

Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen – Minutes
Thursday, December 5, 2019 – 6:30 pm
Rowe Town Hall - Hearing Room 1

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Chuck Sokol at 7:26 p.m.

Announcement of recording devices: two recording devices

Present: Chair Chuck Sokol, Ed Silva, Selectman and Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau

Absent: Vice-Chair Jennifer Morse

Audience: Joanne Semanie, Administrative Assistant Paul McLatchy III and Walt Quist

Noteworthy Announcements: None

Correspondence/Citizen Comments as received.

- I. Scheduled Presentations/Joint Meetings
 - A. Gracy House Committee Follow-up: Gracy House Committee Members Joanne Semanie and Walt Quist presented figures from the research they have been conducting. They have met with contractors and mold remediation specialists and came up with recommendations. Identified projects are to fix and stop water in the basement, a new roof, insulate first floor, mold remediation for occupancy and septic system. There is concern about bringing electrical and plumbing up to code and concern about the current septic system and whether it is up to code. Other topics discussed were:
 - The Committee addressed having a space that other groups could use.
 - The Committee wants to hold a public hearing and present options to the citizens and have them decide discuss and decide the fate of the building and then move on and involve citizens
 - It was reported that the Committee will follow through on asbestos testing
- II. Noteworthy Announcements: None
- III. Correspondence/Citizen Comments as received. None
- IV. Municipal Light Plant Broadband Project Updates and Discussion: Executive Secretary reported that the grant related to the Broadband project from the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (OEHD) were very close to releasing the Supplemental Grant Funds that were applied to cover the overage of the 'Make Ready' costs or slightly over \$200,000.00. She also said she had spoken with the new Treasurer about borrowing additional funds if necessary.
- V. Liaison Reports (DPW, Fire, Police, Town Hall): Discussion tabled.
- VI. Subcommittee Updates: Discussion tabled.
- VII. Selectboard Business
 - New Business
 1. Special Town Meeting Warrant: Members reviewed the Special Town Meeting (STM) draft warrant.
 - Article 1 for \$176.15 was an administrative bill of a prior year.
 - Article 2 for \$13,465.51 is to transfer Town Accountant Wages to Town Accountant Operations since we are using vendor services rather than hiring an employee.

- Article 3 for \$5,000.00 to join the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District as requested by the Board of Health.
- Article 4 for \$10,000.00 for the Fire Dept. to purchase a keyless entry control security system and lock change.
- Article 5 for \$5,500.00 to the Fire Dept. for unexpected vehicle repairs.
- Article 6 for \$1,500.00 to the Fire Dept. for a broker's fee for the sale of the 1993 Mack Fire Truck.
- Article 7 for \$720.00 to replace defective lights on the Toyota cruiser. There was discussion about whether the town needs 2 police cruisers. It was stated that last year when the purchase of the new cruiser was discussed, the Finance Committee had made it clear it was a temporary expansion of the police vehicles and that it was not permanent. It had been decided that the old cruiser would be kept only until it made sense financially. There was discussion about potentially re-purposing the cruiser vehicle and further discussion with the Police Chief would be needed. Following discussion, it was decided not to include the request on the STM warrant.
- Article 8 for \$6080.00 to install Office 365 Software and third party spam filtering for all town work stations.
- Article 9 for \$2,400.00 to cover interest on broadband construction borrowing.
- Article 10 for \$3200.00 to replace variable speed drive equipment to the HVAC at Rowe Elementary School.
- Article 11 for \$7,900.00 for surge protection equipment for the pump house water supply system at Rowe Elementary School.

Motion to Approve: Chair Sokol made a motion to approve the 11 Articles for the December 19, 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant. The motion, seconded by Selectman Silva, was accepted. (vote: 2/0/0)

B. Old Business

1. Continued discussion:

- a) Town Accountant Resignation, Appointment: It was reported that David Fierro is willing to stay on and work towards a Shared Services agreement with Heath, Rowe and Monroe.
- b) Summer Youth Programs Structure: It was decided that if it is worth pursuing and that more discussion is needed to structure a program that works for both depts. The main problem is the work on the roads is not getting adequately done.
- c) Municipal Vulnerability Program: Discussion tabled
- d) Discussion About Old Cruiser Expenses: Discussed earlier
- e) Yankee Road: Discussion tabled
- f) Roof Over Mailboxes: Discussion tabled
- g) FY2021 Budget: Discussion tabled
- h) Beautification of the Broadband Hut: Discussion tabled
- i) Facilities Inspector (variation on facilities manager):
- j) Community Center Committee: Discussion tabled

1. Follow-up on action items

- a. Administrative Staff items and additional Town Hall updates

- Executive Secretary said there was date to meet with Franklin Land Trust per their request. It was agreed to meet on January 16.
- Executive Secretary was working on making certain there was a representative to attend an important meeting at Franklin County Solid Waste Management District contract for recyclables program since it was really important discussion.
- b. Chuck Sokol items: Discussion tabled
- c. Jenn Morse items: Discussion tabled
- d. Ed Silva items: Discussion tabled

C. Contracts: None

VIII. Meeting Minutes

- A. 10/24/2019: Discussion tabled
- B. 10/31/19:

Motion to Accept Minutes: Chair Sokol made a motion to accept the Minutes of October 31, 2019 The motion, seconded by Selectman Silva, was unanimously accepted. (vote: 2-0-0)

WARRANTS:

Chair Sokol reported FY20 W13 and Payroll FY20 W12 were reviewed and signed.

- III. Unforeseen Business (within preceding 48 hours)

Adjournment:

Seeing no further business, Chair Sokol made a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:53 p.m. The motion, seconded by Selectman Silva, was accepted. (vote: 2-0-0)

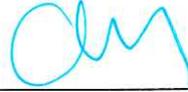
Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary

Approval Date:

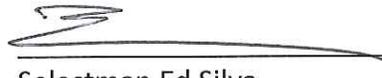
1/16/2020

Approved:



Chuck Sokol, Chair

Selectman Jennifer Morse, Vice-Chair



Selectman Ed Silva

Documents:

- Agenda 12/05/19
- Draft BoS Minutes for 10/24/19 and 10/31/19
- Executive Secretary Memo to BOH
- FCSWMD email re: New Recycling Processing Contract
- Administrative Assistant Updates
- Police Chief Cruiser invoice
- Special Town Meeting (STM) Warrant
- STM Supporting Documents
- EOHED – Last Mile Contingency Fund for Supplemental Funding for Drop Construction
- Gracy House Committee Report – Jim Lively Committee Member
- Gracy House Committee Report

Mail:

- MassDEP re: Sustainable Materials Recovery Municipal Grant