



Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen Minutes
Thursday, September 2, 2021–6:00 p.m.
Rowe Town Hall – Hearing Room 1

Board of Selectmen: Chair Charles Sokol, Vice-Chair Joanne Semanie, Selectman Ed Silva
Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau
Audience: Ken Fensky, MLP Manager David Dvore, Town Clerk Paul McLatchy III

Call to Order: Chair Sokol called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Announcement of recording devices- One
Noteworthy Announcements- None

Minutes:

Board of Selectmen Minutes of August 5, 2021:

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES: Chair Sokol made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of August 5, 2021 as presented. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie was accepted. (vote: 3-0-0)

Citizen Comments

Ken Fensky asked about property lines and town right of way that the town had on his road. Mr. Fensky expressed concerns over the snow plowing and amount of snow that was pushed back onto his property which he said was pushed back too far and about the speed of the plows on his road. Discussion continued about road drainage and a gutter to fix drainage to mitigate water running into road. Mr. Fensky requested that at 93 Brittingham Road the town to no longer maintain his catch basin and the Board agreed not to maintain.

Ken Fensky left the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Ongoing Projects:

1. Policy Updates and Review: There was discussion about the status of Police Policies and Town Counsel's response was reviewed. It was agreed that policies were to be in place by September 30, 2021, and final policies in place by October 30, 2021. Chair Sokol shared a response to Police Chief concerning the matter.
2. Updating Job Descriptions with Wage Chart Column Assignments - Tabled until a later date
3. Bylaw Review - Tabled until a later date

APPOINTMENT: 6:30 p.m. MLP Manager David Dvore:

- Approving MLP signing the backhaul agreement with WG&E

- Having DPW maintain the access Rd from Petrie Rd to the Nat Grid High Towers.
- Tree trimming near fiber lines
- Possible use of Covid money for upgrading Backhaul

The Board of Selectmen were in support of the Municipal Light Plant (MLP) Manager to sign the Quotation for Telecommunication Services for: Municipal Partners Redundant, Reliable, and Resilient Backhaul Connection. This would provide an alternative route for the fiber network in the event of some damage or outage along with area towns as a backup solution. The Board were in support of the hut monitoring proposals for security, fire detection and systems related to the fiber hut. American Rescue Plans Act (ARPA) Funds use for the purpose will be investigated. There was discussion about obtaining an easement for property on Petrie Road to access power towers for the backhaul work and it was decided to have Town Counsel review. David Dvore also spoke about the need to have trees trimmed and the Board said to work it out with the Tree Warden.

Police Chief and Fire Chief interrupted the meeting briefly to ask Dvore about a until that had overheated at the Safety complex causing the internet to fail. Dvore went to investigate the situation.

David Dvore left the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Old Business:

House Burn Follow-Up:

There was discussion about the debris left at the Middletown Hill property that was used for firefighter training exercises and how it was to be cleaned up. Vice-Chair Semanie said that she had contacted Demolition Companies to obtain quotations for the clean-up and was waiting for responses. The history of the project and its inception was reviewed. Selectman Silva said that due to consideration of removal of hazardous materials and the cost to the town, it might be better served if the Fire Dept. trained at one of the burn facilities set up for the purpose. He further asked that the Board consider establishing a Bylaw to prevent future burns such as the one just completed as it was an expense that exceeded what it should be for the training experience. It was agreed to have Town Counsel draft a bylaw for the purpose to prevent the burn training on private property due to the exposure and cost to the town.

Administrative Assistant Position

It was agreed to interview candidates for the Administrative Assistant Position at next meeting on September 16, 2021.

Selectboard Business:

New Business:

Town Clerk – Precinct Vote:

Town Clerk Paul McLatchy III explained that following the 10-year census cycle as a formality the town had to vote whether to change the number of precincts. Due to Rowe's size, Town Clerk said that one precinct was sufficient to serve Rowe and shared documents for signing.

MOTION TO MAINTAIN A SINGLE PRECINCT: Chair Sokol made a motion to have Rowe remain as a single voting precinct. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie was unanimously accepted. (Vote: 3-0-0)

Appointments: Council on Aging and Conservation Commission:

There were two appointments for the Board to consider. Dana Williams volunteered to be on the Conservation Commission and Ashley Boyd volunteered to be appointed to the Council on Aging.

MOTION TO APPOINT: Chair Sokol made a motion to appoint Dana Williams to serve the unexpired term on the Conservation Commission ending on June 30, 2022. The motion, seconded by Selectman Silva was unanimously accepted. (vote: 3-0-0)

MOTION TO APPOINT: Chair Sokol made a motion to appoint Ashley Boyd to the Council on Aging. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was unanimously accepted. (vote: 3-0-0)

Meeting Amendment Request: Tabled Until Next Meeting

Warrants/Contracts:

1. Review Warrants FY22W 5 and FY21PW 5: Vice Chair Semanie would review on Friday.

Executive Secretary/Administrative Assistant Updates:

1. Executive Secretary Updates
 - There was a check presented to the town from a Donor Advisor Fund contributed by Dennis and Anna Humbert. The Accountant recommended as a formality to formally accept the check to be presented to the Fire Dept., Police Dept. and Highway Dept. in equal amounts of \$500.00 each used as they wished.

MOTION TO ACCEPT CHECK: Chair Sokol made a motion to accept a check for \$1500.00 from the Vermont Advisory Trust to be equally distributed to the Fire, Police and Highway Departments. The motion, seconded by Selectman Silva was unanimously accepted. (vote: 3-0-0)

Unforeseen Business (within preceding 48 hours)

Next Meeting: It was agreed to have the next Board of Selectmen Meeting on September 16, 2021 and conduct interviews for the Administrative Assistant position.

Adjournment:

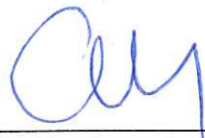
MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chair Sokol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie and unanimously accepted. (Vote: 3-0-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary

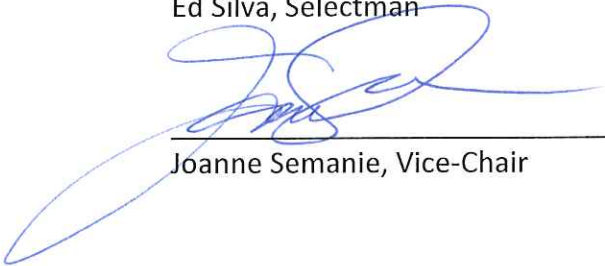
Approval Date: SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

Approved:



Chuck Sokol, Chair

Ed Silva, Selectman



Joanne Semanie, Vice-Chair

Documents:

1. Agenda September 2, 2021
2. Quotation for Telecommunication Services for Municipal Partners Redundant, Reliable, and Resilient Backhaul Connection
3. History behind the Burn House Decision
4. Town Clerk: 2020 Precinct Population
5. Town Clerk: Precinct Statistics
6. Town Clerk: Single Precinct Authorization Form
7. Town Clerk: Vote Certification Document
8. Executive Secretary Updates