

Monday, August 7, 2023 6:30 pm

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

Guests present: Jennifer LeStat, Katie Miller, Joseph Audet, Mike Utton, Cheri Goldstein, John Christian, Tyler Billingsley, Jennifer Chambers, Christian Meyer

#### Housekeeping

- John called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm
- Minutes approval: Roger moved to accept the minutes of the regular Selectboard meeting of 7/17/2023 as presented; seconded by Carter and unanimously approved
- Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: none

Public Input: none

#### Department Reviews

##### Town Clerk report

- the Municipal Energy Resilience Program application has been submitted to the regional planning commission
- work continues on Town response to the July storm

##### Town Treasurer report

- tax bills for this year went out 8/1/2023
- days are filled compiling FEMA required documents

##### Highway Department report

- most emergency repairs are done, the few remaining will be dealt with promptly
- Tyler Billingsley from East Engineering was present and presented preliminary proposal-agreements for several severely storm damaged sites in Town. Roger moved the Town enter into an agreement with East Engineering to assist Worcester with repairs from the July storm, seconded by John and unanimously approved
- Mike noted the recently repaired road grader has a faulty transmission and a leaking pump. No replacement pump or parts are available due to the grader's age and now defunct manufacturer. John noted it seems unwise to spend any more money on a failing 1997 machine with over 10,000 hours, yet the town must have a healthy working grader. Mike has found a very good used machine from an East Montpelier firm which the Town was able to trial for a few days last week. It seemed sound and a cost efficient solution for the old grader. The Town will look into financing for this grader and hold a special Selectboard meeting to discuss the then warned issue.

#### New Business

##### Driveway permit review

- Jennifer Chambers had some helpful questions regarding Worcester driveway permitting. John reported on the process. A landowner notifies the Town Clerk that they desire a driveway to the landowner's property. A curb cut for driveway entrance to a Town road requires a permit be filled out by an applicant landowner, reviewed and approved by the Road Commissioner and finalized by the Selectboard. While considering approval of a permit, the

Road Commissioner follows guidelines provided by the Department of Transportation which deal with issues such as safe stopping distances regarding proposed siting and environmental impacts which could require further investigation by the DNR. Ditching requirements for driveway building and culvert purchase are the homeowner's responsibility, however, once an approved and permitted driveway is developed the Town provides ongoing road ditch maintenance.

Approving line of credit for the Town covering storm damage repairs and expenses

- Katie presented documents outlining such a credit line for Worcester
- following discussion, John moved we accept the proposal for the line of credit, seconded by Carter and unanimously approved

Review Appropriations/Purchase policy

- Worcester's policies were reviewed, a copy provided to each Selectboard member

Old Business

Prioritize grant appropriate issues for assistance from CVRPC

- we discussed several items previously suggested for this assistance and decided on the following list.

1. Generators - preferably for both the Highway Department and Office Complex
  2. Solar array for roof of Office Complex to include placement of old roof
    - a. Consider heat pump and solar storage(battery)
  3. EV chargers
  4. Worcester water board - assistance with several maintenance requirements
  5. Insulation for the Highway building
- These items will be presented to Christian Meyer and the CVRPC for development and assistance with grant acquisition

FEMA response to Worcester

- a FEMA bus will be coming to Worcester to assist citizens with personal claims regarding the recent storm

Correspondence - none

Announcements

- The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting will be held at the Town Office Complex on Monday August 21, 2023 at 6:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Attest John Kaeding