

TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Select Board
Approved Minutes for Meeting of November 23, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 9 Main Street, Alstead, NH 03602

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Mary Ann Wolf; Joe Levesque; Joel McCarty

STAFF PRESENT: Charlotte Comeau, Office Administrator; Jesse Moore, Ambulance Chief

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Glenn Elsesser; Marge Noonan; Barbara Viegner, Jude Willis (in person); Gordon Kemp; Bobbie Wilson, Vilas Pool Committee (on phone)

CALL TO ORDER: Mary Ann called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS: Signed auditor's representative letter

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of November 16, 2021: on a motion by Joel, seconded by Joe; ***the Board voted to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.***

Joe: Fridays meeting with DOT, DES and dam inspectors at Vilas Pool that took place went well. DOT has ideas of what to do and what the town should do. The dam inspectors provided a list of accredited engineering consultants so we can find out what the costs would be to fix the items listed on the letter of deficiency. According to the DES, Division of Historical Resources there needs to be further updates to Vilas Pool. There was a grant back in the 1970s which signed away the stewardship of the Vilas Pool and now has to be up to federal standards. After inspection of Vilas Pool, it is not up to Federal standards. They are willing to help pay for it. If we don't fix it, they will take the property away and it will become a state park.

- They also looked at Millot Green and stated that we need to make the snack shack windows handicap accessible and wheel chair accessibility to the basketball court. Joe doesn't think any of these projects will cost that much money.

Joel: Met with lead engineer, Jason Ayotte who is going to FEMA this week and let them know that we don't want to put a third band aid on a road project at Vilas. Jason is pitching on our behalf for a project that is three times more expensive but meant to be 18 times more durable. In order to do that we have to modify the dam and the spillway to pass more water. Joel has called an engineer in Keene and scheduled an appointment.

- Discussion took place on adding money to the Vilas Pool capital reserve fund to help pay for some of this. Glenn thinks that the bridges are more important to spend money on than Vilas Pool. The Board agreed to remove the ground penetrating radar and welder from the warrant articles in order to put \$5k into Vilas Pool capital reserve fund.
- Had a meeting with Tedd Benson about a potential change of use to the timber frame shop on Pratt Rd. Want to lease it to a school that teaches timber framing. Ted will attend the December 6 meeting of the Zoning Board for further guidance.
- Learned from the solar company that the amount of space they would need to provide solar for the municipality, school and senior center is less than a ½ an acre.

Charlotte: She and Prescott were on the exploratory call today with Homeland Security. They advised us of information that is needed. Prescott told them he had all that already. They stated that we are much more ahead than other towns. They are going to send us a spreadsheet to start entering information. They stated that that we can go right into the next step which is to meet in person at the offices in December. They will submit all that information to FEMA.

- Found out about changing the boards recommendations on a warrant article if an amount is voted to change. She told them that they can either change their recommendation right then and there or they could schedule a meeting and vote to change it there before the ballots are printed. On a motion by Joel, seconded by Mary Ann; ***the Board agreed to have a meeting after the deliberative session to discuss any changes. The motion passed unanimously.***

- Steve Reynolds told Charlotte that the Emergency Action Plan will be done by December 1st.
- Asked for Wendy if they could have fireworks at the tree lighting event. All were okay with this but Joel mentioned that Wendy may want to ask the owners of the horses that will be giving wagon rides if the noise will bother the horses.
- Asked about the attorney's response regarding Bennett Rd. The attorney stated that based on his review these were Class V roads back in 1969 and went to Class VI roads and therefore the property owner cannot put "no motorized vehicle" signs up. Joel will send something to Charlotte for her to put together a letter to send to the property owner and state that Joel will be happy to meet with him to discuss it further.
- Brought up the information she received about a mobile home that went in on 210 Gilsum Mine Rd. It is sticking out into the road and has no building permit and the owner is deceased and no taxes have been paid for ten years. Charlotte thought it was a zoning issue and asked Allan Kauders to check it out. Joel will contact Julie in the morning.

Jesse: The Board acknowledge Jesse. Discussion took place on the new program to replace the Firehouse program. It is \$1,000 for the new program and \$400 for the Firehouse program. The Board opted not to sign the 13-page contract at this time. Jesse agreed to hold off on it right now because we don't know what Mutual Aid will be using for a software program.

- Had new tires put on the ambulance. Purchased them for \$113/tire through the state bid list.

The Board acknowledged Glenn. Discussion took place on the sheet he provided on the tax impact so far on the current warrant articles. Glenn said that if we remove the ground penetrating radar and welder and put it off until next year it would be better. He also stated that we need to cut more from the operating budget and that we didn't vote a 3% cap on the operating budget but rather a 3% cap on tax increase. He said the increased amount for the budget is \$23,979.

Mary Ann: Due to the limitation on using the school for the deliberative session, she will ask about the cost of purchasing a tent and hold the meeting outside. We can use ARPA funds for purchasing the tent.

INFORMATIONAL: Town offices closed Thursday, November 25th for Thanksgiving.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

On a motion by Joe, seconded by Joel; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Comeau, Office Administrator

The next Select Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 30th, 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall