

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD/SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2020

A conference call number and access code were provided to the public, should anyone have wanted to attend the meeting via electronic format.

Draft

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Lynne Bertram, Chair

Present: Norman (Nope) Martin, Brian Bontrager, Vicky Young and Nancy Robinson

Visitors: Allan Stein, VT Standard Reporter (conference call)

Additions/Changes to agenda: Extend waiver of dog license late fee until May 28, 2020. Board approved. Brian gave a brief update of the removal of the fuel tank at the school building. Tank was found to have a couple of holes. Report and mediation plan are being worked on and will be submitted to town when complete.

Brian moved to accept the minutes of March 24, 2020 as written, Lynne seconded the motion and motion carried.

Nope moved to accept the minutes of the Implementation Grant hearing on March 24, 2020. Lynne seconded the motion and motion carried.

Visitors: None

Highway Report: Jeff not present at meeting - the following was reported via Nope and Nancy: currently grading and fixing roads from mud season. Every road in town has been graded at least once. Jeff has inquired about changing from a five-day work week to a 4-day. Board had discussed this issue last summer when hiring new employees, crew would work normal 5-day week. Board members in agreement to keep 5-day work week. Nancy has been following up with COVID-19 executive orders regarding essential workers in regards to highway crews and grant projects.

At present, highway crews can continue with spring/mud season work, construction projects may be opened up in the near future providing that safety precautions are adhered to. Jeff and Nancy had a phone conference with Michael Blakslee from VTRANS regarding annual paperwork and grant projects. Town received a paving grant last year which is in works for this summer. Jeff and Nope will look at culvert projects and decide if a grant may be feasible.

Treasurer's File: Current warrants # 23, 24 & 25 were approved (e-ck #'s 18749-18777 and ck #'s 2506-2509). The March payroll warrant was also approved. A current budget status report was given to the board for review.

Clerk's File: A liquor license was approved and signed for Back Behind Saloon, excess weight permits were signed for Feeney's Property, Hutch Crane, Roni Johnson Landscaping, Mosher Exc., Romano Trucking and Wind River Environmental. May meeting schedule was discussed, only one meeting which will be on the 19th due to current COVID-19 situation.

Old business: Nancy gave a brief update to the board regarding COVID-19 and its impact on the town to date. Fire Department and Fast Squad have not had or seen any increase of calls. Thompson Sr. Center is continuing to provide Meals on Wheels for area citizens, connecting with via phone calls. Nancy speaks with a representative from the Senior Center weekly.

April 21, 2020 minutes cont.

A couple of Bridgewater families have had food and/or supply deliveries by trained personnel from the Senior Center. Lynne mentioned a new funding source; Woodstock Area Relief Fund that can be used by all residents in the Windsor Central Supervisory School District. The fund is supported by private donations. Residents are currently eligible for one-time funds of up to \$1,000 to assist with household needs that arise due to COVID-19. Applications are available online at www.woodstockarearelieffund.org.

New business: The Selectboard signed a contract with TRORC to assist with updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Town has received a grant from the State to defray the cost of revising the plan in the amount of \$7,612.50. Contract was for \$10,150., town will pay 25% match of \$2,537.50.

Lynne signed the annual Local Emergency Operating Plan (LEOP) which will be submitted to FEMA. This helps the town qualify for 75% reimbursements from federal disasters.

Discussion of Governor's Executive Order allowing Property Maintenance and some contractors to go back to work. Town's contractors can begin maintenance work on the town cemeteries, lawns and recreation field.

Nope mentioned that the driveway to the play area at the recreation field needs material. Town will supply a load of hardpac and Martin Exc. will fix drive when doing field maintenance work.

Will hold off on putting up tennis net and ordering port-a-potty until after the May 15th. safe home order is re-evaluated.

Nancy has been working on the on-line fire station bond application which has to be completed and submitted by May 1st. Should be completed by first of next week, Lynne would like to see the application before it is submitted. May be a good time to get financing since interest rates are low.

Green Up Day has been re-scheduled from May 2nd to May 30th., 50th year anniversary. Nancy is checking with Greg Jenne to is if he still wants to co-ordinate Bridgewater's Green Up Day.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Robinson

Nancy Robinson,
Clerk