

Selectboard Minutes
October 20, 2021

Meeting opened at 6:30pm

Present: Ann Marie Visconti, Chair; Tonya Santaniello; Curt Robie
Duane Pease, Town Administrator (TA)

Also present: Joe Kearns, Finance Chair; Eleanor Doyle, Cultural Council Chair; Doreen Black, Planning Board Chair; Jen Dion, Police chief, Ken Murray; Adair Laurel-Cafarella

Warrants reviewed and signed; Payroll \$20,582.04; Expenses: \$159,854.01 and \$4,064.07

Minutes approved on motion by Ann Marie, Curt 2nd; vote 3-0

Eleanor advised the Board that there was about \$9,000 in funds to disperse this year, normally the State gives \$5,000/year but with COVID last year's money was allotted but not spent. The Council likes to keep the funds as local as possible. Ann Marie said she would like to arrange a "meet and greet" as there are many new families in town, Eleanor said it would have to be coordinated with a recipient such as Middlefield Days. Food can not be paid for but entertainment can be. She suggested Ann Marie contact Judy Hoag for a possible get together. There was one a few years ago that was held at the Church.

Mail: letter from owner of property on Cone Road complaining about water run off on to his property and running into his barn. Letter to be given to Highway Superintendent. MIIA Grant to be submitted for 3 fireproof cabinets. Grants have to be related to improving Work Comp safety or property coverage. Police and Fire are excluded from grant money.

Jen gave update on police: department is set on bulletproof vests, cost of new vests has increased to \$1,400; looking for 2 medical jump kits, AED and O2 system. Grant has been applied for and waiting for decision. She is requiring officers to do 4 hours of patrol weekly and will be submitting a monthly report to Selectboard. Currently, she is the only officer that has a date for the additional training prior to starting, she has to have a physical by an occupational physician, her primary doctor is not qualified. There will be additional costs associated with the training such as mileage and hourly compensation. The department needs a new desktop computer as the 2 they currently have no longer can keep pace with their needs.

Further discussion on the Daniele property, since it is located near the town center it may be suitable for a safety complex, article will be placed on Special town Meeting warrant seeking funds to purchase. Funds may not be available for safety complex but Representative Blais said the legislature is looking to start funding same.

Senior Center update: TA sent all the lighting info to John Savery for review; Curt is setting up account with Graybar Electric as they are on the State bid. Also, Curt is preparing a RFP for a “house doctor” engineering bid.

Doreen Black said Planning Board is looking to increase from 2 to 4 the number of employees allowed to work from a home, these are usually part-time workers and parking would not be a problem as it is covered under other by-laws. She presented to Selectboard, board has 14 days to respond and if no response the Planning board may continue with its by-law change, i.e., public hearings, etc.

Recap of the Saturday meeting with all depts, boards, etc. Ann Marie said she got positive feedback and looking to the future for additional meetings. Ken said he thought it was really positive.

Special town Meeting: articles for warrant will include buying a new police cruiser, purchasing the Daniele property and increase the salary of the Assessor’s clerk position when Moderator read the wrong line for the vote. TA will include “raise and appropriate or fund from other sources” in the wording of the first two articles.

Old business: speed signs should be erected shortly, one on each side of the Town Center and the other 2 sites to be determined.

No new business

Curt motioned to adjourn, Tonya 2nd; vote 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

Ann Marie Visconti, Chair

Tonya Santaniello

Curt Robie