

SELECTBOARD MINUTES
MAY 9, 2016

Meeting opened at 6:02pm

Present: Alan Vint, Chair; David DiNicola; Robert Costa
Duane Pease, Town Administrator (TA)

Warrants reviewed and signed; Payroll: \$6,136.02; Expenses \$9,018.47

April 25th minutes approved on motion by Alan, Bob 2nd; vote 3-0.

May 2nd minutes approved on motion by Alan, Dave 2nd; vote 3-0.

Selectboard voted to reappoint Alan as Chair on motion by Bob, Dave 2nd; vote 2-0'

Alan motioned to appoint bob as Clerk, Dave 2nd; vote 2-0.

Mail reviewed; nothing of importance.

Cemetery Commissioner, Larry Pease, met with Board to discuss hiring of person to mow the Town's cemeteries. Agreed to place add in Country Journal advertising as an hourly position at direction of Cemetery Commissioners.

Larry then discussed the ambulance situation with Board; he first apologized for his behavior at the Pre-Town Meeting. he did not understand any reason to switch from Hinsdale as they have been providing service for years and there have been no problems. Alan said Hilltown Ambulance made a presentation to the Board and there is a difference between Hinsdale's basic emt level and Hilltowns paramedic level, with the response time basically about the same, he would prefer the paramedic level service.

Dave said if it's not broke, don't fix it. If there was a problem, the Fire Dept. first responders would have told the board. Bob added there were some issues that have come up and raised some questions regarding Hilltown. Some member towns are going to put out a RFP for the service.

Ann Marie Visconti said the population is aging and a couple of people have approached her with concerns and would prefer a paramedic service. Sherry Venditti said she and her husband moved to Town knowing there was not an ambulance right around the corner but as they age, they would prefer paramedic service.

Fire Chief, Ron Radwich, asked if it would be possible for dispatch to request Hilltown for any paramedic backup to Hinsdale. There is a protocol for paramedic service that includes heart attack, stroke, unconsciousness and other serious trauma.

Carol Waag met with the Board to request permission to have signs installed on the West Branch of the Westfield River and Glendale Brook. She obtained the signs from the Wild & Scenic Committee. Alan motioned to allow, Bob 2nd; vote 3-0.

Treasurer position was discussed next. Alan said what Jane does; she does well but she is not using all the “tools” available. The Softrite program the Town has been paying for still is not being utilized. Bob said the Board needs to talk with Jane and give her a definite date to get these issues resolved. If not, the Town will have to look for a replacement. Alan agreed to have one more sit down with her at the next Board meeting.

Next item discussed was the possibility of purchasing a storage unit for the Town Hall, this could go outside the Library door and provide storage for the items that are currently stored in the boiler room. There are not supposed to be any flammable items in there. There are funds available in the Maintenance of Public Buildings to purchase item. TA and Bob will obtain prices prior to the next Board meeting.

Board discussed what fines can be levied for zoning violations, TA will research what other Towns do and how the fines are structured.

Dave will obtain a copy of Dalton’s Senior Tax Work off program and this will be discussed at next board meeting.

Sherrri Venditti questioned the receivership issue with Maitland Dowsey’s house, she was advised the Attorney General’s (AG) office had sent him a letter advising of same and had also spoken with him. He said he was in no position to return to his home and make the necessary repairs. TA advised according to the AG once the property is placed into receivership by the courts and rehab or demolish is completed, the property is then auctioned off. The monies obtained first go to the Town for any taxes, etc owed, then to the receiver, any mortgage holder and if there are addition monies to the owner.

Kathy O’Brien complained to the Board about the time it takes her to receive her reimbursement check from the Treasurer, it is usually longer than 2 weeks.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Bob 2nd; vote 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

Alan Vint, Chair

Robert Costa, Clerk

David DiNicola

