

## **TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE**

Tuesday October 11, 2022 at 6:00pm via Zoom and Town Offices

Meeting called to order at 6:07pm

Present: Mike McPhetres, Gary Mullen, Mariah Cilley, John O'Brien, Maryann Caron, Becky Hoyt, Maureen McCullough, Brenda Field, Janet Wells, Matt Slayton, Jodi Hoyt, Margaret (Peg) Sherlock, Fred Pond, Amy Frost, Janet Zug

### **Road Report- Rodney Hoyt via Mike McPhetres**

Rodney Hoyt has a kidney stone. Thomas Hoyt will be off next week for hunting. They have repaired the Strafford Road. Jim Ware has been out blowing leaves. Crack sealing has been taking place the last two days and Rodney Hoyt asked if they can crack seal for a third day and McPhetres said yes. They are still waiting on 10 loads of sand. They have a few spots they are working on but overall they are in good shape. Belknap Bridge seems to be in good shape and on track.

### **ARPA Criteria Discussion**

Cilley gives an overview of information to be discussed tonight. ARPA Funds Application, criteria and work list created at the Special Town Meeting with Sarah Wraight of TRORC.

Caron asks how we will be managing these funds? Will we do what Two Rivers suggests by using all of this as operating expenses and then creating a surplus fund called ARPA and then there is no guidelines attached to it. McPhetres said that most of the surplus would be from Highway expenditures and with that we do not need to ask voters about the surplus. Becky Hoyt discusses how surplus can be used. Caron states that the only drawback to creating a surplus is that we have to hope the town votes on how to use that surplus as well as the timeline: we have to wait until the following fiscal year. O'Brien discusses holding a special town meeting to gain approval to create the surplus fund. Caron states that during this meeting we shouldn't discuss the different projects, it should be a block amount stating we are moving this amount to the ARPA fund and no discussion on the projects.

Caron asks about purchases regarding the OWL as well as funding for the new South Royalton Rescue Building as well as the grants manager salary and the internet at the Town Hall. Caron is going to subtract those total numbers from the total ARPA funds so that we can have a concrete number to work from. Caron states she went to the Planning Commission meeting and they were wondering what the next steps are and who creates a survey etc.

O'Brien asks if we can all be in person next meeting and use the white board to begin to prioritize the projects we already have.

Caron states that she has questions regarding the grants we have open right now as well and will meet with Cilley, Becky Hoyt and Rodney Hoyt to answer those questions.

O'Brien asks if we should set up another meeting with the town to discuss the criteria and prioritization of the projects.

A meeting is set up for Tuesday 11/14 to have another special town meeting. Caron asks about a survey and Mullen states that we are not going to move forward with a survey.

### **Town Nurse Interview**

Margaret (Peg) Sherlock- Sherlock briefs them about herself stating that she has been a nurse for many years. She has retired for the second time now but is looking for something very part time to keep her hand on the nursing profession. She knows this community and the needs of the elderly people. Sherlock has done many in home nursing. Sherlock is a Family Nurse Practitioner. She can do physical exams and establish diagnoses. She has much of her own equipment to bring to home visits. O'Brien asks Sherlock if it was 6pm on a Saturday if someone had a question could they call her and she could help them. She stated yes, she doesn't want to be on call 24/7 but would like to be able to help people if she was available. Regarding pay she is hoping that she would have enough to cover the cost of her licenses and malpractice insurance.

Jodi Hoyt- Hoyt tells the Selectboard about herself and her career in nursing. Hoyt states she is going for her Masters of Public Nursing right now. Hoyt briefs the Board about her background in her nursing career and education. Hoyt states she was offered the Town Nursing position in Sharon but has been putting all of her efforts into creating this position in Tunbridge because she loves this town and is hoping to move here. She has brought forth the information and job ideas from the Upper Valley Community Nursing Project and has applied for grants as well to get this job off the ground and is hopeful she will get the position and continue the work and ideas she has for the community. Hoyt also discusses the Tunbridge Pool and that next year she will be testing the pool for algae.

McPhetres makes a motion to go into Executive Session. O'Brien seconds. Executive Session entered at 7:58pm.

Executive Session ended at 8:05pm. The Board made the decision of which applicant to hire.

McPhetres makes a motion to hire Jodi Hoyt as the Town Officer. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved. It was a tough decision to make and the Selectboard was very impressed by both applicants.

### **Road Improvement Information- Janet Wells**

Wells shares the report of the speed study suggesting of the reduced speed limit. Wells is concerned with the report because it is based off a two hour window and it is not an accurate representation of the speed in Tunbridge. Wells listened to the meeting that was held to determine the road speed and she did not think they spoke about this topic enough and some of the information was inaccurate. Wells would like more information put together regarding information in Tunbridge to have ready for the December Commissioners meeting. Wells is requesting the information regarding the speed sign from the Orange County Sheriff's Department to present as well. Mullen asks about rules regarding the speed limit and crosswalks. Wells spoke with Rita Sito of TRORC about the Sidewalk and Crosswalk Grant that we have and Sito said we can have members of the community there to discuss and meet with the VTrans Engineer who will do the scoping study. Cilley and Wells will work together to create more

information to present at the December Commissioners meeting.

#### **Class 4 Road Improvement Form**

Selectboard approved the changes on the form.

#### **Recreation and Camping-Kathy Galluzzo**

Postponed until next meeting.

#### **Flint Bridge**

Selectboard looked over bid for the Flint Bridge from Randy Hoyt. They will postpone the decision on this bid in the following months.

#### **Other Business:**

Jodi Hoyt- Discusses an issue at 519 VT RTE 110 and did a rental inspection. Hoyt completed the 13 page checklist and then reported it to the Fire Marshall. The Fire Marshall wanted Hoyt to put a Health Order on the property. Hoyt spoke to the land lords and stated that if they make a plan with the state by October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 then she would not put Health Orders on it. The two tenants in Apartment B who called Hoyt are finding alternate housing and Hoyt hopes they will not have to put Health Orders on the property or else the tenants in Apartment A will also have to move out within 30 days. She does a follow up and brief of the Gilley Road property and how the Health Order on that property ended.

Janet Zug- Discussion of two estimates to soundproof the Town Hall. One is \$8937 and the second one is \$4818.00. McPhetres asks Zug to find out more information on how they can coordinate the lighting and soundproofing to determine that they are done in the same. A decision will be determined next meeting.

Ongoing Dog Complaint on Dickerman Hill Road- Cilley will send photo of said dog off the property along with a fine and a note stating that if there is another complaint then the town will forward this issue to the Vermont State Police due to the fact that we do not have an animal control officer or constable.

Conservation Commission Letter- The Selectboard read over the letter from the Conservation Commission on their stance of an ATV Ordinance. The Selectboard thanks the commission for their input.

#### **Approve Warrants:**

All warrants were signed and approved.

#### **Approve Minutes:**

Minutes postponed until next meeting.

McPhetres makes a motion to adjourn. O'Brien seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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Gary Mullen, Chair

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Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

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John O'Brien, Clerk