

November 13, 2023
SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Present: Terry Bergeron, Chair; Tim DeMillo, Vice Chair; Tom Goding, Lee Ann Dalessandro, Gary McGrane, Shiloh LaFreniere, Town Manager

Guests: Adrienne Foss (Mt. Blue TV, Daily Bulldog), Jason Crocker, Abigail Crocker, Darren Roundy, Danny Latham, Kyle Holman

1. Pledge of Allegiance – 6:00 p.m. – Tim led the pledge.

2. Minutes – October 23, 2023 – M/M/S Gary/Tom to approve the minutes from the October 23, 2023, Selectboard meeting. Vote 5-0-0

3. Old Business – Shiloh informed the Board that the 2009 International Public Works truck that the Board had approved trading to O’Connor in April of 2022 towards a new Western Star will be going later this week and the Town will be receiving \$11,000.

4. Request for Proposals – North Jay Fire Station Building Repair: One bid was received. It was from Thomas C. Goding, Building Contractor, for \$3,200. His anticipated date to start the project is Dec. 1, 2023, and it will take approximately 3-4 days to complete. M/M/S Lee Ann/Tim to accept the bid. Vote 3-1-1 (Gary opposed, Tom abstained).

5. Fire Department Engine 3 Refurbishment: The Board reviewed the proposal for the refurbishment of Engine 3 at a cost of \$67,590. Tim stated that he, Terry and Shiloh met with the FD to review this, and he recommended moving forward on it to gain the additional 10-15 years of life on the truck vs. having to buy a new one in that time frame for \$700,000. Gary questioned whether the A/C, lighting and new decals were necessary. There was discussion about the A/C being a safety feature that would provide cooling for the firefighters. The lighting is to upgrade to NFPA and the decals will need to be replaced because they have to be removed to sandblast and repaint the truck. Darren stated that Greenwood would provide a loaner truck for the period of time it takes for the work to be done, anticipated to be 3-4 months. The balance of the FD reserve account is currently \$289,000. M/M/S Lee Ann/Tim to approve refurbishing Engine 3 per the quote. Vote 5-0-0

6. Fire Department Wage Rates – Minimum Wage Increase: Per State law the minimum wage will be increasing January 1st from \$13.80 to \$14.15 - an increase of 35 cents/hour. M/M/S Gary/Lee Ann to adjust the hourly base rates of all regular firefighter positions by 35 cents/hour. Vote 5-0-0 Per diem positions will be addressed during budget discussions.

7. Special Town Meeting Warrant for Hutchinson Road Temporary Construction Easement: Shiloh explained that the language of the warrant gives the Board the authority to accept whatever easements they deem necessary for the repair of Hutchinson Road. The attorney is working on the language for the easements. M/M/S Lee Ann/Tom to approve the town meeting warrant for a special town meeting on Nov. 27th. Vote 5-0-0

8. May 1st and June 29th Storms: Shiloh updated the Board on the work related to the storm (see attached information).

9. Budget Committee Members – Appointments: M/M/S Gary/Tom to reappoint Marilyn Morse, Edward Walsh, Edward Mardosa, Kendra Baker, Beth Wright and Esther Nolin to the Budget Committee with terms to expire Dec. 31, 2025. Vote 5-0-0 There is one alternate opening remaining on the Committee.

10. Town Meeting Timeline & Donation Requests: M/M/S Lee Ann/Tom to approve the town meeting timeline as presented. Vote 5-0-0. M/M/S Tim/Tom to accept donation requests from the entities that had been funded last year. Vote 5-0-0 The Board discussed whether those entities would be required to attend the budget meeting and decided to leave it at their discretion. If they are requesting increased amounts, it might be in their best interest to attend.

11. Other Business: Tim had a call from a constituent who expressed concern about the condition of the cemeteries this summer and asked him to mention it at the meeting. He explained to her that the storms and wet weather had taken priority this summer. He went and checked the cemeteries after the call, and they had all been mowed and looked good at that point. The Board agreed that this was a unique summer.

Gary questioned whether the Planning Board was still updating the Comprehensive Plan. Shiloh confirmed that they are going to be working on it.

Terry announced upcoming dates of interest and noted the change in the curbside collection schedule for the week of Thanksgiving.

M/M/S Gary/Tom to adjourn. Vote 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Shiloh A. LaFreniere