

TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE SELECTBOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 6:00pm, Town Offices and Via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm.

Present: Mike McPhetres, Gary Mullen, John O'Brien, Mariah Cilley, Brenda Field, Carin Pratt, Fern's iPad, Todd Tyson, Mick Maguire, Fred Pond, Jim L., Lynne Hadley

Road Report- Rodney Hoyt Via Mike McPhetres

The driveshaft in Thomas's truck was replaced and they got it back. They are trying to put stones in ruts and keep up with the freezing and thawing temperatures. Hoyt is looking at upcoming grants. Is interested in paving from Rte 110 up to Recreation Road and beyond if money allows. The new Chevy truck is working well. They had one day they weren't able to get it into 4WH Drive but the dealer couldn't find anything wrong and it hasn't happened again.

Should we order a new truck? The 10-wheeler is next up. Mullen will look for the list. McPhetres estimates it could be around \$200,000, but Hoyt is concerned with how long it is taking to get vehicles. Diesel fuel cost is increasing still. This could take more of our budget than previously thought. Cilley will investigate what the equipment replacement fund balance is.

Town Hall Energy Audit Discussion

Cilley met with a member of EfficiencyVT for a walk through of the Town Hall. She suggested we have a full audit done to see where we can really make changes that would be cost effective. McPhetres makes a motion to have Mariah Cilley set up an appointment to have a better energy audit done. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

Todd Tyson expressed his support in this.

GMP Opportunity Discussion- Brenda Field & Lynne Hadley

Green Mountain Power is working on a pilot project for making four towns more independent. Rochester is one of the four right now. Hadley reached out to GMP to discuss interest. They are interested in us, because we have an interest in this program. They have received pushback from other towns so our willingness to work with them is a big selling point for our town. If we were chosen it would hold opportunities for us to become more independent with potentials for power packs at the Town Hall with solar, as well as the potential for solar at the Town Garage as examples. Tyson also states that he has reached out with interest to GMP as well and has discussed an EV charging station.

O'Brien asks what we get out of this if we were selected. Field will look into this more.

Hadley states that Rochester was selected because they are high on the list of towns with blackouts and power issues. They were cut off from the grid and from other towns during Hurricane Irene so they make for a top candidate. Tyson also states that we would be able to receive incentives and price breaks while working with GMP on this project.

Mullen tells the crew to forge ahead with their interest and get more information.

Other Business:

Brief discussions of appointed vs elected clerks; Gilley Road Issue- no ongoing complaints; abandoned mobile homes; Memorial Day Parade- still looking for a czar.

McPhetres motions to hold Memorial Day Parade on Memorial Day, May 30, 2022 pending a new COVID outbreak. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

Warrants: McPhetres makes a motion to allow the Selectboard Chair Mullen to look over the warrants and approve. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

Minutes from the December 14th, December 22nd, December 18th, January 11th and January 25th and February 8th meeting were moved for approval to the next meeting.

McPhetres motions to adjourn. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Gary Mullen, Chair

Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

John O'Brien, Clerk

