

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: September 12, 2016
Time: 6:30pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the head table were Chairman Flynn, Vice-Chairman Turner and Selectman Brazie.

Also present was James Noe.

At 6:30pm the Board interviewed Josh Labshere for the position of Highway Laborer.

Tom Sierau arrived at the meeting.

At 6:45pm the Board interviewed Harold Robitaille for the position of Highway Laborer.

Susan Bachelder arrived at the meeting.

The Board discussed the two applicants. The Board will meet on Friday, September 16 at 7:30am to make a decision after reference checks have been completed.

Rebecca Turner, Marj Wexler, Margaret Cherin all joined the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the August 29 meetings were accepted as corrected.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

Members of the Historical Commission, Susan Bachelder, Rebecca Turner and Margaret Cherin, were present at the request of the Board. It was noted that there has been some discord between the Commission and other town officials over the issue of a new furnace at the Library. The Commission was reminded that the Board is responsible for procuring and contracting. The Board values the work of the Commission in its role as advisor on historic issues and hopes that all can work together. All agreed to move forward in accord from this point forward. The Commission members left the meeting.

Jim Noe, Road Superintendent, reported that all highway equipment was grossly neglected over the last few years. There is currently only one dump truck on the road. A second should be repaired in about two weeks. The grader was just returned after being out for several weeks. The cost to make necessary repairs is over \$30,000. The grader is 27 years old and parts are outdated and hard to find. The funds raised for a new truck is really not enough. An additional \$70,000 to \$80,000 should be appropriated for a 4-wheel drive truck, possibly a 10 wheeler with a wing plow. The surplus truck is going to cost about \$45,000 just to get it on the road and with that it may not pass inspection. It was agreed not to do any work on the surplus truck but to get a detailed estimated of all work needing to be done. The Board agreed to advertising the dump body for sale. A capital plan needs to be established for replacement of the aging equipment. Jim would like some clerical support. It was decided to ask the Police Administrative Assistant if she would like some extra hours. The road maintenance plan needs to be updated. No work will be done this fall as there isn't enough time to make a proper decision. Some patching will be done this fall. A spring road project will be done.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board voted unanimously to appoint Emily Eyre to the Green Committee.

The Board voted unanimously to declare a state of emergency in regards to the computer outage that began on August 11 and ended on September 8. Data was finally able to be restored from the back up so the town will not have the expense of rebuilding all the data. A review of the computer/email use policy will be made at the next meeting.

Charles Flynn reported that the Recreation Overlay District bylaw is still in draft form, but the Committee is close to finalizing it.

The Planning Board reports via email that they will not be putting the Village District bylaw forth for a town meeting in November or December. They also reported that the Board will have the report on the hearing when it is finished.

Chairman Flynn has responded to Mr. Wosczyzna's letter informing him that there is no evidence to support his accusations against the Building Inspector.

Chairman Flynn pointed out that Roberts Rules requires a second to a motion. There ensued some discussion about the proper actions to take for motions, votes and discussions.

Several Town Boards have expressed an interest in participating in the Open House event on October 16 by giving out information and meeting residents.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board voted not to hold the special town meeting tentatively scheduled for November 14.

There is about \$5,100 in the French Park revolving fund. Office Administrator Brazie will find out what part of the estimate for repairs on the Tennis Court can be done at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

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