

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, December 10, 2018
Town Office Building

Attending: T. Fydenkevez, D. Pierce, S. Bergeron, S. Patch
Others: S. Ball, S. Triolo, M. Zinan, T. Jones, E. Yokubaitis, C. Griffin, G. Emery

Meeting called to order at 6:07PM.

MINUTES

Motion Mr. Pierce to Accept the Minutes of November 19, 2018, Second Mr. Bergeron, Vote 3-0.

UPDATES

- Mr. Bergeron reported Frontier Teacher and IC negotiations will be in session through February.
- Mr. Fydenkevez gave an update regarding SCEMS and search for a new ambulance vehicle.
- Upcoming BoO/SCSC meeting tomorrow.
- Reminder to folks that there are Council on Aging vacancies in town which consists of approximately 3-4 meetings per year for anyone interested.
- The orange sock that is around town hall, etc. is delineating the park project as work has begun.

TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER RETIREMENT

Mr. Bergeron Motion to accept the retirement notification from Susan Warriner, Tax Collector Treasurer effective March 29, 2019.

LICENSE RENEWALS

Motion Mr. Bergeron to approve remaining licenses for 2019 renewal, Second Mr. Pierce, Vote 3-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

- Special Town Meeting Warrant is open
- Free Cash has been certified
- Next steps for Tax Collector/Treasurer retirement.

TOWN DITCHES

Discussion continued from a couple of weeks ago regarding the status of town ditches, beaver problems and flooding. Conservation Commission (ConCom) was asked to attend to answer questions as well as the Board of Health (BOH) Agent and Highway Superintendent.

Mr. Griffin, ConCom Chair noted the ditches have a history in town for at least the last 30 years during his time on ConCom. Several studies have been conducted as well as a master's study by a UMASS student. The high rain this fall has caused problems. The town does not have equipment and regulations in place as well as the properties involved are privately owned property. Mr. Griffin further noted wetland regulations allow farmers to maintain their property ditches. Guidelines to guide farms, except activity. Farms have the right to maintain. A farmer's neighbor with residential property however must get permit and so does the town. It was again noted this has been the second heaviest rainfall on record and contributing to the debris, grass clippings, etc. which is impeding the flow. ConCom would be happy to work with landowners to facilitate. Culvert standards are by Army Corp of Engineers which requires the culvert pipe to go under the road. Mr. Bergeron suggested the 2006 town NOI and Collen Report be used to update and resubmit further noting there are about 100 landowners involved in the study. Mr. Zinan asked why the town should clean ditches on private property due to water being pumped since July. Suggests it shouldn't be a town fix and noted areas are sitting on aquifer and five streams and beaver concerns. S. Ball said the BOH can issue 10-day emergency permit if beavers are affecting public health but it is the responsibility of the

homeowner. Mr. Fydenkevez discussed forming a committee to explore easements, costs, legal liability. All of which will require effort. Mr. Zinan said easements should be listed at the registry to deeds for the property but requires research. Establish a committee and charge. Attendees expressed interest for work with other town officials.

Mr. Bergeron Motion to adjourn at 7:40PM, Second Mr. Pierce, Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sherry Patch", with a stylized, flowing script.

Sherry Patch
Town Administrator