

Sunderland Selectboard  
Monday, May 17, 2021

Attending: T. Fydenkevez, D. Pierce, C. Drake-Tremblay, G. Kravitz  
Others present: L. Smith, P. Gagarin, J. Pelletier, S. Triolo, K. McFarland, K. Gorey, C. Craig, G. Gottschalk  
Meeting via Zoom recorded by FCAT.  
Meeting called to order at 6:40PM.

### BUSINESS

COVID-19 UPDATE: Ms. Smith stated that the next state report would likely only show 1 case in Sunderland. The last case reported was May 5. She reported that the vaccination percentages for Sunderland were positive. Mr. Fydenkevez noted that the clinic on 5/16 at Tree House went well and thanked the volunteers.

MOSQUITO CONTROL: Mr. Craig, Director of the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD) presented information about the organization. PVMCD members receive weekly mosquito surveillance from June through October. In the future, they hope to offer more services. The cost to join for a year is \$5,000, which includes the surveillance. Mr. Fydenkevez asked how the state determines whether to conduct aerial spraying. Mr. Craig responded that if the Department of Public Health determines there is a threat of arbovirus and it appears that the threat is worsening. 2019 was the worst year for EEE, which resulted in aerial spraying in parts of central and western Mass. The advantage of joining the PVMCD is that they can provide early warning to the Board of Health as well as offer guidance and recommendations. Mr. Pierce asked about the cost of spraying and Mr. Craig responded that it would depend on the area being sprayed, but likely not more than several thousand dollars. The work of the PVMCD would provide mapping of mosquito habitats so control efforts, if necessary, could be targeted. Surveillance traps are rotated to different areas weekly. Ms. Drake-Tremblay asked if the end of year report includes locations. It does. Many communities are interested in opting out of the state mosquito control program. Mr. Craig noted that while aerial spraying was unlikely, it is possible. Ms. Triolo asked what would improve the opt out application. Mr. Craig stated that there was limited guidance from the state, but at a minimum there needed to be a public education component. Mr. Fydenkevez stated his preference to join the PVMCD for at least one year to evaluate the benefits of being a member. Ms. Drake-Tremblay asked what information the state has about mosquitos and how the town can get the same data.

APPOINTMENT OF HIGHWAY SEASONAL LABORER: Mr. Pierce motion to appoint Connor Waitkus as highway seasonal laborer, Ms. Drake-Tremblay second, vote 3-0.

SELECTBOARD COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Pierce motion to make the following appointments:

Ms. Drake-Tremblay to the Housing Committee, 120 North Main Street Committee, Village Center Committee, Personnel Committee, and Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team;

Mr. Fydenkevez to the South County EMS Board of Oversight, Community Preservation Committee, South County Senior Center Board of Oversight, Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team, and alternate on the 120 North Main Street Committee;

Mr. Pierce to the Economic Development Committee, Capital Improvement Committee, Teacher Union 38 and Instructional Assistants Rep, Sunderland Ditch Committee, and Sunderland Emergency Preparedness Team.

Ms. Drake-Tremblay second, vote 3-0.

BUDGET & WARRANT REVIEW: The Town Administrator presented the recommendations of the Capital Planning Committee for the FY22 capital budget. Based on the availability of funds, the Capital Planning Committee recommended \$53,066.34 of the \$75,000 requested for the emergency radio replacement. A new warrant article was drafted for the remaining funds.

Mr. Pierce motion to recommend Article 5 (Capital Budget), Ms. Drake-Tremblay second, vote 3-0.

Mr. Pierce motion to include the warrant article for \$21,933.66 for the remainder of the funds required to replace the emergency radios, Ms. Drake-Tremblay second, vote 3-0.

The warrant article for elm tree protection is not necessary as the funds for its care are included in the Tree Warden's budget for FY22.

#### SELECTBOARD UPDATES

Mr. Fydenkevez stated that a tent at the South County Senior Center went up. There is a question whether it meets fire safety standards. He also thanked the South County EMS for their participation at vaccination clinics.

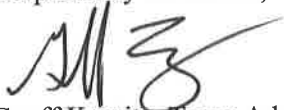
#### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

There will be a clinic for people 12 years of age and older at Frontier on May 21<sup>st</sup> and June 11<sup>th</sup>. The plan for an outdoor Annual Town Meeting is very similar to last year. It will take place on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> behinds 12 School Street. This year people will be allowed to enter the building to use the restrooms. Also, the perimeter of Town Meeting floor will be defined, but no individual boxes for people to sit in.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pierce motion to adjourn at 8:07 PM, Ms. Drake-Tremblay second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MK' or similar, written over a horizontal line.

Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator