

Town of Colrain
Selectboard Meeting
55 Main Road/Town Office Building
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

Present: Mark Thibodeau, and Eileen Sauvageau.

Others Present: Jim Slowinski, and Jonathan Lagreze – Assessors, Alice Wozniak-Assessor’s Clerk, Nick Anzuoni – Fire Chief and Assessor, Dottie Conway, Barbara Chase and Jamie Hall – Fire District, Jason Haskins – Police Chief, Michael Friedlander, Diana Ditmore Jack Cavolick and Jason Ferenc – Board of Health, Paula Harrison – Office Clerk, Kevin Fox – Town Coordinator

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Appointment: Review of Police Department Policies and Procedures – Chief Jason Haskins
The Selectmen asked why they were getting copies of the police policies and procedures? Chief Haskins explained that these policies and procedures will provide structure to the department and move the department toward accreditation. Once this is done the department can move toward certification. One of the benefits for this is the ability to access additional grants. Chief Haskins will provide the final copy of the policies to the Selectboard for their review. Further discussion on a Strong Chief vs. a Weak Chief. The Selectboard asked Chief Haskins whether he has given anymore thought to hiring a sergeant? Discussion on the current pros and cons of hiring a sergeant.

Minutes: Meeting Minutes August 28, 2012
MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve the minutes from August 28, 2012 as written, Mark Thibodeau seconded. It was voted unanimously.

Warrants: Vendor Warrants
MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve the warrants as presented, seconded by Mark Thibodeau. It was voted unanimously.

New Business Award contract for Irene final Repairs
Kevin Fox explained the low bid for the final Irene repair and why is it has taken a little longer to get these done.
MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to award the contract for \$150,650.50 from Warner Bros for the final repairs from Hurricane Irene, Mark Thibodeau seconded and it was voted unanimously

Approve and Sign NRCS Close-out Letter

Kevin explained to the Selectboard as far as the NRCS is concerned this project is done. Tracey Baronas has reviewed and approved this close-out letter.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve the close out letter with NRCS for fiscal year September 30, 2012, seconded by Mark Thibodeau. It was voted unanimously.

Approve and Sign FEMA Project Completion and Certification Forms

Kevin explained that this is the paperwork that FEMA requires at the end of a project This is the accounting for the projects that allow the town to get reimbursement.

1. PW 436 Fairbanks Road
2. PW 334 Green River Lane
3. PW 443 Archambo Road Bridge

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve and submit PW 436, PW 334 and PW 443 to FEMA for reimbursement, seconded by Mark Thibodeau. It was voted unanimously.

Approve and Sign Commonwealth of Massachusetts Standard Contracts – MEMA PW-192 and 672

Kevin explained that PW 192 – Smith Bridge and PW 672 - Highway Garage were projects the town has renegotiated with MEMA for additional funds.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved that we accept the updated contract for PW 192 and PW 672, Mark Thibodeau seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Old Business

Proposal from Town of Greenfield to provide administrative services – Housing Rehabilitation Program

Kevin explained that there is a letter from the Franklin County Housing Authority explaining their fees and a letter from the State DHCD saying they will not approve Greenfield to administer CDBG funds for other towns.

No Action Taken

New business

Not anticipated at the time of posting

Bid award for salt and sand

Kevin informed the Selectboard about the recent bids for salt and sand. \$60.77 (Cargill) a ton delivered for salt and \$9.90 (Mitchell) a delivered ton for sand. These bids were acquired by FRCOG.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to accept the bids as presented, Mark Thibodeau seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Not anticipated at the time of posting

All board Meeting

Eileen would like to have an all board meeting so that everyone is on the same page and works together as a unit. Discussion followed regarding pulling together the people in charge of the Brick meeting house, the planning board, board of health, the building inspector and begin dealing with the center of town

and its improvement. There was discussion on how this could happen and what current issues would come up.

No Action Taken

Tax Classification Hearing per MGL Ch 40 Sec.56 – Assessors

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to call the Tax Classification Hearing to order at 7:45 pm, seconded by Mark Thibodeau. It was voted unanimously.

Alice explained the current percentages, Residential approx 87%, commercial, industrial and personal property at approx 11%. The assessors do not recommend a split classification at this time.

MOVED: Mark made a motion to accept a single tax rate, Eileen seconded and it was voted unanimously.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to close the Tax Classification Hearing at 7:57 PM, seconded by Mark Thibodeau. It was voted unanimously.

Approve STM Warrant - Building demolition

Jason explained that the bids came in much higher than expected. He explained the option to the selectmen.

1. Rebid the project without church street property
2. Rebid immediately to see if there may be a better price
3. Rebid over the winter which may get more contractors involved because it is their off season without Church Street property
4. Ask the town to fund the difference at a Special Town Meeting

There was discussion on why the estimate that the board of health used came in so low. Kevin reminded the selectmen that they have 30 days to award the contract.

The Selectmen asked Kevin if he would see whether the current bidders would take another look at the project and an adjusted bid. Discussed the size of the contract and how that may have affected the bids and whether the bids were realistic.

Discussion followed on whether the buildings were safe and structurally sound. Nick Anzouni is concerned these buildings are a public safety issue. There was concern brought up on whether leaving the buildings there will be an increased risk to life and property.

There was discussion on where the funds would be pulled if this goes to a special town meeting. A special town meeting warrant has been prepared in order to go to the Town to ask for the additional monies to accept the low bid for this project.

Jason brought up that there was a prior year bill from Bill Austin for \$1,000. But this was submitted late and will need to be on a future special town meeting warrant.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve and sign the Special Town Meeting Warrant, Mark Thibodeau seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Jason would like to call around to different contractors before the Special Town Meeting to see if the bids we have received were fair or market value prices. Kevin will call non bidders to see why they did not bid on the projects

Old Business

Not Anticipated at the time of posting

Roof project for the Town Office

Discussion on the lack of response for volunteer workers in order to re-roof the Town Office. There was discussion on what other methods that could be used to recruit people to help with the town hall roof.
No Action was Taken

New Business

Not Anticipated at time of posting

Emergency Forum – Questions and answer Forum

Jack Cavolick was approached by Rev John Remis. His concern is what do we have in place in Colrain for emergencies. Jack had been to a conference in Greenfield and thought it was very informative. Could this kind of forum be offered here in Colrain? . Does the Selectboard think this is a good idea? Mark received a flier from the Shelburne Falls Fire District who are putting on a series of seminars regarding emergencies. What John would like to see is a forum based more on the Greenfield seminar. This was a question and answer forum that would generate awareness on emergencies procedures which the town can provide and what citizens should do to prepare themselves. Mark would like to see something like this and move forward with this forum. Eileen supports the idea. Jack will begin the process of setting this up and will keep the board informed

New Business

Not anticipated at the time of posting.

Dog Complaint

Jack Covalick informed the Selectmen of the situation with a dog on Call Road Jack did contact the owner and explained the issue with this dog and the rules and regulation he is constricted too. At this time Jack has informed and given the owner a warning that the dog needs to be kept on the owners property. If there is another dog complaint regarding this dog Jack will follow through with bringing the dog to the regional dog kennel.
No Action Taken

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15PM. Seconded by Mark Thibodeau and it was voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Harrison
Office Clerk

Documents

- Meeting Minutes 8-28-2012
- Payroll and Vendor warrants 8/30/2012
- Municipal Finance Law Chap 40, sec55 and 56
- Warner Bros contract for Hurricane Irene Final Damage Repairs
- Close-out letters for 436 Fairbanks Road, 334 Green River Road, 443 Archanbo Road
- Special Town Meeting Warrant
- Letter from DHCD regarding Block Grant
- FCRH & RA – Letter regarding fees
- Cooperative Winter Sand and Salt Bids
- Assessors proposed tax rates for FY13