



Town of Fairfax
Select Board Meeting
April 20, 2020 – 7:00pm

The drafted minutes presented below are unapproved subject to corrections and/or additions at the next Selectboard meeting. Those corrections and/or additions will be written to an amended version of the minutes, which will also be made available to the public.

Selectboard Members Present: Steve Cormier; Chair, Sheri Rainville; Vice-Chair, Stephen Bessette, Duane Leach & Randy DeVine

Public Present: Bretton Gardner (Pike Industries)

Employees Present: Brad Docheff (Town Manager), Debbie Woodward, Dave Raymond, Tim Germaine & Amy Sears

Call to Order: S. Cormier called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Announcements/Additions & Deletions: None

Minutes:

4-6-2020 S. Bessette made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Duane, all in favor.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Warrants:

4-13-2020 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by Duane.

4-20-2020 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by S. Cormier

Public Forum: None

Correspondence:

- Fairfax Salvage request for 5-year Certificate of Approval of Salvage Yard. Previously the State only allowed for a 3-year term, this has now changed to a 5 year. S. Bessette made the motion to allow for the 5-year term, seconded by Randy. All in favor.

Paving Bids:

Four bids were received, 2 were very close in price, all companies are qualified for the job. The lowest bid and recommendation from Tim Germaine, Highway Supervisor and Brad, Town Manager, were to go with J. Hutchins. The Highway Dept. has worked with J. Hutchins in the past and were very satisfied with their work. Price per ton, were J. Hutchins \$68.00, Pike Industries \$68.15, ST Paving \$74.40 and SD Ireland \$77.30. Each company estimated between 4130 to 4150 feet of paving.

S. Bessette made the motion to authorize Brad to sign the agreement, seconded by Sheri, all in favor.

Lawn Care Bids:

Sheri recused herself from this conversation and vote.

The RFP was advertised and only 1 bid was submitted to the town. Rainville's Custom Lawn Care has worked for several years for the town and done quality work for us. Based on the intended schedule starting very soon, Brad sees no reason to put the RFP back out to see if other bids come in. The lawn care season will run from May 4th to November 1, 2020. Duane made the motion to accept the bid, seconded by Randy, 4 in favor, 1 recused.

Access Permit Discussion:

Historically Access Permits have been approved by the Zoning Admin., Highway Supervisor and Fairfax Fire Battalion Chief then the permit goes to the Selectboard for final approval. It is suggested that the ZA, Highway and Fire could approve permits without Selectboard final approval.

Randy agreed that with the ZA, Highway & Fire approval, there is no need for the Selectboard to approve. Pending there is No Ordinance in place for Access Permits the board approves to move forward without their approval. The Selectboard will be informed of any permits during the Town Manager updates.

Town Manager:

- The Town continues to operate with subtle changes coming down from the Governor. The Clerk's Office and the Highway Dept. seem to be the most affected.
- All in office employees now have remote computer capability should they need to work from home.
- NRPC has been a great asset of information to the Town.
- Official Green Up Day has been postponed to May 30th. However, the Rec Dept., Highway Dept. and BFA have worked together to allow residents to pick up roadside trash. Bags left on the roadside will be picked up by the Highway Dept. and either taken to the town garage dumpster or to BFA's dumpster.
- The Shepardson Hollow Bridge is still scheduled for construction, all though the timeframe schedule remains unclear at this time. GW Tatro Construction says the bridge will be replaced in this construction season.
- As of this date based on new recommendations, ditching may be done on Town roads under the Spring Maintenance. Conditions apply for social distancing
- The Utility Dept. will be meeting with Aldrich and Elliott on Wednesday the 29th for a site visit for the Sewer Line Extension. Brad is requesting an extension on the financing until September 2021.
- The financing was approved for the Highway Dump Truck.

- Strategies are being discussed as to how best serve the public while keeping our staff safe. Deb has requested plexi-glass at the front counter and at each desk. It is encouraged people continue to reach staff by phone calls or emails.
- AM Peisch was inquiring if the town would stay with AM Peisch for the 2020-year end. After a brief discussion the board agreed with Deb and Amy agree that working with AM Peisch this year would best.

Other Business:

S. Bessette will be working on the Local Emergency Plan that is due May 1st. Both S. Bessette and Brad are required to sign the plan.

Adjournment:

At 7:40 S. Bessette made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Sheri, all in favor.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Amy Sears; Administrative Assistant.

Steven Cormier
Selectboard Chair

** This meeting was held virtual through Zoom. Randy participated via phone.

** The recorded meeting is available through LCATV or the Town's website. **