

Worcester Selectboard Regular Meeting
Minutes 11/7/22

These minutes were approved at the Selectboard meeting on 11/21/22.

Monday, November 7, 2022, 6:30pm

Selectboard members present: Roger Strobridge, John Kaeding, Carter Stowell

Guests present: Katie Miller, Jennifer LeStat, Brian Powers, Dexter Lefavour, Noah Weinstein, Caitlin Howansky, Peter Fitz, David Books, Catherine Coteus

Housekeeping

- Roger called meeting to order at 6:38pm
- John moved to accept the minutes from the October 17th, 2022 Selectboard Meeting; seconded by Roger and unanimously accepted.
- Additions/Deletions – N/A

Department Review

Town Clerk Report

- Jennifer reporting
- Environmental sensor for vault was installed and is collecting data
- No one showed up to review 2020 election documentation
- Mattresses and tires were left out on Eagle Ledge Rd without explanation; someone reported they had been dumped; Brian will follow up with constable and highway dept. plans to clean it up if needed
- New shelving was installed in Town Hall to help organize food

Treasurer report

- Katie reporting
- Fire Dept floor contract is in place, and contractor says work will be complete by this year
- Taxes still coming in; still a challenge with escrow company, and town expects another 500k or so to come in
- Draft investment policy was reviewed; Katie suggested ways to ensure flexibility with short-term investments; for example, a 3-month CD might generate a couple thousand dollars at current rates; Carter asked about FDIC insurance which was confirmed as part of the policy review
- Roger moved to accept the Investment Policy for the Town of Worcester as presented by the Treasurer and authorizes the deposit of up to \$250,000; seconded by John and unanimously accepted.

Highway Department report

- Brian reports
- Work under Hampshire Hill grant was completed and grant funds were received
- The Eagle Ledge grant should start the 3rd or 4th week in November; not expecting to receive funds until 2023

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- Sand will be finished up this week
- Brian will get bids for exhaust fans for the shop

Public Input

[New Business](#)

Shepard Hill Trail Complaint and SB Draft Letter

- Draft letter was reviewed;
- Carter will update the letter to clarify;
 - o Must display permit
 - o Fines up to \$10,000 per violation
 - o If people want to work on the trail, get permit from Highway Dept and Selectboard
- Roger to check with attorneys to give a legal opinion or represent the town

Recreational Committee Responsibilities

- Caitlin brought questions to help clarify
- Question about Town Hall responsibilities were raised as a potential concern or burnout risk for committee volunteers; Selectboard deliberated that the Hall occasionally overlaps with recreational events (Roger, Carter) but not always; Roger suggested not overburdening the committee, and advised bringing this back for review in one year, so that the Committee can get off the ground without Town Hall responsibilities until a future review
- Question about boundaries of hay meadow bordering town and private property; Roger advised that any proposals can be made on hay meadow and/or town property; maps will be helpful for any proposals
- Question about budget for committee; Roger clarified there's a small budget currently, and Selectboard will be working on a larger budget

Worcester Water District Woodlot

- A concern was raised about condition of forest
- Roger to research the boundaries of town property, then contact a forester

[Old Business](#)

Noise ordinance draft review

- Noah read a letter from Vanessa who runs the daycare facility and requests the noise ordinance
 - o Catherine and Caitlin each expressed their support for the essential services provided by the daycare facility and utilized by their families
- Roger described that the Town has a prior draft of a noise ordinance that would need to be updated in consideration of public input, exceptions, enforcement, gathering additional information and other guidance; to be continued

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Historical Society Tree Issues

- John spoke with a tree service; a legacy tree that's dead can be removed as well as many other small trees; some larger, living, legacy trees would be preserved
- To keep the costs down, the Town will remove the tree tops
- John moves to hire Danny Beauregard to remove the trees blocking the old school house; seconded by Roger and unanimously accepted.
- John will speak with neighbors regarding tree removal

Correspondence

None

Bills

Signed as presented

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting will be held at the town office on Monday, November 21, 2022, at 6:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Attest,
Carter Stowell