

Sunderland Selectboard Minutes
Monday, February 24, 2020

Attending: D. Pierce, S. Bergeron, T. Fydenkevez, G. Kravitz

Others present: E. Crowe, F. Mozea, Katherine Hand-Library Director, Library Trustee Members, Peter Gagarin
Meeting recorded and televised by FCAT.

Meeting called to order at 6:37PM.

APPOINTMENT

BUDGET HEARING: SUNDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. Director, Katherine Hand gave presentation of Library budget and capital request items which includes ADA door opener replacement, community room acoustic paneling, and HVAC heat pump replacement. Ms. Hand reported on a record-breaking year for use of services. Also noted is an increase in operating expenses and requested salary increases. Special upcoming programs: Autism spectrum programs and sensory books & toys to be made available through a federal grant received. Quiet time and social story programs are being introduced as well. Children's author who specializes in bringing characters to life representing autism and other abilities. Staff training has been made available to learn about working with diverse population of customers which has been realized through a need. Partnering with neighboring libraries with mindfulness programs for the next 7 weeks.

MINUTES

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to accept minutes of 02/10/2020, Mr. Piece second, vote 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Highway Superintendent request for an additional \$10,000 for SNOW AND ICE WAGES. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to approve, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

- Mr. Pierce announced Personnel Committee meeting tomorrow night.
- Mr. Fydenkevez announced Early Voting started today and is available until noon, Friday 02/28/2020. Super Tuesday Primary Voting will be Tuesday March 3rd at the Sunderland Public Library.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

- Met with FRCOG personnel last Friday and was introduced to all services and programs. While there, was information of eligibility for Housing Choice Community status. FRCOG will pursue requirements.
- Closed out COMMUNITY COMPACT IT GRANT and have received confirmation of project closure. Mr. Bergeron suggested a letter to the Baker/Polito Administration noting all Community Compact program awards received which were executed by the town and express appreciation for the opportunities. Mr. Fydenkevez recommends including local legislators as well.
- **HEAT PUMPS FOR THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.** We have until end of March to get incentive. Mr. Bergeron would like more specifics. Must also decide in order to participate in the oil competitive bid which will be due soon. Consideration of amount of oil bid to commit if heat pumps/mini splits are going to be pursued. Mr. Pierce motion to proceed with Mini Splits offer through Eversource, Mr. Fydenkevez, 2nd, Vote 3-0.
- **CHARGE FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE** – review and vote next meeting.
- Mr. Fydenkevez requested a letter be written to MassDOT regarding the new apartments going in on Rt 116 and related traffic pattern for clarification. There are community concerns regarding lighting, traffic patterns, traffic flow, traffic lanes and signage, etc. Intersections effected are Plumtree Road, East Plumtree Road, the entrance to the complex. Request to write letter first requesting matters be reviewed and addressed by MassDOT. Concern also involves the number of cars estimated originally estimated to be utilizing the area versus now with the renting of "beds" and no longer "apartments" which the Board believes will be a lot more than originally projected. Umass Parking Office noted that only 27% of off-

campus students request on-campus parking; then consider the number of bus ridership, getting off buses and it is important to review pedestrian direction.

- One-day Liquor License draft update. Board will review.

NEW BUSINESS

- DELTA SAND & GRAVEL PUBLIC WEIGHER APPOINTMENTS for 1-year effective April 1, 2020 – see attached list. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to appoint as presented, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- March 9th – PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEWER SEPTAGE RATES increase for the Wastewater Treatment Plant will take place at 7PM in the Town Offices. The hearing is for those sewer users which includes businesses and homeowners on the system.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gagarin asked the board if they have an overall sense of the what the budget is going to look like. Mr. Bergeron noted waiting on house budget and free-cash certification. Mr. Gagarin asked about the percentage of revenue expected from the new complex. Assessors could only assess on what is complete and will include personal property when the time comes. They are being assessed partially for this fiscal year and will be assessed completely next fiscal year.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pierce motion to adjourn at 8:34PM, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoff Kravitz

Town Administrator