

Sunderland Selectboard Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

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

Others present: P. Gagarin, Police Chief E. Demetropoulos, L. Smith, C. Bennett, A. Flabel, K. McFarland

Meeting via Zoom recorded and televised by FCAT.

Meeting called to order at 6:37PM.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

Mr. Fydenkevez stated that the Senior Center was serving more than 140 meals per week. The Frontier Emergency Dispensing Site group discussed COVID-19 testing and flu vaccines and the ability to administer them locally. State and federal elected officials play a key role in educating and advocating for residents. Mr. Pierce stated that the Personnel Committee met and standing by its wage adjustment recommendations, but may amend them if the financial situation changes. A discussion about the FY20 budget and cost savings measures followed. Mr. Pierce motion to draft a letter to the schools seeking an update on FY20 spending, cost savings, new costs, and areas of impact, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

BUSINESS

COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY UPDATE: Ms. Rock explained the process for contact tracing and encouraged residents to respond to questions when contacted to help the effort. Mr. Fydenkevez noted that the Senior Center was working on a sample journal to help people keep track of those they've been in contact with. Ms. Smith noted the delivery of masks that were being tested to ensure sufficient filtration.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT: The Town Administrator stated that there were two additional pending warrant articles; one to take necessary actions for the purchase of land to protect the drinking water supply and the other to use CPA funds for an emergency rental assistance program for income-eligible residents. The Town Administrator to provide draft warrant articles and a revised Annual Town Meeting calendar at the next meeting.

MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGGREGATION: Mr. Falbel reviewed the timeline and plan for the 13 municipality energy aggregation, noting that it meets RPS standards, which equals the renewable percentages offered by Eversource, the procurement is split to get the best rates, and at this time it is unknown what the Eversource rates will be put prices will likely to be lower than what Eversource offers. The purpose is to decrease energy costs of residents and increase the amount of renewable energy sources used. The Energy Committee recommends joining the other 12 towns, agree to the schedule and plan, and include an opt-in provision with a higher renewable portfolio than the base rate. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to agree to plan and continue the process, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

MINUTES

Mr. Pierce motion to approve minutes of April 13, 2020, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pierce motion to adjourn at 7:36 PM, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Kravitz". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "G" and a cursive "Kravitz".

Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator