

Select Board Members

Peter Hood, Chair
 Mary Just Skinner,
Vice Chair
 Phil Hyjek
 Steve Martin
 Liz Scharf

MINUTES
MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, July 7, 2020
5:00 PM
HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Peter Hood, Vice Chair Mary Just Skinner, Members Steve Martin, Phil Hyjek and Liz Scharf. Treasurer Dorinda Crowell. Vic Dwire. Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman. This meeting was recorded by ORCA and a copy is available by contacting the Middlesex Town Clerk.

Call to Order/Amendments

Peter called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM. There were no amendments.

Road Commissioner Steve Martin's Highway Report

Center Road potholes: Steve said he had Paul mark potholes on Center Road and Jason Merrill is going to submit a bid. He might only have to just put in asphalt and patch. Or it could be more than that.

Road Crew schedule: Currently, the Road Crew is on Upper Barnett Hill Road and removing ledge in the ditch line. They did some ditching, cut some trees and are finishing one of the larger culverts. They should be done this week. They will start resurfacing on McCullough Hill Road on July 13 for three or four days. One of the next projects will be to remove sand debris underneath guardrails on Center Road. Going to be clearing that as soon as they get off Barnett Hill Road. Later in August, McCullough Crushing will come in to screen sand from the Town pit for winter sand. Trucks will be leaving the notch, go up Center Road and return on Brook. The Highway Department will put out a notice since the truck traffic during that time will be steady. The Highway Department is on a four-day-per-week summer schedule. Vic talked about the ledge removal on McCullough Hill Road.

Meeting with the Road Crew: Peter said he and Steve met with the Road Crew. They were concerned about a few issues, but nothing serious. The question of summer uniforms came up. They were wearing shorts and T-shirts and boots. Peter wondered if this was safe and also whether the Town was still paying for uniforms. Dorinda said the Town receives bills every week for cleaned uniforms from UniFirst. Steve said it's okay for them to wear T-shirts and shorts, but the T-shirts should identify them at Town of Middlesex employees. Dorinda said the Town pays for eleven sets of cleaned uniforms for a month, including long-sleeved shirts and jackets. Peter said he and Steve will meet with the Road Crew on Wednesday in the first week of September. Vic asked about the lumber work in the Town Pit. He wanted to know if the Town was getting compensated for the materials removed. Steve said the guy who was cutting was paid an hourly rate and any good wood removed will be compensated to the Town. So far, the Town has received just one bid for roadside mowing.

Treasurer's Report

The Town has \$15,000 remaining in the FY20 budget and about \$5,000 worth of bills yet to pay with possibly a few more bills from the prior fiscal year on the horizon. Dorinda said the Town benefited from an unanticipated \$10,000 storm grant and some Lister revenue. The Board discussed the potential timeline for setting the tax rate. Since income taxes don't have to be filed until July 15 of this year, the Town will have to wait for a state report detailing which properties are non-residential, which are homesteads and, of those, which receive state payments, hopefully

a week later. Still, since the Board can set the municipal tax rate beforehand, it will do so at its July 21 meeting.

Dorinda asked about a \$20,000 check received for a proposed buyout of 28 Rich Road to which the Board has not yet officially agreed. The Board recommended cashing the check and depositing it in a separate count, kept in escrow.

Town Health Officer Appointment

This was tabled pending a response from current Town Health Officer Liz Fortman.

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION: Mary moved and Steve seconded approving the June 16, 2020, Select Board minutes. The motion passed.

All orders were reviewed and approved via email.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

THE ABOVE MINUTES WERE REMOTELY APPROVED AS A WARNED AGENDA ITEM AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD ON JULY 21, 2020.

PETER O. HOOD, CHAIR

MARY JUST SKINNER, VICE CHAIR

PHILIP HYJEK

STEVEN MARTIN

ELIZABETH SCHARF