text process be created. Toby thinks that would be a great facebook post on the Town's facebook. There were issues on other roads as well after 10 am on the Friday morning and roads were not touched into the evening commuter traffic time period. Nathaniel Sparling stated that he turned off of 17 on the Fayette Corner Road and there was 4 to 5 inches of snow in the road and he almost did not make it home. Jon Beekman stated it was the first time he had ever gotten calls about snow removal on Echo Lake Road. Tim Pepper commented on the Boards response as it relates to their decision on posted roads as it related to this discussion and other things that burdened the Selectmen. Lacy stated that this issue is not going away. Toby stated that he understands Tim's frustration and pointed out that he drove the entire Town to see the status and it was not just his road that needed attention. Toby asked Mark if we had a plow wing for the grader Mark responded that he would confirm. Jon Beekman asked the trash hauler Ryan Galouche attend a Board of Selectmen meeting so that we may approve him to haul to the Readfield Transfer Station. Mark stated he would line it up. Lacy would still like the Library attend a Board of Selectmen meeting. Toby sent the Board an e-mail from a new hire at the KSO spouse is a grant writer and researching and sent an e-mail out earlier today

22-19A Fire Department Request Jon authorize the Fayette Fire Department to expend up to \$6,000 to purchase a used air compressor to fill their airpacs seconded by Toby Pond

Toby asked Marty if we pay Readfield to fill air pacs. Marty stated Readfield no longer have the capability we have to go to Winthrop or Livermore Falls. Nathaniel Sparling stated as a Fireman the last thing you want to do after fighting a fire is drive 10 miles to fill air tanks. Marty stated that there is no opportunity with grants therefore they are searching for a good used compressor. They have the bottles and filling station now they need to compressor. Brian asked if Marty had a compressor to buy or is he still shopping. Marty said he is still shopping. Brian asked if we still allow 5 thousand Jon stated the motion was for up to \$6,000

Vote 5 in favor 0 opposed

Brent St. Clair expressed concern about the wood boiler at the school. Mark stated that there was no staff. Brent stated that he asked about this a couple of months ago.

Ellie Andrews stated that Superintendent Tara Morin has submitted for another new bus.

22-20 Executive Session Regarding contractual matters and property interest. Mark asked the Board to include Joe Young and Michael Carlson. Motion made by Jon Beekman to go into executive session including Joe Young and Michael Carlson to the executive session.

Vote to enter at 9:02 p.m. 5 in favor 0 opposed

Exit at 10:22 pm

Jon Beekman made a motion for a Special Town Meeting April 19, 2022 seconded by Nathaniel Sparling
Vote 5 in favor 0 opposed.

Adjournment

Jon Beekman motions to adjourn seconded by Brian Holman VOTE: 5-0 10:25 p.m.