

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting April 6, 2021

Members present: Brian Monahan and Lynn Sweet

In attendance: Tax Collector Judy Dupré, Library Director Paige Holman and Megan Grondin

Appointments:

6:00 Library Director Paige Holman and Megan Grondin

The business portion of the Selectmen's Meeting was called to order at 5:20PM.

Payroll and payment of bills were reviewed and approved. Intents to Excavate and Intents to Cut Timber were reviewed and signed. Minutes from the March 23rd Selectmen's Meeting were read and approved.

Appointments

6:00 - Paige Holman and Megan Grondin

Ms. Holman and Ms. Grondin were in attendance to discuss 2 items pertaining to the Town owned vacant lot abutting the library property. Last year the library staff and enthusiastic community volunteers used the property to develop a Children's Community Garden, ultimately contributing 100+ pounds of food to the food pantry. It also provided an opportunity for family programs while abiding by Covid restrictions. This year they would like to continue to develop the garden, creating additional garden beds as well as adding blueberry bushes and some fruit trees. Some problems they faced last summer were discussed, the most significant being the need for on-site water. The Selectmen suggested the use of a submersible pump in the well on the property, bringing electricity for it from the library. Heavy rain has caused some erosion and best forestry practice suggestions were made as to how to address that. The Selectmen also suggested having the property surveyed.

Ms. Holman would like to apply for a grant to install solar panels to provide power to Hill Library. The panels would need to be on the vacant lot as the roof of the library won't work. The Selectmen suggested that this would be a matter to be discussed at Town Meeting and didn't think they should proceed at this time.

Ms. Holman and Ms. Grondin expressed their appreciation and excitement about the completion of an Eagle Scout Project - a Storybook Trail which will open on Earth Day.

Old Business

With Tax Collector Judith Dupré reviewed the status of properties with tax liens. Proper notifications have been made. 2019 tax liens must be paid by August; the Selectmen will continue to monitor these properties.

Progress on the Barn Door Gap bridge was discussed. Road Agent Greg Messenger is working with Dubois and King for a final revised plan that meets with NHDES approval. The Selectmen will reach out to Earth to see if they are still interested in the work this summer.

New Business

The Community Club has requested permission to hold a Food Truck Event on July 3rd in the Grange parking lot. This was a successful event in 2019, but was not held in 2020 due to Covid restrictions. This event, in conjunction with the July 3rd fireworks and the limited parking at the dam area, resulted in congestion. The Selectmen discussed possible options for handling the event differently to safely accommodate the number of people who attend. Both Chief Richard and Chief Whitehouse will be consulted before any decisions are made.

The roof of the shed at the dam that is used to store beach equipment is in need of repair; perhaps other repairs are necessary. The cost of repairing the shed and purchasing a new one will be explored.

The Selectmen will meet with the Planning Board and the Zoning Board at an upcoming meeting. A representative from Strafford Regional Planning will be assisting with Planning and Zoning matters in the future. Those details along with training, plans for future Planning/Zoning considerations, and how meetings will be conducted with the State's Emergency Orders to be lifted in the near future will be discussed.

The Board members reviewed the contract for Planning/Zoning services with Strafford Regional Planning Commission.

A representative from KRT is in town to assess improvements to properties as a result of 2020 building permits along with previously unfinished work.

Bill Vance along with a representative from Revision Energy will attend the next Selectmen's Meeting to present some information about the use of solar power for Town buildings.

There being no further business to address, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26PM.