

## WORCESTER SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING

### Minutes

**Tuesday, Sept 20, 2021, 6:30pm**

**Select Board members present:** Ted Lamb, Roger Strobridge, John Kaeding

**Guests present:** Katie Winkeljohn, Will Sutton, Matt Morrisette

#### **HOUSEKEEPING**

- Ted called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
- Ted moved to accept the minutes from Sept 7, seconded by Roger, and unanimously accepted.
- Additions to agenda: John requested discussion of alternative Town energy sources. Motion by John, seconded by Roger and unanimously accepted.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

##### **Fire Department**

Will Sutton reports new fire truck is delayed because of COVID-induced downsizing. Will hopes truck can be delivered by Spring 2022.

Will reports that LBJs has asked about replacing existing fuel pump fire suppression systems with simple manual fire extinguishers. The Select Board unanimously discouraged such a change as being excessively dangerous.

Will reports a crack in the floor supporting the fire trucks. A basement exists beneath this floor so evaluation of crack becomes paramount.

**Action:** Roger will contact Chris Temple of Wolff Engineering to evaluate crack.

Will notes he is now on CV Public Safety Commission. He reports a common dispatcher exists for Montpelier, Barre, and the Mutual Aid System. Costs for dispatcher are prorated on call volume. His continued representation will benefit Worcester.

##### **Town Clerk/Treasurer**

- Town is in training for new voting laws in upcoming elections.
- Number of property sales are up this year causing delays in some tax receipts.
- Worcester received \$99,838.00 from ARPA County monies. This goes straight to a specific Worcester ARPA fund.
- The Town will be getting \$160,000 in grant money to defray cost of paving Minister Brook Road. Thank you Brian and Katie for your efforts to secure this grant. Paving in front of Town Office Building did not reach all the way to Route 12.  
**Action:** Katie will speak to paving company about completion of that section.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Water Board**

Matt Morrisette and Will Sutton are here representing the Worcester Water Board. The Water Board is member-owned, non-profit, and represents 79 households, 370 people and the Worcester School. Their system was installed in 1980 and is past its life expectancy. Several upgrades are due including 1) filtration at pump house, 2) emergency power generator, and 3) fence around reservoir. Cost of these improvements was \$33,000 when estimated 10 years ago. The Water Board asking if ARPA funds may cover some or all of these improvements. The Select Board encourages pursuit of this possibility.

**Action:** Matt will talk to Vt. League about availability of ARPA funds. He will get updated quote for needed improvements and report back to Select Board.

### **Social Concerns Committee**

None now exists. Ted suggests we send notice to all previous funding recipients that until new committee can be chosen, the Select Board will attempt to cover this function.

**Action:** Katie will send notices to get requests for funding in advance of next Town Meeting.

### **Alternate Energy Sources**

John notes need for updating heating sources for Town buildings. Replacing old fossil fuel systems with similar systems is out of date and environmentally unwise.

**Action:** John will review alternatives including geothermal and electric heating with possible solar array assistance.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Overnight Parking**

The Select Board continues to review options for dealing with this issue.

## **BILLS**

Signed as presented.

## **ANOUNCEMENTS**

The next regularly scheduled Select Board Meeting will be held at Town Office on **Monday, October 4, at 6:30pm**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

**ATTEST**

John Kaeding