

Town of West Bath Special Selectmen Meeting Minutes Monday, May 11, 2020

Town of West Bath Board of Selectmen: Madelyn Hennessey, Chair - Present
Suzanne Andresen - Present
Kathleen Lavallee - Present

Town Staff Present: Kristine Poland, Town Administrator
Karly Perry, Town Clerk
Steve Renaud, Road Commissioner

Residents: David Hennessey, Ron Beal, Digby Veevers-Carter, Nick Renaud

A meeting of the West Bath Board of Selectmen was held **Monday, May 11th, 2020**
at 5:30 pm at the West Bath Fire Hall, 192 State Road, West Bath ME.

- I. CALL TO ORDER at **5:30 pm**
- II. ATTENDANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM – **Yes**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS SAID.
- IV. SELECTMEN COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None
- V. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS: None
- VII BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Target Practice and Use of Firearms

Digby Veevers-Carter referenced a letter written by his wife to the Board of Seectmen which addresses neighbors firing gun. This activity began six years ago and has steadily increased. Mr. Veevers-Carter went on review the area, which has several houses in close proximity as well as horses and livestock. Mr. Veevers-Carter also relayed discussion with the Sagadahoc Sheriff Department, which has been unable to assist.

Town Clerk Karly Perry reviewed the procedure for ordinance changes, which may be brought to the Selectmen or the Planning Board. All ordinance changes require at least two public hearings, review by the Town Attorney, and must be voted on at the Budget Town Meeting.

Selectman Andresen added that the Planning Board has already begun the process for ordinance changes for this year’s town meeting and that any additional changes could not be made until next year.

Ron Beal noted that shooting occurs approximately 300’ from neighbors, then went on to review discussions that the former Code Enforcement Officer, Ellis Reed, held with the neighbors which resulted in lessened activity for brief periods. Mr. Beal also reiterated that the constant noise is hard on animals as well.

Nick Renaud suggested that a faster course of action may be to contact the Game Warden Service, which may be able to help.

Selectman Hennessey asked Mr. Veevers-Carter to keep the board updated to the situation.

2. Winter Roads Contract

Selectman Andresen moved to un-table the plowing discussion, seconded by Selectman Lavallee. Selectman unanimously approved.

Road Commissioner Steve Renaud reviewed discussion with bidders JR Hill and Goodall Landscaping regarding prices, noting that both bidders were concerned about providing their own sand and salt. Goodall

Landscaping offered to lower their price, while JR Hill gave a lower price and also negotiated to lower further if the Town purchased sand and salt., which Mr. Renaud suggested may be the best course of action.

Discussion followed by board on the pros and cons of providing sand and salt to the contractor, as well as how much the Town had paid for sand and salt.

David Hennessey stated that for the first two years of the previous contract JR Hill was the subcontractor and did well. Mr. Renaud also noted that JR Hill's price per mile is comparable with Phippsburg.

Town Administrator Kristine Poland noted that the board has the ability to negotiate the bid and the Town Attorney will amend the contract prior to signing.

Selectman Hennessey acknowledged that it is not always appropriate to award the bid to the lowest bidder.

Selectman asked the Road Commissioner to request in writing bids for winter road plowing with the Town supplying sand and salt.

Selectman Lavallee moved to table discussion, seconded by Suzanne Andresen. Selectmen unanimously approved.

3. Initial Plan for Reopening

Mrs. Poland announced that the Town Office will be reopening on June 1st under the guidance of the CDC recommendations which include a plexiglass divider, gloves and masks.

Discussion followed on the State Primary Election and limitations to hold town meeting in July. The Selectmen discussed procedure for using the current budget for the next fiscal year and the possibility of requested that departments and agencies resubmit requests.

Mrs. Poland suggested that the next meeting be focused on finances.

4. Other

Selectman Hennessey suggested that in light of the holiday the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen be held on May 21st at 5:30 pm at the West Bath Fire Hall. Selectmen agreed.

Mr. Renaud asked if he should continue using his projected budget into July. Discussion followed on road spending with Selectman Andresen suggesting a reduction on the amount the Road Commissioner is approved to spend without full board approval.

Selectman Lavallee suggested that residents visit YouTube to view the thank you video posted by the West Bath School and thanked the school for their efforts throughout the pandemic.

VII ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Selectman Lavallee to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Andresen. Selectman unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

A true attested copy,

Karly A. Perry, Town Clerk