

Town of Readsboro
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
The Readsboro Town Office
December 18, 2019

Selectboard Present: Raymond Eilers, David Marchegiani, Joseph Berard
Others present: Karen Boisvert, Bob Matte, Howard Weiss-Tisman (VPR) Craig Barkus, Mitchell and Amber Holland, Helyn Strom-Henriksen, Cindy Florence, Jim Irace, Normajean Marchegiani, Mike Eldred (DVN), Forrest Hicks

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Additions/ Deletions Approval of Agenda:

Raymond made a motion to accept the agenda as written, Joseph seconded. So voted.

Reading & Approval of Records:

Minutes of Previous Regular Meeting of 12/13/19

Normajean Marchegiani requested that the minutes be amended to include the specific reason for her termination as Utility Clerk. Tabled until corrections are reviewed.

Fiscal Matters:

Review of Budget Status Report:

None

Selectboard Administrative Report:

A) Updates:

Raymond updated the other board members on the parking situation on Canal Drive. The residents were told to move their cars to the appropriate parking area, or they would be towed. Next snowstorm calls will not be made, they will be towed at owners expense.

Raymond also updated the other board members that he and Jeremy Green had received complaints from a resident on Wiley Mountain Road. The file on the road was reviewed.

Old Business:

A) Transfer Station Hours and Days of Operation- Discussion & Action:

After much discussion Raymond made a motion to change the Transfer Station Hours for the winter to Friday 10-4 and Saturday 10-4, Joseph seconded. So voted. Hours will be effective January 3, 2020. Signs will be posted, and notices put into the next Utility billing.

B) DRB- Discussion & Action:

Rhonda Smith sent a letter of interest to the board to fill one of the vacant positions on the DRB, Amber Holland verbally expressed her interest.

Raymond made a motion to appoint both Rhonda Smith and Amber Holland to the DRB. There are still 3 spots left to fill if possible. Karen will continue to reach out to residents that may have an interest to send in letters of interest for appointment.

New Business & Communications:

A) Discussion with School Board on Submitted Petition:

Helyn explained to the Selectboard the chain of events that has led us to the potential dissolving of the school union. She stated that in March architectural plans were drawn up for repairs. In that report it was estimated that it would cost between 1.5 – 2 million dollars to complete all the recommended repairs. Halifax residents began to question why they had to pay half of the cost. It was determined that the Readsboro 7-8 grade students would be attending classes in Halifax this year and Readsboro parents expressed concerns from that decision. Halifax sent out their petition before Readsboro and will be holding their meeting on 12/20/19 with voting on 12/30/19. Helyn explained the Town warns the meeting but it is run by the Schoolboard. Raymond asked Helyn who initiated the architects plans and Helyn stated she did not know but that Central Office at the WSSU had hired an Operational Manager to oversee all the buildings. Raymond requested a copy of the plans that were drawn up with the recommendations. He also asked Helyn if the WSSU was responsible for the education as well as building maintenance. He feels with such low-test scores and buildings in disrepair that the Town was not getting much for their money. Helyn feels the test scores are due to extensive turn over in staff.

B) Signing of Warrant for Special Meeting for dissolving the SVUUD- Discussion & Action:

After a brief discussion Raymond made a motion to warn a Special Town Meeting to consider dissolving the SVUUD on January 20,2020 at 8pm, Joseph second. So voted.

C) Municipal Assistance Bureau, Consultant Performance Evaluation Form- Action:
Amber stated that the survey needed to be complete before the Sidewalk Grant could be completely closed out. Tabled until the next meeting.

D) National Center for Electronics Recycling (NCER) agreement for 2020- Discussion & Action:
Raymond made a motion to sign the NCER agreement for 2020, Joseph seconded. So voted.

Hearing of Visitors:

Mitchell asked permission to construct a bridge from crane matts next to the swamp on legal trail # 3 on case lane for snowmobiles. The beavers are flooding that part of the trail. Bridge will be 8' wide and roughly 2-4' above the river with hazard signs being posted.

Raymond made a motion to allow the Woodford SnoBusters to construct a bridge out of crane matts on Case Lane by the large swamp, David seconded. So voted.

There was a brief discussion about the club filling out access permits for all their crossings. Craig argued that the crossings have been in existence for many years already. Craig also suggested the Town not plow all of Ruba Road but to have the trucks turn around at White Road. Mitchell asked about the parking lot in front of the Lions Park on Rt 100. Raymond told him to just talk with Jeremy and show him what they want from the town crew as far as plowing. Forrest suggested calling VLCT to have them come down and do a training with new BCA members. VLCT has done this in the past.

Executive Session if needed:

None

Fiscal Matters:

A) Signing of Selectboard orders/bills-
AP and Payroll were reviewed and signed.

B) Budget Work Session:
Capital Funds and Road Material Funds were gone through.

Adjournment:

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Boisvert, Administrative Assistant
December 19, 2019