

Selectboard Minutes
Monday, November 4, 2019

Attending: D. Pierce, S. Bergeron, T. Fydenkevez
Others Present: Board of Assessors, Teresa Foster, Assessor Admin. Assistant
Meeting recorded and televised by FCAT.
Meeting called to order at 600PM.

APPOINTMENTS

6:00PM. Tax Classification Hearing. Public Hearing legal notice was posted in the Greenfield Recorder. Discussion regarding a split tax rate. Mr. Fydenkevez motion for a single tax rate, as opposed to a tiered rate. Mr. Bergeron second for discussion, Vote 3-0. Mr. Bergeron request to entertain a motion for setting the tax rate at \$15.44 per \$1,000. Mr. Pierce motion to accept the recommendation, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0. Recommended tax rate will be submitted to the state for approval. Mr. Bergeron requested motion to close the hearing, Mr. Pierce Motion, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.

MINUTES - Mr. Fydenkevez motion to approve Minutes of 10/21/19, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
Mr. Pierce motion to approve Minutes of 10/28/19, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

- Mr. Pierce: PERSONNEL COMMITTEE met last week and reviewed all candidates submitted. An additional application was received and will be reviewed. Five candidates have been recommended for the Board and last candidate will be reviewed and may be recommended.
- TOWN ADMINISTRATOR HIRING: recommendations from Personnel Committee will be forwarded to the Board. The Board would like to begin scheduling public interviews within the next couple of weeks. Each board member to submit 3-4 questions for the interviews.
- Mr. Bergeron: 120 N MAIN and VILLAGE CENTER COMMITTEES met recently. 120 N. MAIN assessments by the architects who want to tour the house. RDI is preparing applications for upcoming state funding for the first round. If missed then second round opportunity would be pursued, bearing in mind, each delay increases costs of the project.
- VILLAGE CENTER working group met the same night. Discussions involved rotary, plantings, school street signage, how much can the final product of N Main be similar to the existing or current product of S. Main for continuity.
- FRONTIER CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE was held. Another meeting expected in a couple of weeks with Chief Procurement Office from the FRCOG. Regional District wants to use a Procurement Officer from the FRCOG because they don't have that expertise available to them for capital work and purchasing services. Mr. Fydenkevez asked if the intent of a Project Manager and Contract Manager would be available depending on the project, sometimes not necessarily the best way to oversee a project.
- FIRE DEPARTMENT – The Fire Chief notified the board that Tim, Josh and John graduated Sunday from the Fire-fighting Academy. Their commitment entailed 240 hours of class-time and is the same schooling as career-path firefighters. The volunteers took this classwork on their town time for the betterment of their commitment to the town. The Chief has been asked if the 3 graduates could attend a board meeting to congratulate and introduce them to the town.
- FIRE TRUCK UPDATE: Near final inspection time and should be heading east to integrate into the Sunderland Fire Department soon. The bond was signed last meeting for a 5-year loan.
- Community was given an award from STAVROS for the accessibility of needs for the Riverside Park. Thank you to Stavros and the group that worked on that project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jessica Skibiski addressed the Board regarding the 4 main projects going on in the center of town. How is the board ensuring all of these committees are talking to each other rather than just the public hearings. Mr. Fydenkevez noted 120 N. Main Street project is based on getting funding and are at the minimum of 1-2 years of breaking ground. N.

Main Street project is supposed to be in the 2020-2021 cycle and most likely will start sooner than the 120 N. Main project. The rotatory is not in the que yet, although the state has sent out letters that surveyors will be on-sight. Any change in the intersection is several years out. With the major construction with the Rt 9 rotary and ramps will set any action in Sunderland back several years. There is a lot of work to be done before they can proceed with any work in town. Mr. Fydenkevez said the board was notified that a left turn arrow will be added for north-bound on 47 before the first of the year. Timing of the lights is still ongoing. Traffic heading west on Rt. 116 is consistently backed up to the Goten from 3:30-5:30PM daily. The Board feels timing sequencing still needs to be evaluated. Light timing was suggested similar to Hadley Rt 9 & Rt 47 location, but we have not heard back from MassDOT. Point taken from Ms. Skibiski to coordinate all projects, but overlap is covered by committee membership on all committees involved. Timeline demonstration can be formulated. Follow-up with CHA on deliverables. Request John Morgan project a timeline, from RDI and MassDOT District 2 as well and the other project is the town responsibility. New Town Administrator will play a role in the coordination as well.

CORRESPONDENCE

- SCHOOL STREET SIGNAGE and COMPLETE STREETS fund approvals. \$5902 in Complete Streets fund available and the other fund is Transportation. \$800 is being requested for design and transportation fund would be for fabrication of three sign. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to allow expenditure to use \$800 for design and fund for fabrication of signs, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- HIGHWAY MIIA REWARDS GRANT APPLICATION for helmet and head protection communication for highway projects. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to approve grant application for helmets and chain saw protection communication systems, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- \$6,000 approval to use Chapter 90 funds from MassDOT. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to move forward, with acquiring speed limit signs as allowed. Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- Grant award of \$182,534.86 for a series of energy reduction measures at SES, Town Office Building, Library and Public Safety Complex. Signature requested so purchase order can allow for equipment purchase. Sunderland is a Green Community which allows the ability to be considered for the state grants. This is the town's 3rd Green Communities award which has allowed the town to benefit as a whole on many levels. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to authorize this purchase order, by signature, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- Notified by Police Union that the tri-annual negotiation period is nearing, and they would like to set up dates to begin the process. Mr. Bergeron would like to express concern proceeding without a Town Administrator. It is important to have that person in the negotiations for the board and with the Chief. Request letter be sent to Office Scoble to delay negotiations until a Town Administrator is in place. It was noted that last 3 contracts have not been represented by Town Counsel, however the board would like to wait unless the union see a need to start now. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to sign letter to union, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- Board's next meeting on November 12, 2019 due to the holiday on November 11th.

Mr. Pierce motion to adjourn at 7:32PM, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy Bennett
Administrative Assistant