

SUNDERLAND SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Place: Town Offices, 12 School Street

January 9, 2023

Attending: T. Fydenkevez, C. Drake-Tremblay, N. Waring, G. Kravitz

Others: G. Emery-Highway Superintendent, C. Larabee-Reporter

Meeting: Hybrid: in person with portions recorded by FCAT

Meeting called to order at 6:36PM

MINUTES

Mr. Waring motion to accept MINUTES OF 12/12/2022 and 12/19/2022, Ms. Drake-Tremblay second, vote 3-0.

BUSINESS

- **CULVERT UPDATE:** Mr. Emery discussed the recent CULVERT ASSESSMENT conducted by the FRCOG. Most culverts are in good shape, some need varying attention, i.e., Garage Rd (culvert #266), N. Silver Ln. (culvert #272), Grybko Cross Rd (culverts #62 & 63), Old Amherst Rd (culvert #135), Mt. Cross Rd (culvert #252), and Russell St (culvert #162). Overall, 82% were in good condition, 9% in fair condition, 4% were poor condition, and 4% were in critical condition. Some may need to be increased in size and some may need new manhole covers. There are 412 culverts in town and none are state highway responsibility. The FCROG reported the town's culverts were in exceptional condition overall which is a testament to the work by George and his crew over the last ten (10) years. Mr. Fydenkevez thank George and staff. Mr. Fydenkevez asked that the culvert report be put on the website.
- **MOWING CONTRACT UPDATE:** The current contract is due for renewal for year 3 this calendar year. The vendor has requested an increase due to escalated fuel costs and the extra work needed at the new Early Childhood Playground which cannot accommodate a large mower and must all be done manually which takes more time. A 10% increase of \$1,518.98 is requested which would raise the contract cost for this year from \$15,189 to \$16,708. There have been no complaints regarding this current vendor's work compared to prior companies who have provided mowing services. Ms. Drake-Tremblay motion to increase Mowing contract by \$1,518.98 for total 2023 cost of \$16,708, Mr. Waring second, vote 3-0.
- **POLE HEARING REQUEST** from EVERSOURCE for underground wire updates at Ferry Rd. and Hadley Rd. After brief review, Mr. Fydenkevez requested Eversource provide conduit large enough to accommodate future repairs. Pole Hearing date set for 01/30/2023 which will be advertised and notification to Eversource.
- **DONATION ACCEPTANCE:** the town received a generous anonymous donation with purpose of application for smaller infrastructure needs for roads, sewers, building, at the discretion of the town. Ms. Drake-Tremblay motion to accept donation for development of INFRASTRUCTURE GIFT FUND, Mr. Waring second, Vote 3-0. Mr. Kravitz preparing a POLICY for use of fund's intended purpose.
- **SIDEWALK** status discussion for Plumtree Rd. from Rt. 116 to N. Plain Rd. All utility poles are on the same side of the street in that section. Remainder of Plumtree's utility poles are alternating on both sides to Rt. 47.
- **FY24 CAPITAL REQUEST** – First look requests received for:
 - HWY – Truck Lease yr. 7 & final payment - \$27,206.28
 - HWY – Single Axle Dump Truck - \$275,000; 2023 models not available, 2024 requires getting on the wait list.
 - HWY – vibratory roller & trailer for road patching - \$33,000. Equipment is in high demand and not able to borrow from other towns when needed.
 - LIBRARY – Geo-Thermal heat-pump replacements-yearly replacement program- \$14,500.
 - LIBRARY – Carpet replacement \$37,000. Children's Rm replaced FY23 was higher priority.
 - POLICE – Floor cleanings & sealing - \$3,000. Has not been done in several years.
 - FIRE – Upgrade HVAC @ PSC - \$200,000; possibly eligible for Green Communities grant?

- TOB – front steps replacement \$40,000
 - TOB – floor refinishing \$50,000 – does not include moving offices/furniture out.
 - SES – Exterior Rim Band completion - \$9,750.
 - SES – Oil Tank Replacement \$195,000
 - SES - Library Minisplit \$11,000
- ARPA: PSC Facade previous quote didn't include prevailing wage. Another quote from the company doing the sign for \$1,500, did include prevailing wage quoted \$4,096.30 for a total of \$5,600.11. Request to award façade repairs and sign at the PSC to HALE SIGNS. Ms. Drake Tremblay motion to award ARPA funds in the amount of \$5,600.11 for façade and sign work at the PSC to HALE SGNS, Mr. Waring second vote 3-0.
 - RIVERSIDE PARK: Riverside Restroom project lowest bidder was Eastern General Contractors for \$101,880 includes Alternate 1 for sensor faucets and Alternate 2 for a drinking fountain. Ms. Drake-Tremblay motion to award RIVERSIDE RESTROOM PROJECT AND ALTERNATES 1 & 2 to lowest bidder Eastern General Contractors for \$101,880, Mr. Waring second, vote 3-0.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

- Ms. Drake-Tremblay noted attending a PERSONNEL COMMITTEE meeting prior to this meeting.
- Mr. Waring requested is there was ARPA funds available to financially SUPPORT SOME OF THE SPORTS TEAMS who were not able to fund their programs during COVID due to no tournaments, fundraisers, etc. and secondly, REQUEST FUNDS TO REPLACE THE SCOREBOARD AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL which is not in working order and is quite old. It was recommended Mr. Waring talk to the Rec Coordinator regarding scoreboard needs and cost.
- Mr. Fydenkevez attended a SCEMS MEETING where they presented their final budget. SCSC reports double the participation over last year. Services and activities are being offered in all three towns but they need a permanent home of their own. Congregational Church in Deerfield will be evaluated. Current rented spaces cost \$2800/mo. for 2 locations. SCSC budget was voted.
- Mr. Fydenkevez announced the passing of Martha (Marti) Barrett. Mrs. Barrett was principal at SES, co-principal at Frontier Regional and then Superintendent for Frontier/Union 38 School District. She always made the job look easy and worked with the towns and staff effortlessly. It is difficult to live, raise a family and work in the town you live in which she did well. Marti always had the best interests for her students, highly regarded by her staff and dearly loved by her family. She was a calm and great leader in all of her roles she took on. A moment of silence was taken to reflect on the legacy Marti left with our children and towns as she will be greatly missed.

TA UPDATES:

- Welcome 2023!
- Monday, January 16th, Town Offices closed. Will be attending Jury Duty Wednesday and then attending the MMA Annual Conference next Thursday & Friday.

Next Selectboard meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Drake-Tremblay motion to adjourn, Mr. Waring second, vote 3-0 at 7:31PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoff Kravitz,
Town Administrator