

18 March 2019

Worcester Selectboard Regular Meeting

Present: Ted Lamb and Benjamin Jones

Guests: Katie Winkeljohn and Will Sutton

Meeting Called to order: 06:35pm

Minutes from the previous Selectboard meetings were not available for review

PUBLIC INPUT

- None -

REORGANIZATION

- Benjamin Jones and Ted Lamb were sworn in as Selectboard members, Ben for a period of 1 yr. and Ted for a 3 yr. term.
- Ted Lamb was selected for Selectboard chairmen and Ben Jones was selected to be the scribe.
- The Times Argus was noted as the Paper of Official notice
- The Town hall and school (Doty Memorial) are noted as official places of public Notice.
- The Selectboard will meet every 1st and 3rd of the month as direct by Ted Lamb. If a holiday occurs on a meeting day or for unforeseen circumstances a makeup date for the Selectboard meeting will occur make date TBD.
- The Town services committee is recognized by the Selectboard and should meeting the 4th Wednesday of each month. The meeting must be open to the public and meeting notes taken.
- The Ladd Field committee has been decommissioned. All issues going forward will be handled by the Selectboard.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

- There was a house fire that resulted in a total loss of a home over on Eagle ledge rd. The cause of the fire is still under investigation, luckily there was no loss of life however two occupants of the home were injured.
- Membership is low but stable. There was one new member added in January 2019 however they lost 3 members as well. Negotiations are ongoing with two potential new members.
- Will mentioned that was an issue with some of the valves on one of the recently purchased fire trucks however the manufacturer replaced them all free of charge.
- The Worcester fire department now has its own frequency. It will take approximately 9 months to transition over to it. All the effort to obtain this frequency was done through Mutual aid as there was no help provided by the state.
- Mike Abbott is the new FAST Squad director
- Will, in speaking of the typical calls the fire dept. is called for, are primarily (about 50-60%) for 1st responder situations vs. a fire.
- Potential Compensation for the fire department members was discussed, one idea discussed was a stipend as a full salary is not a likely option.

- Also the idea of funding the fire department via a stipend vs. having a for-profit fire department was discussed. Katie Winklejohn will run some numbers to determine the most cost effective measure.

NEW BUSINESS

- The sill on the backside of the fire department/town clerk's office is rotted and needs replacement. The ground needs to be graded away from the building to divert water away from the sill.
- There is a pit/void in the ground in front of the fire station that needs to be assessed, possible fill needed. Will Sutton will seek out a structure engineer to look into the pit and make a recommendation.
- The Town hall needs some work, bids were received to repaint the exterior and interior. At this time only the downstairs interior will be painted. Current bid for that work is \$3000.

TOWN DELIQUENT TAXES

- The Selectboard signed two letters of warning due to a lack of response the matter has been handed over to the town lawyer for collection.

TOWN CLERK / TREASURER Report

- The Onion river soccer club has approached the town of Worcester for continued use of Ladd field for their practices.
- This use has been approved however we will need a certificate of insurance, schedule of use and a portable toilet must be available throughout the season.
- The Onion river soccer club asked for use of an additional field (the community gardens/hay meadow) for its soccer use. The Selectboard will have to verify if that land is permitted for such use.

CORRESPONDENCE

Various town bills where agreed to and signed off on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Regular Meeting – April 1st at 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Respectfully Submitted
Benjamin E. Jones