

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
DECEMBER 29, 2020
MINUTES**

PRESENT: David Lage Chairman; John Veaser, Shawn Talbot
Town Administrator Scott Butcher
Also in room or online: Jason Somero, Marc Fortier, Jim Coffey, and Jeff McCabe

The final meeting of the year opened at 6:00 pm

Salt Shed Award:

Scott checked the references of the top two vendors. Eagle Associates had a few good reviews, Scott discussed the service and materials. For the other vendor Iron Horse, Scott reached out to 6 of the references and only one responded and noted they had good follow up. Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to accept the Eagle Associates bid, Selectman Talbot SECONDED, the motion was unanimous.

Set Dates for Budget hearing / Deliberative Session / Town Vote:

Some discussion was had regarding dates and conflicts including the SAU Deliberation. The final dates were as follows:

Jan 4th 2021 @ 6:00 pm Virtual Public School Budget Hearing and Town Hall Open Discussion

Jan 5th 2021 Last Day for Warrant Articles to the Board of Selectmen

Jan 8th 2021 Last Date for Petition Articles

Jan 12th, 2021 Last day to post notice for the Budget Hearing

Jan 19th 2021 Board of Selectmen starting at 6:00 followed by Budget Hearing at 6:30

Feb 2nd 2021 at 6:00 pm Deliberative Session (With an alternate snow date of February 6th, 2021 at 10:00 am)

Feb 3rd 2021 at 6:00 pm SAU Deliberative Session

2021 Budget Discussion Continued:

The Board of Selectmen continued the review and finalization of the budget for 2021. There was discussion on the non-lapsing appropriation for 5 years. It was noted that the Board has not heard back from the Library for next year budget yet. Further discussion included Police increased based on a new cruiser cost. Selectman Talbot asked about the \$175k fund balance and when/if we would give back at some point and it was noted that it would accumulate to keep the taxes fairly level rather than increase and decrease by possibly large amounts each year. This balance allows to absorb large expenses. Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to make the increase in Police Salary, Selectman Talbot SECONDED, and the motion was unanimous.

Line items for FICA & Medicare as well as insurance costs need to be updated on all budgets now that we have salaries and healthcare costs locked down

Old and New Business:

Reviewed the Warrant Articles. Discussion of selling old DPW property, How to use land at the Transfer Station as well as the Building next to the manor. Other business discussed included the police station lease. The sale of the Fire Truck was awaiting the return of the paperwork and then the new owner can remove the truck. Tax Collector close out audit will need to occur for the close out of the year and transition to new clerk. Planning board correspondence was also discussed as was the complaint about truck on Turnpike, these will be responded to.

- Noted they will look at road repairs needed next week
- The nuisance report on Goen Rd was also discussed and the best way to proceed, will review this next week.

Encumbrances for the following were discussed:

1. Salt Shed project
2. Salt Shed foundation blocks
3. LED Street Lighting

Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to encumber funds for these 3 projects, Selectman Talbot SECONDED, all say AYE

Bob Boynton was asking for an LED light to be put back on the town ledger. This light was originally scheduled to be deleted, this is why Bob had taken it over. As it was scheduled to be deleted before, it will be deleted going forward, so it was determined no action to be taken on this item.

Selectman Veaser made a MOTION to adjourn, Selectman Talbot SECONDED the motion, the motion was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mallett, Land Admin

Minutes approved by:
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

David S. Lage, Chairman



John Veaser



Shawn Talbot