

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MAY 19, 2020
MINUTES

PRESENT: David Lage, Chairman; John Veesser, Shawn Talbot
Town Administrator Scott Butcher

Chairman Lage called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Town Office and reviewed the agenda.

PAVING BID #20-01

The following bids were received in response to the Invitation to Bid 20-01 for paving various town roads. The following companies provided bid responses:

Advanced Excavating & Paving
All States Asphalt
Brox Industries
P.J. Keating
R&D Paving

The Selectmen reviewed the responses and stated an award would be made at a future date after the details and amounts had been confirmed. With the pricing coming in higher than anticipated, the Selectmen discussed revising the list of roads to be paved to fit within the \$600,000 that was appropriated by the taxpayers in March.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

The Town Administrator stated that Emergency Order #43 temporarily modifies the process to change political parties. The Supervisors of the Checklist will be having a meeting on June 27th at 7:00 pm to process any change requests that are received.

The Police Chief had made the Town Administrator aware of two events that are coming up that may be impacted by the Emergency Orders from the Governor; the Hillfest event and the Children's Fair. Selectman Veesser stated that the Children's Fair has been broken up into a few different events that would be COVID-19 friendly to comply with social distancing requirements. Chairman Lage asked if Hillfest would still take place given the COVID-19 environment we're in and whether the Selectmen had the authority to cancel it. There is also concern about how much authority local police departments have to enforce the Governor's orders. Chairman Lage also raised the issue that if members of the Police Dept. are hired for details for Hillfest, what will be done to protect them from exposure to COVID-19. Selectman Veesser suggested approaching the Hillfest organizer to see what precautions they plan on taking to protect people.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

The Town Administrator discussed the new Emergency Management Director (EMD) and that she was reviewing the town's Emergency Operation and Hazard Mitigation Plans. Also discussed was appointing a Deputy EMD from within the community since the EMD lives over an hour away. Chairman Lage and Selectman Veesser requested that any decision on a Deputy EMD be deferred until the new EMD is onboard, gets settled and can determine if a Deputy EMD is necessary.

Chairman Lage asked whether there had been a response from the property owner of 11 Temple Road to the Selectmen's letter requiring significant process on rehabilitating the building. The Town Administrator stated there had been no direct response to the letter, however Mr. Lowe did inquire with the Building Inspector's Office about getting a permit for building and demolition. No activity has been seen on the property recently. Mr. Lowe has been repeatedly reminded of the conditions of his agreement with the town.

Selectman Veaser asked for an update on the fencing for the 283 Greenville Road property. The Town Administrator stated that the fencing had been installed by the vendor the previous day. Chairman Lage asked about the vehicles that remain on the property and suggested that Turnpike Auto be contacted about removing them.

Chairman Lage asked about the town flowers for the Center Village and the bridge at Highbridge Road and whether the Selectmen should wait for someone to step up and volunteer to provide them or get something going themselves. Selectman Veaser and Chairman Lage suggested that DPW Director Goewey be contacted about the flower pots and hangers for the bridge and that the local garden centers be contacted for pricing for the plants.

The Town Administrator stated that the tax bills would be going out on May 26th with a July 1st due date. Also discussed was that the auditors were planning on conducting the audit remotely this year, if possible, given COVID-19 concerns. Also mentioned was the purchase of the new front-end loader for the DPW and that with the two-year extended warranty the total cost will be \$61K. Chairman Lage MOTIONED to purchase the 2014 Doosan front-end loader for \$61,510 with the two-year extended warranty with funds from the Highway Capital Reserve Fund. Selectman Veaser SECONDED the motion. The vote was unanimous.

At 7:37 pm, Chairman Lage entertained a motion to adjourn. Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to adjourn. The motion was SECONDED by Selectmen Talbot and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Butcher, Town Administrator

Minutes approved by:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN


David S. Lage, Chairman


John Veaser


Shawn Talbot