

Board of Selectmen Meeting
February 4, 2020
4:30 PM Town Hall

Present: Matthew Riiska, Sandy Evans and Paul Madore
Others: Wylie Wood and Linda Perkins

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

Public Comments:

- Linda Perkins attended the meeting and read a prepared statement to voice her concerns about the Mountain Road Bridge repair project (copy attached and a permanent part of this record).
 - Wylie Wood asked why the NVFD can't use the hydrant to flood the skating rink.
- M. Riiska said he will address these issues in his Selectman's Report.

Minutes: January 7, 2020

S. Evans felt we need to provide more clarification in the January minutes regarding the reappointment of Melissa Robinson to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Because Melissa was not put on the ballot for reelection, the selectmen, under State statute, may appoint her until the next municipal election (11/19/21) at which time she can run for the balance of the term.

MOTION M. Riiska to correct the term expiration date of Susan Anderson's reappointment as a Board of Finance alternate last month to read 11/16/21. Second S. Evans. Carried unanimously.

MOTION S. Evans to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020 meeting with the above two corrections. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

Appointments/Reappointments

M. Riiska asked that we make the following appointments/reappointments:

- Richard Kessin, Inland/Wetlands Watercourses reappointment with term to expire 12/26/22
- Byron Tucker, Inland/Wetlands Watercourses reappointment with term to expire 12/26/22
- Christopher Gomez, Recreation Committee appointment with term to expire 7/31/22
- Heather Adams, Recreation Committee appointment with term to expire 7/31/22
- Richard Byrne, Historian reappointment with term to expire 12/31/21
- Ann Havemeyer, Assistant Historian reappointment with term to expire 12/31/21
- Jonathan Barbagallo, Emergency Management Deputy Director reappointment
- Brian Hutchins, Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairman reappointment

MOTION S. Evans to approve the above appointments/reappointments. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

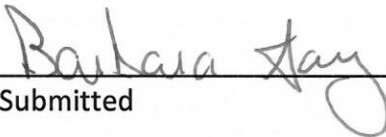
Selectman's Report

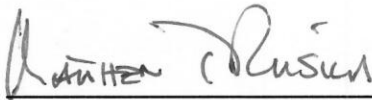
- Mountain Road Bridge – After the informational meeting of January 6th Cardinal Engineering was tasked with reviewing the questions and concerns brought up. Cardinal came back today with a new set of drawings increasing the bridge length by 6” and bringing the wing walls in. In addition, they shortened the guardrails from 75’ to 50’ on each side. M. Riiska reported that not putting up a guardrail, or putting up a shorter guardrail, would require signing a waiver. That plan would still need approval by the State of CT DOT. He also spoke to our insurance carrier, CIRMA, who will not insure the bridge without the guardrails. The Town would be liable for any incidents or accidents that may occur. He asked Cardinal Engineering for detailed specifications for guardrails with an explanation as to why they are designed that way.
- M. Riiska reported that there is no money from the State of CT right now. Although the bridge has been approved by the DOT there are no funds dedicated to it yet. Cardinal Engineering advised us to move forward and get bids to keep us in the loop and ready when the funds come available. The options would be:
 - 1) Approve funds at Town Meeting in May and move forward with DOT money if available
 - 2) Go to the Town Meeting in May and approve bridge by bonding and paying the total amount ourselves
 - 3) Wait for a year, or until the State comes up with the money, and shore up bridge to get us through (using hydraulic cement).
- A new sewer line needs to be installed under the bridge which would be under the brook but encased in cement (approximately \$80,000 included in project cost).
- Aquarion will be tasked with repairing and moving water line.
- M. Riiska will ask Cardinal Engineering to attend another public informational meeting to address any revisions after the bids are received
- M. Riiska reported that the Governor of the State of Connecticut will not release any funds until he gets approval for his tolls.
- L. Perkins inquired about access through her property on the Yale side. M. Riiska contacted Jack Beecher (Yale) and explained the situation. Mr. Beecher responded that he thinks we can work something out.
- Botelle School oil tank – moving forward. Survey and engineering work done.
- The State of CT DOT took down the 30 mph signs that M. Riiska had posted to the school zone flashing light posts along Route 44. The signs were dropped off at the Town Garage. M. Riiska had a permit to post signs and will be contacting DOT.
- Michael Selleck and Barry Webber just finished their study with the radar gun along Route 44. They are compiling their information.
- A Norfolk resident contacted M. Riiska regarding putting a stop sign coming up Shepard Road to the five-way intersection. Discussion held.
- The new Public Works Supervisor started last week.

- Botelle School Consolidation – M. Riiska attended the Colebrook Board of Ed Meeting the first Wednesday in January to open up discussion about consolidation again. He followed up with Hope Carfiro, Chairperson of Colebrook, who suggested that the First Selectmen, BOF Chairmen, BOE Chairmen and superintendents from both towns get together, which we did last week. M. Riiska felt it was a positive conversation opening up opportunities for the children to work together in areas such as various after school activities to “break the ice”. It would be good for the children to have a relationship going forward prior to consolidation discussion.
- Botelle School Group meeting Friday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. at The Norfolk Hub.
- Budget season – The Board of Finance would like the town to submit its budget at their March 11th meeting. M. Riiska would like to have a few small “special” meetings prior to that.
- Truck repairs/maintenance discussed.

2/3 Vote: None

MOTION S. Evans to adjourn at 5:28 p.m. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.


Submitted


Approved