

SUNDERLAND SELECT BOARD

Regular Meeting - Monday, January 21, 2019

1. Call to order by Mark Hyde
2. Board members present
 - a. Rick Timmerman, Jon French, Mark Hyde, Steven Bendix, and Melanie Virgilio
 - b. Audience
 - i. Rose Keough (Town Clerk/Treasurer)
3. Session recorded by GNAT-TV
4. Approval of Minutes from January 7, 2019
 - a. Changes
 - i. VCRC should be BCRC (Bennington County Regional Commission)
 - ii. Petition for library is going around Sunderland, not Arlington
 - iii. Handicap accessible doors
 1. Push panels and auto door openers will be installed by Royal Glass of Rutland, not by electrician
 2. Electrician will handle wiring and receptacles
 - iv. Sam Liss is the correct spelling
 - b. Motion made to approve amendments of the previous meeting minutes made by Timmerman, seconded by Bendix, motion passed
5. Report from Road Liaison and/or Highway Foreman
 - a. Crew has been busy handling storms
 - b. Cold weather and moisture has been causing sand in trucks to freeze quickly
 - i. Town may want consider taking measures in the future so that the sand is covered
 - c. Equipment is up and running
6. Old Business

a. Budgeting

- i. Updated budgets provided by Keough
- ii. Fire protection increased from \$42,000 to \$48,800, provided by Arlington
 1. Population based amount (2010 census)
 2. Their total budget has increased
- iii. Telephone/Internet from Highway Fund, paying \$108.79/month currently through Consolidated, quote provided by Comcast for \$96.85, including equipment fees for a 2 year agreement
 1. We could switch to Comcast, ask Consolidated to decrease amount, or do nothing
 2. Internet is necessary for state documentation, email, etc
 3. The Town Hall has Comcast, the cost of which recently increased, and no discount would be provided to add the Town Garage
 4. Board Members agree that Consolidated should be reached and asked to lower our rate to continue with them
 - a. If they don't lower the rate, the Town Garage will switch to Comcast
 - b. If the Town Garage switches to Comcast, the Road Crew will need to use a different email address than the Fairpoint email address

b. Sunderland purchasing procedure discussion

- i. Timmerman put together
- ii. Certain rules for federal purchasing, tiers are included, local bidders, etc
- iii. Purchasing agents listed as Town Clerk, Highway Foreman, designated Select Board Member
- iv. Cooperative Contracts can be used, information is included

- v. Liability insurance and requirement information is included
 - vi. Motion made by French to sign the Sunderland Purchasing Procedure, motion seconded by Bendix, motion passed
- c. Update on town meeting at school
 - i. No official request is necessary, as long as the Select Board cleans up afterward (chairs)
- d. Update on town owned property (from tax sale) on Sunderland Hill Road
 - i. Hyde spoke with the town lawyer, the Select Board has the option to purchase or not purchase a tax sale property
 - 1. Select Board's concerns in purchasing these properties include inheriting tenants, liability, etc.
 - 2. Keough is concerned that if the town does not purchase these properties, current tax payers may stop paying their taxes as there are no consequences
 - ii. Hyde has attempted many times to call the tenants, so have others
 - iii. Hyde proposed sending a letter as a warning prior to eviction, or going in person
 - 1. Timmerman asked if our town attorney should send a letter, but this will cost the town money
 - iv. Hyde will write a letter, chose not to send a certified letter as he doesn't believe it will be picked up or accepted
 - v. Hyde commented on noticing that a few properties were in the paper as a tax sale notice, Davis will come to the Select Board regarding these properties in February
- e. Update on Livingston property
 - i. Livingston was notified by the lawyer (O'Toole) regarding the property tax and tax sale issues
 - ii. Livingston will need to pay the legal fee to have the deed transferred to her name

7. New Business

- a. Approval of Budgets
- b. Signing of Town Meeting Warning
 - i. March 4, 2019 at 7:00 pm, the floor meeting will be held
 - ii. March 5, 2019, from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm the Australian ballet will be held
 - iii. Major changes
 - 1. Salt shed fund, money to be put into it
 - 2. Martha Canfield Library increase
 - 3. Handicap accessible doors
 - iv. A new town moderator is needed
- c. Town Report
 - i. Keough said she is almost done compiling the Sunderland Town Report
 - ii. Hyde will reach out regarding the Lister's Report
 - iii. Select Board Report
 - 1. Hyde will include grant information, town website information

8. Review of Bills, Correspondence, and Signing of Select Board's Orders

- a. Social service requests remain the same, except for the Martha Canfield Library
- b. Kathleen James sent information regarding a monthly meet and greet, Hyde responded that monthly may be too often, Timmerman suggested quarterly
 - i. Virgilio suggested that she go to Chauncey's weekly, Timmerman said that she is currently doing something similar
- c. Jim Henderson sent Vermont statewide parcel mapping information
 - i. Sunderland is a year one town
 - ii. A meeting will be held in February
- d. Excess weight permit

- e. Department of Taxes notification of CLA change
 - f. There will be no February 18th meeting
 - g. Petition for town office deadline is January 28th
9. Motion to adjourn made by Bendix, seconded by Timmerman, motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S M W'. The letters are stylized and connected, with a large 'S' on the left, a cursive 'M' in the middle, and a cursive 'W' on the right.

Stephanie Muñoz Wells