



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
March 3, 2021

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chair, Roberta Oeser, called the meeting to order via Zoom in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04 on March 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Roberta Oeser, Chair, Bob Hamilton and Karl Pruter, Selectmen
Also present: Sara Gravell, Town Administrator, and Members of the Community

GENERAL BUSINESS

Selectmen's Announcements: Roberta announced the weight limit restrictions on town roads will be in place starting on Monday, March 8th until further notice. She also noted the Planning Board updated the PURD regulations at last night's meeting. Bob stated the Wellington Road Bridge project is moving forward and is scheduled between May 3rd through August 31st and could be shut down at any point between those dates. The Easter Egg Hunt will be March 27, 2021. Residents will be able to meet/greet and have pictures taken with the Easter Bunny at 9:30 a.m. and the Egg Hunt will start promptly 10:00 a.m.

Citizens Forum: Judy Unger Clark requested the Selectmen's minutes get posted to the Town website as soon as they are approved. Holly Koski questioned if weight restrictions on the roads applied to delivery trucks delivering wood pellets and Bob responded all deliveries for heating sources are allowed on the roads.

Consent Agenda - Approval of:

- 2-17-2021 minutes
- Accounts Payable 2/25/2021, 3/4/2021
- Payroll 2/25/2021, 3/4/2021
- Trustee Alternate Appointments: Anne Reid and Vern Young

Bob made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Karl seconded the motion and it passed by roll call vote 3-0. Bob, Aye, Karl, Aye, Roberta, Aye.

Old Business: As discussed during budget season the Board would use some funds from the Police Detail Revolving Fund and some from the Unanticipated Revenue fund to keep the Police

Revolving from not getting depleted. Police Sergeant Rachel Maylonowski stated the Department would like to replace Unit #4 and currently has an agency that would like to purchase it. She received three quotes on a new 2021 Ford Explorer, adding, the company has the vehicle ready to purchase but if there is a delay in purchasing, the cruiser may not be available due to the high demand for the vehicles. The total cost of the cruiser and package is estimated to be to \$46,842.46. Chief Dan Anair noted the trade in value of unit #4 would be around \$1,250.00. Roberta noted to check the balance on the Revolving. Bob made a motion to authorize the Police Department to purchase the cruiser. Karl seconded the motion and it passed by roll call vote 3-0. Bob, Aye, Karl, Aye, Roberta, Aye.

IT Discussion: There was a brief discussion on the contract with Cadnet for IT services. Dan requested the representatives' first report to him until they are CJIS compliant. Karl made a motion to allow Sara to sign the IT proposal with Cadnet with the requirements for CJIS. Bob seconded the motion and it passed by roll call vote 3-0. Bob, Aye, Karl, Aye, Roberta, Aye.

Consolidated Communications (CCI): Vice President CCI, Rob Koester was present and gave an update on the new fiber being installed in Rindge. Mr. Koester stated there has been some delays with materials and weather slowing the progress down a bit. He continued adding, as of today there is about 30 installers in town, and about 30% of the town has signed up for fiber thus far.

Mr. Koester thanked Craig Clark and Phil Motta for working so hard and getting the information out to the residents. He suggested if residents have any issues to put an electronic ticket online or call 1-844-YOUR-CCI. Roberta reported the phone service has been very helpful. Karl also had a good experience with the customer service. Chief Anair noted there has been a lot of out of state contactors and asked if they could have some type of identification as it helps to reduce the amount of calls the Department is receiving. Mr. Koester responded he would see that the installers/workers have some sort of identification on.

Mr. Koester stated they are making progress on having a phone line for fiber technical calls only and asked for patience through the next month while they get it up and running. Holly Koski mentioned people have been talking about the difference in prices being offered. Mr. Koester responded that is the digital marketing company's mistake. He also mentioned pricing will change over time and customers will be able to update pricing at a later time, adding residents are welcomed to contact him directly through the info on Facebook and to reach out if they feel the price they were quoted was too high.

Keith Woolrich stated his biggest fear when the Town announced the contract with CCI, was their poor customer service. He recently had fiber installed and has had no internet service for the past 24 hours. He was very frustrated with the customer service he received from several reps that he spoke with within the last 24 hours, adding it was very sad he had to reach out through Facebook to get ahold of Craig. He has no phone and no internet and is unable to work. He was told his issue would be expedited; however, he is still without internet service. Mr. Woolrich added he is appalled at the customer service he has received from the tech support.

Rob Koester apologized to Mr. Woolrich and stated he would get this resolved right away. Richard Mellor stated he is currently a Wi Valley customer and was ready to make the switch to CCI but questioned the reliability going forward because he did not want to be without internet. Mr. Koester stated the last thing they want is for poor customer service and for people to be without internet.

Roberta noted she had a complaint for the Selectmen that the Town did not take the businesses into consideration as far as pricing and that some business were paying extremely high rates. Mr. Koester mentioned for Roberta to get the phone numbers for those businesses and he would call them to find out what services and the prices they are paying for and to see if he can find a better plan for them. Holly Koski suggested Rob join the life in Rindge Facebook page. Judy Unger Clark mentioned suggested having Rob's information on Facebook page and the website. Roberta noted having a more direct contact would be good. MaryAnn Harper invited him to like the Rindge Reporter page as well. Bob suggested CCI have a direct 800 line for people dedicated to Rindge.

Town Vehicle Service Proposal: Roberta suggested the Board look into having a town vehicle service proposal with a local business, adding, it was a way to support town businesses and give the Town a chance to save money. Karl stated this should be a non-public meeting and the Police Department should be involved with this decision. Rick mentioned it would be good to get a few quotes from local businesses. Bob stated the Board should look into pricing, reliability, lower cost, guarantee of services and responsiveness. Bob stated he would prefer to use a Rindge business, however, we may need to look at surrounding towns as well.

2020 Abatement Reviews: Roberta stated she did not realize abatements were part of the contract with KRT adding, there are several abatements. Bob and Karl agreed it should be discussed in a nonpublic session. Roberta mentioned the Board should schedule to meet with KRT on these abatements. Bob would like to compile his list of issues and discuss with Town Counsel first. Deni Dickler questioned the accuracy of the information within the Avitar database. Roberta noted the errors within the assessments are usually found when a "list and measure" is conducted. That information would then be changed in the Avitar database.

Bob noted there is always discrepancies and mistakes that get entered incorrectly, adding, it is up to the home owners to make sure their assessments are accurate. Roberta also mentioned the old Vision system codes differ from Avitar's codes. Bob stated an abatement is based upon comparable properties.

ZBA Decision Review: Bob announced the new Zoning Officer is Frank Volpe. Mr. Volpe has been into the office a couple times and has been working with Roberta. They are working on setting up office hours for him.

Boston Post Cane: Roberta announced the Board will be presenting the cane to Rindge's oldest resident, Bernice Martin, at Payson Village soon.

Informational Items/Communications & Updates: Sara stated the Board had a site visit to the Wellington Bridge and the bid was awarded to Neil Daniels. There will be a pre-construction meeting for the Wellington Bridge. She also mentioned the new town website will be going live on April 8th.

Any Other Business: Roberta asked Sara for an update on the Ford property and the old RFP for the Meeting House to be painted. Bob suggested Sara call a meeting so they can take a vote on and that and for UCC to be at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola
Executive Secretary