

SUNDERLAND SELECT BOARD

Regular Meeting - Monday, February 4, 2019

1. Call to order by Mark Hyde
2. Board members present
 - a. Rick Timmerman, Jon French, Mark Hyde, and Steven Bendix
 - b. Audience
 - i. Rose Keough (Town Clerk/Treasurer), Richard Davis (Delinquent Tax Collector), Kristen Zens (Resident), Mike Perra (Resident)
3. Session recorded by GNAT-TV
4. Approval of Minutes from January 21, 2019
 - a. Motion made to approve the previous meeting minutes made by French, seconded by Timmerman, motion passed
5. Report from Road Liaison and/or Highway Foreman
 - a. Minor repair on one truck after the last storm
 - b. They have been busy maintaining the roads following storms
 - c. Warranty work needs to be done on a truck, will wait
 - d. Revised Town and Bridge Standards, Karen Horn from VLCT
6. Old Business
 - a. update/approach on town owned property (from tax sale) on Sunderland Hill Road
 - i. Hyde reached owners by phone, they would like to keep their property and pay off the back taxes
 - ii. They proposed a \$1,500 a month repayment plan to begin on March 1, 2019
 - iii. They owe \$15,347.25, plus lawyer fees to transfer the deeds (for the two properties) back to their name
 - iv. Timmerman asked if that includes the taxes since the town became the owner, Keough said it did

- v. The Board is in agreement on the \$1,500 a month, but question if the letter acknowledging the agreement should also include that they will need to pay the property taxes beginning in October of 2019
 - 1. Keough will look into further, but she thinks that the properties can be listed as taxable parcels in care of the Sweeney's
 - 2. This would make them responsible for the October of 2019 property tax bill

7. New Business

- a. Discuss junk issues on multiple Sunderland Hill Road properties
 - i. Kristen Zens, resident, inquired about the Sunderland junk ordinance
 - 1. Zens mentioned that she worries about the residents' safety, especially the children, since they live and play among the "junk"
 - 2. Hyde responded that the safety aspect would not be the town's responsibility, but more of a state issue
- b. Tax Sale discussion - Richard Davis, Delinquent Tax Collector
 - i. 4 properties were to go up for sale, 1 property owner paid what they owed, another entered into a repayment plan, and 2 remain
 - 1. Scott Morse property owners entered into a repayment plan
 - a. 12 month repayment plan for \$100 a month
 - 2. Colebrook Road property
 - 3. Acreage property on North Road
 - a. Around \$9,000 owed
 - ii. Davis stressed that he thinks it's important to maintain the town's option to purchase properties as a consequence for nonpayment

- iii. Motion made by French to allow a representative from the Town of Sunderland to purchase either of the two properties going up for tax sale if no third party buyer is acquired, motion seconded by Timmerman, motion passed
 - c. Discuss the Zoning Administrator role and current hourly rate
 - i. The Zoning Administrator has requested a raise, currently at \$30 an hour
 - 1. The budget has already been completed, should this be tabled until next year
 - ii. Timmerman made a motion to enter into an executive session, seconded by French, motion passed
 - iii. Motion made by French to return from an executive session, seconded by Bendix, motion passed
 - iv. Motion made by Timmerman to raise the current hourly rate for Zoning Administrator by \$1 an hour, up to \$31 an hour, contingent upon the budget approval in March and set weekly office hours at the Town Hall, seconded by Bendix, motion passed
 - d. Discuss election and no candidates running for 3 Select Board seats
 - i. Two potential write-in candidates have been found, candidates should specify which position they are running for
 - 1. There are two 1 year positions available, and one 3 year position available
 - ii. Potential Select Board Secretary member also found
- 8. Review of Bills, Correspondence, and Signing of Select Board's Orders
 - a. The Town of Arlington is looking for a part time Town Administrator, the Town of Sunderland may want to consider doing the same
 - i. The same person could potentially hold both positions
 - b. Dog barking problem on Kessick Swamp
 - i. No updated animal ordinance

- c. Public access to Hayden property
 - i. Parking area was suggested by the Select Board
 - 1. No solution has been created
 - d. Mike Perra inquired about the paving plan
 - i. Is the remaining unpaved portion of North Road scheduled to be paved?
 - ii. There is no plan to do so at this time, but new materials may be used on the road to improve
 - e. Excess weight permits
 - f. No second meeting in February, the next meeting will be held on March 4, 2019 at 6:45 to sign warnings
 - g. Hyde mentioned to Keough that he needs to be removed from the alarm system, and Johnston will be prioritized
 - h. Town reports are available at Town Hall in paper form, and Hyde will post it to the website
9. Motion to adjourn made by French, seconded by Bendix, motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SMW', written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Muñoz Wells