

SUNDERLAND TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD THIS 21ST
DAY OF MAY A.D., 2015
AT 12:15 PM.
Attest: Rose M. Keough,
TOWN CLERK

SUNDERLAND SELECTBOARD

Regular Meeting – May 4, 2015

1. Call to order by Mark Hyde
2. Appointment of Board Secretary – Stephanie Muñoz Wells
 1. Motion by Mark Hyde, seconded by John Williams, motion carried
3. Introduction of those present by chair, John Stuermer, Kathleen Morse, Alan Hess, Rose Keough, Marc Johnston
4. Board members present: Mark Hyde, Steven Bendix, John Williams, and Richard Timmerman.
 1. Note: Jon French is not present
5. Session recorded by GNAT-TV
6. Minutes of Prior Meeting 4/01/2015
 1. No changes or clarifications proposed
 2. Approval of minutes moved by Mark Hyde, seconded by Richard Timmerman, motion carried
7. Road Liaison and/or Highway Foreman
 1. Discussion on class 4 road maintenance/approach
 1. Part of problem-equipment is too large such as plows
 2. Rose has map of ancient roads
 3. Marc Johnston will review situation and report back to board
8. Old Business
 1. Reviewing Employees
 1. Highway Foreman and Helper
 1. Suggested to be done in fall prior to budgeting so that it can have bearing on a potential salary increase
 2. Suggested that Marc Johnston to review Anthony Ennis and that the Board or Richard Timmerman review Marc Johnston
 3. Richard Timmerman and Mark Hyde to provide generic template by December 1, 2015
9. Mark Hyde made a motioned to enter into executive session for a personnel issue, John Williams seconds, motion carried.
10. Break for executive session
11. Return to regular session
12. Old Business - Continued
 1. Continued Reports from Road Liaison and/or Highway Foreman

1. Stakes in parking lot to mark out proposed lot
2. Rocks tumbling down on Kelley Stand Rd.
 1. Jersey Barrier more expensive than concrete blocks
 2. Forest Service to take a look possibly
 3. Rain makes it works
 4. Maintenance necessary
 5. Stumps are an issue
 6. Technically have until June 1st to address
3. Will get to piles
4. Addressed digging
5. Billing
 1. Gravel
 1. Haven't spent too much time yet, Kelley Stand will need some
 2. Positive outlook overall
 3. Air compressor, torque wrench, air gun about \$3000
 1. Will decrease hub breakage
 4. Windshield \$680 installed
 5. Major expense is tires/wheels
 1. Board requests breakdown of expenses by vehicle
 1. Mark Hyde expressed concern/over whether the majority of the budget is being spent on one vehicle
 6. Waiting on Grants

13. New Business

1. Delinquent Tax Collector and tax sale discussion and approach
 1. Kathleen Morse - tax sale to be held here at the Town Office, May 13, 2015 at 10:00
 1. 6 properties left to sell
 2. Kathleen Morse explains policy
 3. Can we put something on paper for those who owe taxes so they know what they need to get their home back?
 4. Kathleen Morse going to training later in the month
 5. Mark Hyde requests information from Kathleen Morse to post on website
 6. Kathleen Morse requests a town email address
 7. Mark Hyde makes a motion to purchase the properties that do not sell at the tax sale on May 13, 2015, seconded by John Williams, and opened to discussion by Steven Bendix.

1. Hesitation by member due to separation by water. He questions if we can pick and choose those to purchase.
 1. The suggestion from Kathleen Morse is to purchase everything and treat the larger Herrington property as a 3 acre parcel since that is what is accessible.
 2. It was also suggested that we contest the assessment value.
 3. Disability factor in our favor when it comes to Herrington property as well
8. We have to wait a year to grieve the assessment value
2. Explanation of where the money comes from to pay for these properties
3. Motion carried
4. Alan Hess from Able Realty - Discuss town owned property for sale (Route 7 and Kansas Rd)
 1. Not sold due to general market conditions, borders US Highway 7, property split by water
 2. Mark Hyde asks for recommendations to improve sales
 1. Lowering price \$5,000, contesting assessment
 3. Already lost 2 years of taxes
 4. John Williams to take the lead on grieving the taxes. Must happen within the week
 5. Alan's contract is renewed for another year at the same price.
5. Auditor Position
 1. Kaylee Henzie
 1. Bookkeeping background
 2. Review of position requirements
 3. Training budget is available
 4. She will be gone for a month during the summer
 5. Her term lasts until March 2016, if she want to continue beyond that point, in January, she will need to do a petition (requires 1% of the registered voters to sign) to get on the ballot
 6. Motion by Mark Hyde, seconded by Steven Bendix, motion carried.
6. Wildflower Project
 1. The land adjacent to the Sunderland Municipal building is a class 2 wetland, and therefore ineligible for the project.
 2. However, some areas immediately around the building should be useable

7. Efficiency Vermont
 1. John Williams estimates to be done within a month
8. Rose Keough
 1. Next month to billed \$10,414 for Assessment
 2. Ordered shelving for the vault, should be paid for this year
14. Barry came to complete an inspection and provided a to-do list
15. Sunderland Boards are underpaid in John's Stuermer opinion and he fears we will lose the quality members. He feels we should look into the salary of board members in surrounding areas in comparison. He would like the salaries doubled. Or compensation for those who go above and beyond.
 1. Salary increase could encourage others to join town positions
 2. John Stuermer is informal interim zoning administrator, but to become formal, he would have to step down from the zoning board.
 3. He has officially been appointed interim zoning administrator, and officially stepped down from the zoning board by giving it verbally to Mark Hyde
16. Review of bills and signing of selectboard's orders
 1. Sunderland safe roads scoping
 1. Getting reimbursed from the grant
17. Review of correspondence
 1. Thank you letter from Melody Troy
 2. Dental plan info – rates went down, no changes being made
18. Misc.
 1. New flags purchased by Kay Kwasniewski in memory of Louis Kwasniewski, her husband
 1. June 1st, 6:30-7:00 reception, dedication of flags at beginning of Selectboard meeting – will be recorded
 2. Podium from Tim Stewart from Arlington High School
19. With no further business before the Selectboard, motion to adjourn by Mark Hyde, seconded by Steven Bendix, motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Muñoz Wells