



TOWN HALL | 39 SOUTH STREET | HINSDALE, MA | 01235 | 413-655-2300

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 22, 2020 at 7pm

Community Room – Downstairs

posted 6:45am on 2/28/2020

Present: Select Board, Robert Graves, Asst. Lynne Baumgartner

7:00 PM, Vivian opened the meeting, noted that it was being recorded; asked if all phones could be turned off. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Rich made a motion to approve January 8, 2020 meeting minutes, Ray abstained, Vivian seconded, both said Aye.

Rich Peters said the Governor is coming out with State budget this week, which correlates with the school budget, which still should be a conservative one. Jim Chivers is now an official member of the school building committee. Go to Blue meeting was held today and Chief Coe and State Police officers were present to go over security at the new school building.

Bob Graves said the Treasurer/Collector has scheduled two property auctions on April 1, based on recommendation from the attorney. For auction will be the old nursing home and a piece of property with Ashmere Lake rights. We received the DEP paperwork on the Transfer Station recapping with final approval. They modified the program in our favor. We won't need an access road around it. RFP for tax assessment services is posted.

New Business

Eversource requested permission to relocate and install new poles on western side of New Windsor Road. Esther Baldarini showed the board an aerial view where the new solely-owned poles would be installed. They would support a platform system for regulators to be installed so that the voltage would now be consistent. Ray made a motion to approve, Rich seconded, all said Aye.

Ray presented information on Liability Protections for non-health care professional volunteers over 70. He is looking to establish a Citizens Emergency Response Team which is covered by FEMA and Massachusetts emergency management which will work in conjunction with the police and fire departments to help with non-tactical activities. It is a volunteer function. Ray asked for a motion to approve the concept of the CERT. Rich said he has seen them in action, made a motion to approve, Vivian seconded the motion, all said Aye.

Ray announced the new responsibility for the town hall generator has changed from Water/Sewer Supervisor Larry Turner to Emergency Management.

Rich made a motion to appoint new members to Hinsdale-Peru Cultural Council- John Hagan and Joseph Horton. Ray seconded, all said Aye.

Rich made a motion to appoint new members to Council on Aging – Jill Cole and Alice Gmyek. Ray seconded, all said Aye.

Rich made a motion to appoint Angela Stetson, Ty Perrault and Kerri Striebel to Sidewalk Clearing Committee. Ray seconded, all said Aye.

Ray made a motion to appoint Dion Douglas as Alternate to Zoning Board of Appeals. Rich seconded, all said Aye.

Rich made a motion to accept Charlie Browne's proposed 5-year contract to work as Town Accountant. Ray seconded, all said Aye.

Bud is anticipating the Winter Road Budget (acct. 421-7119) will be overspent soon due to equipment maintenance and a lot of weather events. Rich made a motion to accept overspending the account. Ray seconded the motion, all said Aye. Ray mentioned more heavy preventative maintenance being done now than in the past to prevent repairs on equipment.

Mackenzie Greer of Berkshire Natural Resource Council asked for support for its grant application to make the parking lot for the Old Mill Trail handicapped accessible. This endorsement is aligned with the town's Recreation and Open Space Plan, and supports recreational opportunities for residents in the town and the region. Need motion to support grant application with a memorandum of understanding. The town of Hinsdale owns the parking lot which is why they need a letter of support. The trail will be ADA compliant for .7 miles and the grant will allow maintenance/adjustments on the tread of the trail and the bridge height to make it more wheelchair friendly. Ray made a motion to support BNRC in their request to obtain a grant; Rich seconded, all said Aye.

Viv is going with Bud Hall to accept the MassWorks \$1M grant for Old Dalton Road in Williamsburg, MA tomorrow.

Ray made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Rich seconded, all said Aye.