



Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen Minutes
Thursday, August 20, 2020 –5:00 p.m.
VIA TELECONFERENCE

This meeting will be held via video conference, consistent with Gov. Baker's temporary modifications to Open Meeting Law due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board of Selectmen: Chair Charles Sokol, Vice-Chair Joanne Semanie
Absent: Selectman Ed Silva
Staff: Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary, Paul McLatchy III, Administrative Assistant to the Boards, MLP Manager David Dvore
Audience of Citizens: Rosemary Gordon

Call to Order: Chair Sokol called the meeting to order at 5:03 P.M.

Roll Call Vote: Chair Sokol- yes Selectman Silva- absent Vice-Chair Semanie- yes
(Vote: 2-0-0)

Announcement of recording devices: two

Minutes:

1. Minutes of August 4, August 8, and August 11, 2020:

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES: Following review, Chair Sokol made a motion to accept the Minutes of August 4, August 8, and August 11, 2020 with corrections. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie.

Roll Call Vote: Chair Sokol- yes Vice-Chair Semanie- yes (Vote: 2-0-0)

Selectboard Business:

New Business:

1. Vice-Chair Semanie: Keyless Security System for Town Buildings: Vice-Chair Semanie said she thought it would be a good idea to research what it would cost to add the Town Hall and possibly other town facilities to the Fire Dept. project that received funding at Special Town Meeting last December. Vice-Chair Semanie thought that it would be a good idea to be able to change locks when people leave. Chair Sokol said that since the software could reside on our server(s) that it should be fairly easy to add Town Hall as the buildings are networked together. Executive Secretary agreed to obtain quotes.

2. Town Road Signage: There was review about the town road signs and that there had been no action taken to address the speed limits and other road signs. Executive Secretary said that in 2016 it had been decided to obtain a traffic count study as a first step. Ms. Boudreau showed the example of the School Zone signage which Mass DOT Director said was not legal that needs to be replaced. Following discussion, it was decided to check into the Franklin County Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) free study and if it was available since the traffic counts might differ due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Executive Secretary said she would research whether it could be performed.

Appointment: Treasurer Interview: 5:15 p.m. David Nordstrom: Selectmen met with candidate David Nordstrom for the position of Rowe Town Treasurer to discuss his experience and skills.

Mr. Nordstrom left the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

It was decided to schedule an interview with a second candidate for the Treasurer position at the next meeting. In the interim, Executive Secretary will follow up on the references for Mr. Nordstrom.

Contracts/Warrant: Broadband Hut Roof and Siding Contract: MLP Manager David Dvore met with Selectmen to review the bid proposals he received for the broadband hut siding and roof extension over the generator. Following review, he recommended to approve the low bid of \$20000.00 for the hut siding, roof and roof extension from Todd Gerry of Gerry Home Improvements. Mr. Dvore said it would be completed before winter.

MOTION TO ACCEPT BID: Chair Sokol made a motion to accept the bid of Todd Gerry of Gerry Home Improvements for \$13,800.00 for the roof and siding and \$6,200.00 for the roof extension to cover the generator for \$6,200.00 for a total of \$20,000.00. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie.

Roll Call Vote: Chair Sokol- yes Vice-Chair Semanie- yes (Vote: 2-0-0)

New Business: (Continued)

3. Proposed Sick Leave Policy Change: Administrative Assistant Paul McLatchy III asked if Selectmen would consider giving the annual sick leave earned by employees in one lump sum which would assist in tracking accruals in the payroll system and appearing on employee's paycheck stubs. He presented a table for employees' Sick Leave based on the hours they work per week. It was decided to find out what the school is doing so it could be comparable. There was discussion about whether employees who had reached the cap amount would be handled each year with regards to the lump sum amount. There was discussion about employees losing the time they had earned by not using their sick time and losing the value that they earned. Vice-Chair Semanie said some employees were afraid to take time off as they were concerned about repercussions. It was agreed to have further discussion when Selectman Silva was present and work on the policy. The comp time for the Highway Superintendent was discussed and it was agreed that there needed to be more clarity.

Old Business: None

Administrative Office Updates:

1. Executive Secretary Updates: Janice Boudreau said she was working on the school generator removal and had a meeting with CD Davenport to review options and provide an estimate for the cost.
2. Administrative Assistant Updates: Addressed earlier in the meeting.

Warrant Review: Review Warrants FY21 W04 and FY21 PW04
Unforeseen Business (within preceding 48 hours)

Future Meeting(s):

Chair Sokol said the next meeting would be on September 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Discussion to include: Treasurer candidate interview and next steps, accruals and comp time.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Chair Sokol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie

Roll Call Vote: Chair Sokol- yes Selectman Silva- absent Vice-Chair Semanie- yes
(Vote: 2-0-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary

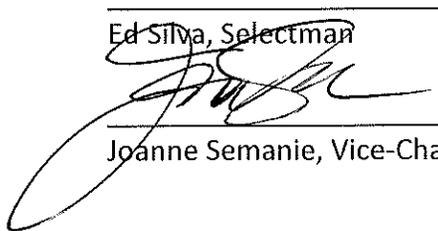
Approval Date: SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

Approved:



Chuck Sokol, Chair

Ed Silva, Selectman



Joanne Semanie, Vice-Chair

Documents:

1. Agenda 8-20-2020
2. Minutes of August 4, 2020- Covid Group
3. Minutes of August 6, 2020
4. Minutes of August 11, 2020- Covid Group
5. Resumes for Treasurer candidates
6. Town Road Signage References
7. Proposed Sick Leave Policy Change
8. MLP Hut Bid Documents
9. Executive Secretary Updates