

**TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE  
SELECTBOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, October 9th, 2018**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 6:09pm.

**Present:** Gary Mullen, Mike McPhetres, John O'Brien, Rodney Hoyt, Jillian Conner, Betsy Sponable, Simon Broadford – Tunbridge Fire Chief, Jamie Loura – Tunbridge Resident, Scout Kamorowski – Tunbridge Resident, Jonni Spaulding, Rudi Ruddell

South Royalton Rescue Representatives: Brenda Field, Dave Kimball, Thomas Hoyt, Corinne Ingraham, Steve Belmont, Jerry Barcelow, Judy Turner

First Branch Ambulance Representatives: Michael Boguzewski, Linda Kuban, Chase Ackerman,

**Road Foreman Report:**

- Rodney said he's planning to send a ten wheeler to Williamstown, they need to borrow two and Chelsea can only loan one.
- The guardrails on Monarch Rd. are being installed.
- The guardrails on Mary White Rd. are all done. Rodney would like to get some 12 ft. pressure treated planks to put at bottom of one section where rails ride a little high to be raise the road up to meet it with crushed stone.
- Rodney has been told the leaf blower is working well.
- There is a piece of one of the town snow plows that is worn out completely and can't be welded, so it needs to be replaced. Rodney said the part can cost up to \$1,500 brand new. Buying a replacement plow would be close to \$7,000. The Selectboard agreed to take out of the snowplow budget to purchase the needed part for about \$1,500.
- The road crew is spending a lot of time grading roads and getting everything ready for winter.
- The new backhoe should be here in about 6 weeks.
- The garage windows have not been installed yet and Rodney did not have an update.
- The grant for the Hanson Rd. repair is set in stone and ready to go. One of the conditions is that is completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. John Smith of Vershire who is doing the repair said that is possible. The grant covers \$21,000 of project, which is not the entire cost, so \$10,000 has been added to next year's budget to fund the rest of the project. The town will pay for the materials and culverts.
- Brenda Field asks Rodney about the status of the speed signs on Drew Rd. Rodney advised her to follow up with Jackie Higgins about this.

**Discussion with Ambulance Services**

Multiple representatives of both the South Royalton Rescue (SRR) and First Branch Ambulance (FBA) were present to discuss the altered response area line that was changed at the state

level without proper procedure and without communicating with the town or ambulance services. The new line now puts the entire Fairgrounds within the FBA's response area, when it had been split in half prior to the E9-1-1 board's changes. Brenda Field recommended on behalf of the SRR that the Selectboard contact the E9-1-1 Board and ask them to change the line back to what it was when contracts with the town and the SRR and FBA were signed. Representatives from the SRR stated that their contract with Tunbridge will be void unless the response line is returned to where it was at time of signing because the placement of the line is explicitly mentioned in it. A letter written to the Selectboard from the SRR was given to members outlining their stance. Gary proposed that the Selectboard would need time to revisit the issue and asked if everyone would come to the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Selectboard meeting. Brenda respectfully asked Gary to recuse himself from the process because of his familial relations to the involved parties.

### **Town Hall Kitchen Update**

Jonni Spaulding updated the board that the construction permit came through and just needed to be signed. She updated the board that she met the fire marshall assigned to the project, as well as the state plumbing inspector. They discussed the options that will bring the kitchen as close to code as possible. Jonni asked when the Selectboard would like to open the bids for the kitchen. Gary proposed to hold a special Selectboard meeting on Friday evening, 10/12, at 7pm. All agreed. A public notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board and at the post office immediately after.

### **Further Ambulance Discussion**

Rudi clarified that the ambulance contracts do not reference a specific response line, but that they reference the online response line viewer. He recommended using a static map in future contracts to avoid this confusion. He also said he felt the E9-1-1 coordinator would be reluctant to switch the response line back without doing the process correctly this time. John asked if the state would perhaps put in writing what happened and why the line was moved in the first place. Rudi said he would get in touch with them again.

### **New Business**

John made a motion to hire Jillian Conner as the interim Administrative Assitant to the Selectboard during the transition of Jackie Higgins' exit and before someone is hired to take the position over. Mike seconded. All in favor. So moved.

John said Elaine Howe asked if lights could be installed over the doors of the Town Hall. He asked if Mike Howe would be able to do that. John moved to have Mike Howe install solar powered motion detector lights over the Town Hall doors. Mike seconded. So moved. Jillian will contact Mike about this.

A letter from Pamela Dietz on behalf of Neighbors Helping Neighbors was submitted to the Selectboard asking the town for \$450.00 per year to pay for the organization's phone bill. Their board has been paying the bill for the last two years.

Kay Jorgenson complained about the end of ramp going in to the Town Office because it is cracked and could be dangerous. Gary agreed to contact Rueben from Hook Construction to look at it and potentially fix it.

The Tunbridge School requested the town install automatic handicap door openers in the gymnasium. The cost estimate was between \$7,000 and \$9,000. Selectboard can't forget about it.

Orders and warrants signed.

Gary signed construction permit for Town Hall Kitchen.

John motioned to adjourn, Mike seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:59pm.

Selectboard/Committee Joint Meeting Schedule 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month

Cemetery Commission: April and August

Planning Commission: April, August and November

Recreation Commission: January, April, July and October

Listers: May and November

Auditors: September and November

Library Directors: October

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Gary Mullen, Chair

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Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

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John O'Brien, Clerk

