

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Thursday, December 2, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Frank Reeder, Russ Austin, Clayton Stalker-excused

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm by Frank Reeder.
2. Approval of Minutes: November 18, 2021. Motion was made by Frank Reeder second by Russ Austin to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 2-0.
3. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Russ Austin to approve a manifest of \$1,072,531.35. Motion passed 2-0.
4. Guest ;
 - A. John Burt - Requested permission to fix Hartwell Mill Road which is a Class VI road. Due to clearing in recent years the road has washed out. JoAnn LaBarre suggested that our Road agent look at the road to advise Burt how to best fix the road. Motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Russ Austin to allow John Burt to improve Hartwell Mill Road. Motion passed 2-0.
 - B. Tom Finnegan, Fire Station Committee Chair, presented the fire station budget figure \$2,437,971 for the 2022 Town Warrant. Cost of construction has gone up 12% over last year's proposed \$2,275,500. The committee looked at other buildings and did not find anything that would save money and suit the needs of the town. The committee made cuts to the original building to reduce the overall increase. Changes include: Removal of wash truck cistern, landscaping, flagpole, split face block on exterior, wainscot inside, solar tubes, and appliances; Reduced number of windows and glass on garage doors; and Change to front door and vestibule design. Committee will continue to look into grants, fundraising, and donations. Finnegan asked selectmen how to move forward with PR. Frank Reeder suggested the committee talk to Steve Horton, the town representative who has helped other towns with the process.
5. Old Business:
 - A. Daggett Hill - No response to certified letter and notices to remove belongings and truck left on Daggett Hill Road. Truck was removed from Daggett Hill Road by Leon's Auto Center Towing
 - B. Tower Clock - Bill Fletcher showed JJ Prior and Bruce Uhas how to wind the tower clock. JJ Prior will be winding and maintaining the clock, and Bruce Uhas will fill in as needed.
 - C. Health Officer - A Health Officer is still needed for the town. Frank Reeder suggest advertising the position again as well as that of the Planning and Zoning Clerk/s
 - D. ARPA Grant - Met with Chris Coates and Davis Bernstein from Cheshire County to discuss ideas regarding how the town can best use ARPA Grant money received from the State and the County within the guidelines.
6. New Business:
 - A. Rail Trail Letter - Conservation Committee sent a letter to abutters of the rail trail informing them of work being done on the trails.

B. Highway Dept. Screen - Screen made years ago rusted and continually needed repair. Road Agent, Dave Poklemba, gave it to the Walpole Highway Dept. who has the ability and funds to fix. If able to fix Walpole agreed to allow Westmoreland use of the screen. Selectmen agreed the screen of no use to Westmoreland as is, and trade beneficial to the town.

Signature Approval was given for the following:

General Journal Entry #784

Payroll: 11/30/2021

Payroll Taxes: 11/30/2021

Amazon: 11/22/2021

Market Basket Gift Cards: 11/19/2021

Westmoreland Post Office: 11/23/2021

Compu Checks: 11/24/2021

Health Trust: 11/30/2021

Retirement: 11/30/2021

Intuit Subscription: 11/30/2021

Home Depot: 11/30/2021

Go Daddy Domain: 12/1/2021

Intent to Cut: R3-76 & 38; R7-43&44;

R7-45

7. Budget - Worked on the 2022 budgets for Highway Dept., Supervisors of the Checklist, Zoning Board, Health Officer, Welfare Officer, Fire Dept., and Recycling Center.

8 Correspondence: County sent a copy of their 2022 proposed budget

9. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3,II(c) at 2:30pm. Motion passed 2-0.

10. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder, to seal the non-public session minutes and return to public session at 2:45pm. Motion passed 2-0.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 2:47pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Scanlan

Town Administrative Assistant

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, December 16, 2021, 6:00pm

MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED

SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Clayton Stalker, Chairman

Russ Austin

Frank Reeder