

Sunderland Selectboard Minutes
Monday, December 7, 2020

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

Others present: Chief Benjamin, Chief Demetropoulos, C. Bennett, L. Smith, J. Pelletier, T. Sackrey, K. McFarland

Meeting via Zoom recorded by FCAT.

Meeting called to order at 6:36PM.

MINUTES

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to approve Selectboard minutes of November 30, 2020, Mr. Bergeron second, vote 3-0.

BUSINESS

ICE SKATING AT RIVERSIDE PARK: Ms. Sackrey stated that it has been several years since there was an ice rink and that, especially this year, providing a free, local, healthy activity during the winter would be good for the community. The Fire Department has offered to help flood the area near the volleyball court behind 12 School Street. Volunteers will help set up and take down the rink, and a liner has been donated. The Board of Health will be consulted regarding signage.

RADIO UPGRADES: The Town Administrator gave a brief overview of the regional transformation to digital, 800Mhz radios. Chief Demetropoulos stated that the region would be joining the statewide COMIRS system with better radios and a better system. The state awarded a grant that will significantly reduce the cost of the equipment. Sunderland applied for a Community Compact IT grant for the remainder of the cost, but was not awarded funds. The Chiefs anticipate that it will cost approximately \$75,000 in equipment upgrades. Mr. Fydenkevez noted that doing nothing is not an option because the town depends on the county system and once the switch is made, the radios will no longer work with the county system. Chief Benjamin noted that repeaters will be necessary for 100% coverage as there are some spots that the radios won't work.

LICENSE RENEWALS: Mr. Bergeron motion to approve the slate of license renewals as presented, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY: Ms. Smith stated that there was 1 new positive and 3 close contacts on December 2, 2 new positive cases and 2 close contacts on December 3, 1 new positive on December 4, and 2 new positives on December 7. She noted that free community testing is available at UMass beginning December 14. Information is available on the Town's COVID-19 webpage.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: The Selectboard reviewed the Personnel Committee's recommended changes to the Board of Assessors Administrative Assistant Job Description. Mr. Bergeron motion to approve the updated job description, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

Mr. Fydenkevez noted that 79 years ago today Pearl Harbor was attacked. Mr. Bergeron stated that the Town and Police Union came to an agreement on COLAs for FY21, which is the same as for non-union personnel, and thanked the union for the fact-based negotiations. Mr. Bergeron motion to sign the MOA regarding police officer COLAs, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0. Mr. Pierce stated that the Personnel Committee is scheduled to meet on 12/15.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

The Town Administrator noted that Senator Comerford was holding a virtual town hall session on Tuesday, December 8 at 5pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to enter executive session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) paragraph 7: To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, Mr. Bergeron second - Mr. Bergeron: aye, Mr. Fydenkevez: aye, Mr. Pierce: aye.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bergeron motion to adjourn at 7:37 PM, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G Kravitz', with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator