

Worcester Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday October 7, 2024 at 6:30 pm
Worcester Town Office Complex

Selectboard members present: Roger Strobridge, Carter Stowell
Guests present: Jennifer LeStat, Katie Miller, Mike Utton, Tyler Billingsley, David Book

Minutes Approval

- Roger moved to accept the draft minutes of September 16, 2024 as written, seconded by Carter and unanimously approved.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda - None

Public Input - None

Department Reviews

Town Clerk Report

- Jennifer reported that election ballots are coming in. She's prepping poll workers among other preparations.
- The custodian job description is in-progress and will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

Town Treasurer Report

- Katie reported that as of today, news was received that Worcester's ERAF rating is back up to the highest level which impacts reimbursement. The Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF) provides State funding to match Federal Public Assistance after federally-declared disasters. The rating update was expected following acceptance of the LHMP.
- Quarterly reporting as well as Bond Bank reporting are underway.
- A new climate recovery fund by the Bond Bank offers 0.5% interest for loan amounts up to a \$1M program limit. Katie will be applying by the Nov. 1st deadline.

Highway Department Report

- Mike reported that the small truck remains in the shop with no delivery date yet available for motor replacement.
- There was a discussion of options for winter including possibility of finding a workable, used truck from another town.
- Mike will check with VTrans about the possibility of scheduling hydraulic studies to support planning for permanent repairs, such as Norton Rd, Hampshire Hill Rd, and several others.

Town Engineering Report

- Tyler reported that for the Calais Rd 2023 project (#4), all pavement and shoulders are done. Guardrails will be done this week and line striping next week. Emergency repairs from 2024 are wrapping up across all town roads.

New Business

Discussion of heating system for Worcester Historical Society

- David described plans and costs for a two-component system with both a Rinnai propane heater and a heat pump. WHS applied unsuccessfully for grant funding through several organizations, and has also been fundraising.
- There was a discussion of ideas for WHS to close its funding gap for the project.
- Katie will call to check on additional funding ideas via Efficiency Vermont, Green Mountain Power, CVRPC and others.

Award bid for Worcester Office Complex roof structure inspection

- Two bids and a no-bid response were reviewed.
- Roger moved to accept engineering bid from Waite Engineering to provide an assessment of the Town Complex roof trusses in amounts not to exceed \$2000; seconded by Carter and unanimously accepted.

Award bid for Fire Department gear washer and dryer

- Two bids were reviewed.
- Carter moved to accept the Reynolds bid for the Fire Department gear washer and dryer in the amount of \$14,166.78 to be paid using Town of Worcester ARPA funds; seconded by Roger and unanimously accepted.

Old Business

Accept resolution of Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission

- Carter moved to accept the resolution of the Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission with David Book of the Worcester Historical Society as the designated liaison; seconded by Roger and unanimously accepted.

Discuss Worcester Parking Ordinance alterations

- Roger moved to accept the modified Parking Ordinance for the Town of Worcester, ordinance #100724; seconded by Carter and unanimously accepted.

Correspondence

- none

Announcements

- The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting will be held at the Office Complex on Monday, October 21st, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Bills

- signed as presented

Attest

- Carter Stowell

