

## **TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE**

Tuesday April 23rd, 2024 at 6:00pm via Zoom and Town Offices

Meeting called to order at 6:08pm

Present: Mike McPhetres, Mariah Cilley, John O'Brien, Gary Mullen, Sheriff Ryan Palmer, Susan Salster, Kathi Terami, Baxter Doty, Rodney Hoyt, Fern Strong, Todd Tyson, Brenda Field, Maryann Caron, Doug Giles, Jeremiah Caron, Jack Howe, Nick Howe, Jon Benson, Buck Russell, Robert Childs, Dave Kimball, Barry's Phone, Darren Marcy, Fred Pond, Nancy Chapman, Roseann Emerson, Lancer Chambers, Janet Zug, Marybeth Lang, Janet Wells

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

The grader needs a tune up. McPhetres makes a motion to get the grader a 2000 hour tune up. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

Pickett's wants to begin hauling sand at the price of \$12/CY and can haul it as much as he can at \$7/CY. McPhetres makes a motion to purchase approximately 5000 yards of sand from Pickett's, Inc. for not more than \$95,000 to include trucking.

Hoyt wants to change over to 4 10-hour days starting next week. Sounds good to the Selectboard. McPhetres talks with someone for Foreman Hoyt about a chainsaw and it would be around \$450.

### **Selectboard to Walk Cemetery Fence**

The Selectboard makes a recess to heads outside to walk the fence at the Village Cemetery with Cemetery Commissioner Baxter Doty and the public.

### **Mowing Bid Approval**

The Selectboard makes a couple changes and approves the mowing bid to be placed in the paper.

### **Blakeman's COAL Discussion**

Discussion continues on the Blakeman's Application for a Certificate of Approved Location of a Salvage Yard. He has been fined many times by the State of Vermont and has paid lots of fines. Dave Kimball believes if we give him this approved permit, it will give him more leverage to not stay compliant. McPhetres makes a motion to deny the Application for Certificate of Approved Location of a Salvage Yard. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

### **Emergency Services Committee Report**

Dave Kimball presents. The Emergency Services Committee was asked to be brought back together and consists of Robert Childs, Brenda Field, Anissa Morrison, David Kimball, and Doug Giles. They note that both departments are well run and making a recommendation between the two comes down to a few factors. Sheriff Palmer is growing his department well and aggressively. They are providing coverage to many towns in our areas. If they are off their calls get sent to VSP.

Chief Stalknaker is only covering Royalton and have no other plans to offer coverage to other towns besides Tunbridge.

Recommendation has to do with the fact that Windsor County is growing so rapidly and Royalton is near us, is growing their department, and is already in contract with Royalton Police Department. The recommendation of the Emergency Services Committee is to continue our contract with Royalton Police Department. Mullen asks what the stability of the Royalton Police Department is since it has to do with the Selectboard approving the contract. Robert Childs states that he thinks Windsor has the man power, equipment and tech to help us more than Royalton Police Department does.

Sheriff Ryan Palmer wants to confirm about staffing. Deputy Jackson Howe is not the only person who patrols in the North. They do use him a lot as because he is local and knows the area but they have other deputies that will use as well. Windsor County works well with VSP also.

Roseann Emerson states that they believe it makes sense to use Windsor County because they are right in Chelsea or Tunbridge. She also states that because they are contracted with the school system they have been so helpful and quickly responses. She believes it will be more bang for our buck.

Lancer Chambers states that we need people patrolling the back roads as well and to have a presence.

Anissa Morrison states that we are getting 15 hours a week for \$50,000 a year. Domestic assaults can take up to all 15 hours for that contracted week.

Buck Russell had his shop broken in to last year, had photos and videos and knew exactly who the person was who did it. He spoke with VSP and Royalton PD and no one came up and talked with him or did anything. Through the grapevine of knowing Jack Howe, Sheriff Palmer heard about it and reached out to Russell. Sheriff Palmer had them arrested within the next two days.

Jeremiah Caron states that he feels Royalton PD is here for the paycheck and that Winsor County is here for the people. Jack Howe and Sherriff Palmer have been here and showing interest and are here at the meeting tonight which should show that they care.

Marybeth Lang asks why we don't have a speed sign that blinks and tells people their speed. Maryann Caron states that our Sidewalk Scoping Proposal states that we do have a vendor to go that route, but we were asked to hold off until the sidewalk scoping was done and then we could put them out.

McPhetres makes a motion to hire Windsor County Sheriff Department for one year. O'Brien wonders if we can split the contract. Sheriff Palmer states that he thinks this would muddy the water more and confuse the citizens as to who they should reach out to. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

The Selectboard wants to thank the Emergency Services Committee for their dedication to coming up with recommendations.

### **Town Hall Parking- Janet Wells & Janet Zug**

Janet Wells has to ask people to move vehicles from her driveway multiple times a week. Wells has also talked to the Wights and they are interested in putting in metal signs that say no parking.

They are between \$50 and \$90. These will be reflective and go in Well's driveway as well as the edge by the Wight's driveway. Cilley will talk with Hoyt to see if there is a company that the town goes through to get

**Memorial Day Discussion**

Cilley will reach out to Windsor County and ask for two deputies to sit in the north and south of route 110 for the parade. Cilley will also get a PA system for the Town Hall. The Tunbridge Store is putting a float in the parade for Veterans in the Korean War and other wars to ride on. Follow up meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Other Business:**

Brenda Field wants to know if we have a policy for drinking on Town Property. Cilley will follow up on creating this.

MERP Assessment on Town Hall and Town Offices done. Reports should be here soon.

FEMA BRIC Grant- have posted the RFP twice and have not gotten any proposals. Caron will reach out to seven engineers and send the RFP directly to them.

Sidewalk Scoping Study is moving forward. The engineers have 3 alternatives and will be putting out graphics for them. We will have another community meeting and then after that the Planning Commission will bring them forth the options to the Selectboard.

Received a second grant for Slide #1 on Strafford Road.

FEMA still moving forward. Questions about the Strafford Road Stone Bridge that was turned into a culvert. Caron states that they have more questions regarding this bridge but thinks she was able to solve the issue with the Irene FEMA binder that we had previously.

**Approve Warrants:**

All warrants were signed and approved.

**Approve Minutes:**

Minutes from April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 were taken by the Clerk for approval.

McPhetres makes a motion to adjourn. O'Brien seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

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Gary Mullen, Chair

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Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

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John O'Brien, Clerk