

Sunderland Selectboard Minutes

Monday, April 6, 2020

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

Others present: C. Rock, P. Gragarin, Police Chief E. Demetropoulos, W. Houle, G. Gottschalk, C. Bennett

Meeting via Zoom recorded and televised by FCAT.

Meeting called to order at 6:37PM.

MINUTES

Mr. Pierce motion to approve minutes of March 30, 2020, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

Mr. Bergeron updated the Selectboard on a COVID-19 call with Representative Blais that included representatives from Whately, Sunderland, Deerfield, and Conway.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

The canoes being stored at the boat ramp have been removed. Preparations are being created for potential Emergency Dispensing Sites in Sunderland. A new law was passed that provides flexibility for towns during COVID-19.

BUSINESS

COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY UPDATE: Ms. Rock stated that the Board of Health has recommended closing the playground, swings, and basketball courts at Sunderland Elementary to the public. Other areas, such as walking paths would remain open for groups of fewer than 10 people who adhere to social distancing. Mr. Pierce motion to close to the public the playground, swings, and basketball court at Sunderland Elementary until the Board of Health determines it is safe to reopen, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0. Ms. Rock also noted that the town received \$3,500 from the state Department of Public Health to pay for the Public Health Nurse expenses related to COVID-19 and additional money is available. There is no indication of a significant increase in Franklin County, but numbers continue to go up. Residents should wear masks in public, not gather in groups of ten or more people, remain six feet away from others, wash hands, clean surfaces, look out for neighbors, and be mindful of mental and emotional wellbeing, as well as physical health. Chief Demetropoulos stated that the community was generally complying with the guidance and stay-at-home advisory and was very supportive of first responders.

FY21 BUDGET: Department heads were informed to expect a decrease in revenues for FY21 and to limit expenditures for the remainder of FY21. Schools and departments were asked to revisit they FY21 budget requests in consideration of the likely negative affect of COVID-19 on revenues. The town must be realistic in its financial planning during this difficult time.

FUEL BID CONTRACT: Mr. Kravitz recommended entering into a fuel purchase contract with Sprague Oil, as recommended by the Lower Pioneer Valley Education Collaborative, and to purchase 6,500 of fuel. Mr. Pierce motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator and enter into the contract, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

ANNUAL ELECTION WARRANT: Mr. Bergeron reviewed the Annual Election Warrant and explained that the Election Warrant was split from the Annual Town Meeting Warrant because of the change of date to Saturday, June 6, 2020. Mr. Pierce motion to repost the Annual Town Election Warrant, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to adjourn at 7:25 PM, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator