

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Those attending: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Ian Ackermann, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter, Jim Brimblecombe, Frank Kampf, Gary Gulka, Jenn Miner, Jim Brimblecombe, Lisa Olson; via zoom: Kris Schmidt, Peg Hough

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:00 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda – a motion was made by Fred with a second by Ian, motion carried.
3. Approve Minutes from Budget Meeting, October 25, and SB Minutes from October 19 –Defer to next meeting as Ian did not attend meeting those meetings and we deferred to next meeting and w
4. Public Comment –
 - a. Jenn said that Brittany is working on the Parking Policy for Town Meeting and for Zoning.
 - b. Ian talked with Tim Gochey, is it okay to mow the ditch one time.
5. Emergency Management Update – Jenn updated on Covid – numbers were a little lower. Positive test rate is low. Vaccination is 91.1%. There is an uptick for the children vaccination, still encouraging people to still be cautious.
6. Water/Wastewater: Discussion with Jim Brimblecombe on future Wastewater Treatment Plant needs. Talked with Tom Brown last week. We are in process of the evaluation of the plant. Five years to make the first payment on a zero interest loan. ESDA upgrades – what is the timeframe to be done. Jim stated that he has one controller for water or wastewater, so if things go down, the systems will be in trouble. Would like to do the water this winter and wastewater in the summer. \$30,700 for the water and put that on the agenda to start working on this. The engineer will be evaluating man holes, pumps, recirculation pump, processing pumps are 20 years old. The plant was built in 2002 and we don't know what they will find, but it will be mandatory to fix any problems. Fred wanted to know what it would cost. Jim will check into the pricing. As of right now we are at 50% capacity. They are on hold and we need to sign off on it. We will okay it at the next meeting November 16.
7. Mike suggested that we hire a grant writer – so much to be available – town are hiring on grant writer on a per basis. This is up for discussion.
8. Ash Bore Management Plan – we have 3,000 roadway trees of Ash. Still looking at the draft plan. Could go after trees before they die. Would be wise to budget for the future. He handed out the East Montpelier plan – allocated \$25,000/year. Probably about 50+ that needs to get removed. Most towns are taking a pre-emptive approach. Power companies are taking them down in their right of way. They would come back in a couple of months. Some landowners are taking some trees down. It would be wise to allocate something for the next fiscal year. Would suggest \$15,000-\$20,000. We cannot guarantee this amount, but will try to get something in the budget. Gary and Roland will work on a plan and get back to us.
9. Childcare Discussion – Frank Kampf/Michael Taub – Frank handed out information for child care in Cabot. Cabot Creamery wants to be behind this along with the school. The school is trying to expand on after school hour program. The school does not have the capacity. The school is one the largest employers in the Town. Could we find a physical location – there are two public buildings (the brown building and the Marcotte home). It would be good to have a working group. Feels like it is important to look into and start the process as to what the Town could do. This will be discussed at future meetings.
10. Water/Wastewater
 - a. Other Business – this was discussed at point #6.
11. Highway
 - a. Ian – Update from Highway - we did have a good budget discussion last night. Sid is grading roads. Replaced culverts.
 - b. Bid for Snow Removal on Sidewalks –A motion was made by Mike to hire an individual to clear the fire hydrants and sidewalks with a second by Ian. Motion carried. An ad will be placed in the Times Argus, Caledonia Record papers, Front Porch Forum, and Cabot Connects starting next week.
 - c. Other business –
 1. Ian did check and if we lease a 6-wheeler truck through Western Star \$27,100 – for five years. Everything included and at the end of 5 years they will come and get the truck.

2. Meeting Ashley Grants in Action – Cabot Plains Road.
3. Need to have Paving plan at next budget meeting.
4. Mirror on the building because of the blind spot coming from Whittier Hill– Ian will talk with Jan about a mirror.

12. Town Clerk's Office

- a. Orders – they
- b. Approval of Line of Credit Loan – Passumpsic Bank – we will approve at November 16 meeting
- c. Other business
 1. Heating System in Willey Building – We are having Shawn looking at this and see if we can come up with any solution. Heat pumps seems to be the answer, but there is a backlog on heat pumps
 2. Den at the Harry's Hardware has applied for an Outdoor Consumption for the Holiday Fair on December 11. Betty will be signing this for them.

13. Other Business – There was no other business.

14. Adjourn – A motion was made by Fred, Ian. Motion carried and we adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer