

TOWN OF WORCESTER, VERMONT

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD REGULAR MEETING

06 January 2020

Select Board members present: Ted Lamb, Ben Jones and Paul Hill, Jr.

Select Board members absent:

Guests present: Katie Winklejohn, Brian Powers

Ted called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

The minutes for the 23 December 2019 meeting, moved by Ted and seconded by Ben, were approved, with an amendment to clarify the language about reimbursement dollars going to the general fund and not the capital fund.

Public Input: None

Road Commissioner's report – Brian reports...

- This winter's freeze-thaw cycle is doing a job on Worcester's 3.2 miles of paved roads, causing more damage and using more material to treat roads for winter driving.
- Brian suggested that the Highway Dept. purchase a new small, crew-cab style pick-up truck with necessary equipment for plowing and sanding. The terms of purchase appear to save considerable money with the dealer quoting a special rate for a municipality. Ted expressed a concern about the equipment fund being adequately supported going forward. Brian and Katie have worked the numbers reliably to show an adequate amount would accrue. Ted also asked if this new truck would be used consistently over the full year, and Brian said yes, when not plowing smaller areas or sanding problem areas, the truck would save using a larger dump-style truck for those needs as well as running errands for supplies and materials. Ted asked for the motion to make the purchase; Paul so moved and Ben seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk's report – Katie reports...

- The draft budget is in place and looks good. The estimated 2020 town tax rate could be \$0.6033. Katie reviewed many of the line-items showing increases...all seem reasonable and relatively minor. Overall, the budget increase by 7.5%, from \$682K in 2019 to a projected \$733K in 2020.
- The Common Level of Assessment seems to be in line with the town property valuation list.
- Worcester will need to undergo a town-wide property audit soon.
- Mimi Hill is commissioned to do a portrait of the village which will go on the cover of the town report.

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New Business: None

Old Business: None

Correspondence: None

Bills: Signed as presented.

Announcements: The next regularly scheduled Select Board meeting will be held at the town office on 20 January 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Attest: Paul Hill, Jr.

DRAFT