

Select Board Minutes

Date: June 16, 2022

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Multi-Purpose Room

Next Meeting: June 28, 2022

Minutes: Accepted

Present: Richard Doughty, Dina Walker, Cynthia and Bob Arp, Carol and Steve Conant, Debbie Smith and Carol Cochran

Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month however we had a State Primary Election so the meeting was moved to Thursday.

Department Heads:

Things are in pretty good shape. Craig has done rock raking.

Transfer station is looking good getting ready for Free Dump days.

New Business:

Pickle Ball-Barbara Hardenbrook: withdrawn

Richard said that he thought that Barbara was thinking that they could hold pickle ball at the Town Hall but that with the lighting fixtures it would not be appropriate.

Old Business:

Public Works Department update

Required facility updates – Public Works

There needs to be bathroom facilities, a sink and running water so that they can wash their hands. The pump that is there now does not hold a prime. Richard met with Craig and picked out a site for the leach field. Richard said that Craig has made contact with a person to design the system. There is money in the building improvement account to cover the cost of the new system and upgrades that need to be done. It was discussed to use our own equipment to install the system and it will be discussed with Craig.

Staffing, Heavy Equipment Operator position

Dan Demers has picked up an application for the Heavy Equipment Operator's position, however he does not have a CDL but is familiar with operating the equipment. Craig will interview with him next week.

Equipment - Update on status of equipment:

The dual hydraulic on the main ram on one of the plow trucks needed to be replaced and they are waiting for parts.

Carol said that someone had indicated that while rock raking on the Byron road there was a large rock in the road and could cause damage to a vehicle. Richard said that we should communicate directly to Craig about this.

Bridge repair early planning

Brian will try to get the information for the next meeting.

Budget- Review 2022 spending to date

Public Works has spent 40%

General Government 31%

Public Safety 22%

Transfer station 24%

Response to Audit Draft

The draft needs to be reviewed and any comments to Colleen so that we can go forward for the final audit for 2021.

Broadband update

Provide update on pole survey funding, overall status.

Review draft letter from Select board. (I will send a draft to Dina, & Brian for input)

Pick a date for an informational meeting with citizens.
Chris Lynch of Matrix was present.

Richard explained to those present an update to where we are with Broadband, at this time.

Chris Lynch said that they have received from the Town all 911 addresses and will be sending out a mailing to those 911 addresses next week.

The Town of Wilton, Perkins and Washington Townships have already voted to go forward with the process for high-speed internet service.

Richard explained that the Town of Weld could not spend any money before there were informational meetings and it was voted that the Town would have a referendum vote to see if the Town of Weld would go through with high-speed internet.

Richard will write a document explaining where we are with Broadband and it will be on the Website prior to the mailing going out from Matrix.

There will be a website on the Matrix mailing where residents and property owners may presubscribe as well as the Kiosk at the Town Office so they can see how many people are interested.

The pole attachment cost is \$56,000 and Charlie Woodworth has obtained a grant which will pay upfront and the Town reimburse the \$56,000 if the Town votes to move forward with high speed internet service. But Richard wants to know if the project does not go forward in Weld, do we have to pay the money back?

Chris explained to those who were present where we are and what needs to do to go forward.

- First step is to do a pole survey and use the money from Northern Borders Grant to pay for the survey. Chris does not see a problem with this. Charlie has not received the money from the Northern Borders grant.
- Matrix is committed to this project.

The Kiosk will not to be available until the mailing goes out to everyone.

The line will be 6" to 8" above the Telephone line which is on the bottom of the utility pole.

Chris does not see any issues with the poles. If needed a longer pole will be used to make room to put the fiber optic line on the pole.

Chris said that there is a clause to be able to get out of the agreement.

Richard explained that we were not getting into the agreement until we know what the total cost is.

Chris wants to do the pole survey for Weld at the same time he does Wilton and indicated that Matrix may spend the money for that, if the money has not been received from Northern Borders Grant.

Dina will make contact with our legal counsel to get an estimate of what it will cost from them to go over the contract.

30 day notices overdue taxes:

Notices were sent out to 46 who had outstanding 2021 Real Estate Taxes

Tower Ordinance / Comp Plan update status - Dina?

No movement

Dina has reached out to AVCOG and they highly recommend that a Comprehensive Plan be updated every 10 years. Our plan was adopted in 2007. It was suggested that AVCOG or a land planner review the Towns plan and suggest changes. Once this has been done our ordinances have to be consistent with the Comprehensive plan.

Dina will reach out to WAC, Weld Advisory Committee to see if they want to help.

General Assistance Ordinance

Dina believes the General Assistance draft is ready to be approved. There are more benefits and more responsible for the Overseer of the Poor. The Ordinance will be posted on our website for 7 days prior to the public hearing at the next meeting of June 28th.

2022 tax assessment status

Paul Binette, assessor was here last week and has the new assessment done and they are ready to be put into TRIO and CAMA along with Dummer's Beach updates.

Town Hall heating system upgrades status

Chris said the system upgrades should be done next week

Masonic Lodge

Flying Squirrels have made a hole in the side of the Town Hall and have done a lot of damage within the Masonic Lodge.

The Masons have asked that the Select Board get an exterminator and get rid of the squirrels, and seal the hole into the building before they repair the damage. They are walking the electrical line and getting on the edge of a windows to gain entrance. It was also suggested to have a squirrel guard put around the electrical line to prevent the squirrels from gaining access to the building.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol J. Cochran