



**Office of Board of Selectmen
Town of Mason**

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Selectmen Meeting 9/10/2019
Approved Minutes

Present: Selectmen Louise Lavoie, Pete McGinnity, Charles Moser; Kathy Wile, Brenda Wiley; members of the public.

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Chair Louise Lavoie.

Approvals:

- Minutes of the August 27, 2019 staff meeting were reviewed. Motion from Charlie, second from Pete to accept as written. Three votes to accept minutes of 8/27/19 staff meeting as written.
- Minutes from the August 27, 2019 general meeting were reviewed, noted by Louise to strike third sentence of paragraph 2 under old business, due to erroneous information. Motion from Pete, second from Louise to accept with that revision. Three votes to accept minutes of the 8/19/19 work meeting as revised.
- Minutes from Sept 3, 2019 staff meeting were reviewed. Motion by Charlie, second by Pete to accept as written. Three votes to accept minutes of 9/3/19 staff meeting as written.
- Noted that the payroll manifests and accounts payable manifest had been signed.
- Intent to cut timber on Reed Rd had been received. Reviewed and approved by all selectmen.
- HCRD had sent a services agreement to allow installation of Monarch program, which would stream town related transactions filed at the registry directly to the town. No fees found to be involved. Charlie motioned, second from Louise, to authorize AA Kathy Wile to sign agreement and be principal contact person for the Town. Three votes authorizing her signature.
- New NY Life Annuity plans for 2 newly eligible FT employees had been drawn up by Town's agent, needing signatures from Louise as chair on both.
- MS 535 had been prepared by auditors. It was reviewed by selectmen before signing by all three. Pete inquired about when the school side would be ready; Brenda replied review/approval of their DOE25 is on the agenda for Monday evening's school board meeting.

New Business:

- Warranty renewal for server at Mann House had been received from Microtime, offering 1, 2 or 3 year renewal rates. Do not have final numbers on office equipment replacement plan to know what might be left in the budget line. Selectmen asked that Microtime be contacted and request Nate attend the next BOS meeting to get those numbers. Agreed to postponed committing to a warranty term pending receipt of that information.

- Resident Jack Flanagan came forward and requested a non-public session; selectmen wanted to begin as public session until they were clear as to reason. He explained he was concerned about inappropriate sharing of conversations he had had at the Mann House by someone, he doesn't know who for sure, that shared his position on timber taxes with a relative who then shared it with the Mason women's club. Selectmen said unless they knew who the party was, there was nothing they could do.

Mr. Flanagan then addressed the BOS denial for abatement of part of his timber tax, asking for reconsideration due to new information being presented to them that his logger had written up. The 10,000 board foot threshold was also discussed. Charlie motioned, second from Louise to deny reconsideration based on the decision having been made on the basis of evidence presented at the time. Three votes to deny reconsideration. Mr. Flanagan was reminded he has the right to appeal the abatement denial decision to BTLA.

- A resident on Churchill Rd had written a letter to BOS inquiring about the need for installing a new septic system in order to add an addition to their house. Selectmen discussed RSA 485-A:38 II-a.(b), ultimately disagreeing about the interpretation. It was decided to hold off approval until getting an interpretation from DES.
- Atty Drescher had contacted Charlie asking if the town assessor had settled with Fairpoint yet, or if a new suit had been filed. Todd will be contacted to answer those questions.

Old Business:

- The lighting audit was discussed. Liz Fletcher had emailed responses from Carl Edin to the questions raised by selectmen at the last conversation concerning scope of work, contract details, etc. It seems that other than a few interior fixture upgrades there was mostly LED replacement bulbs planned for existing fixtures in the PD, Mann House and the office part of the HD. New exterior lighting fixtures for outside HD grounds and buildings, as well as street light replacements were also part of the plan.

Currently no budget for implementing these recommendations, and selectmen agreed that implementing bulb and fixture replacements over time could be incorporated into the buildings budget. Still interest in the street light aspect of the project.

- Townsend Rd complaint was revisited. Letter had been prepared for the homeowner; reviewed, discussed and signed by selectmen.
- Consolidated agreement – confidentiality agreement regarding data collected towards broadband conversations between a group of residents and Consolidated had been sent to BOS for their signature. Selectmen agreed that the resident group doing the work needed to somehow be formally sanctioned by the town in order for the agreement to be signed, and requested that they be contacted and asked to attend the next BOS meeting to discuss and arrange what was needed.
- Town Hall update – engineer had visited the hall last Friday, along with the architect responsible for the assessment. He will prepare a quote for preparing a scope of work to bring for bids. Also, the update/call for volunteers had been posted and should be available on the website as well – hoping for a good response for volunteers to help with the project.

Informational Items/Communication:

- The Town had been copied on a letter from DES regarding a dam to the property owners. No action needed on part of the town.

- Town had received a letter from DOT listing dates/locations of meetings throughout the state regarding the upgrade of the state transportation plan for 2021-2030. Closest meeting will be in Peterborough.

Public Forum:

Bob Bergeron asked who was covering any expenses incurred in the resolution of LCHIP concerns regarding the Fifield easement, selectmen responded that conservation commission was covering those expenses.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, motion made by Louise to adjourn, second from Charlie. Three votes to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 PM.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday September 24, 2019 at the Mann House at 7:30 PM. There will also be a monthly staff meeting on Monday, Sept 16, 2019 at 4:00 PM with the Road Agent.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Wile
Administrative Assistant