

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MINUTES OF MEETING October 18, 2022

Town Hall Courtroom

Members Present: David Forrest, Roger Scheurer, Don Zukowski, Gary O'Brien, Rob Wright

Others Present: Len Tisdale, Chris Brittain, Zach Sorrentino

Clerk David Forrest called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm on October 18, 2022 in the Town Hall Courtroom.

The following items were reported on:

Water Department

Donna Toomey and Samantha Lovett provided an update:

31 School St Billing- Lee Resident hadn't received a water bill since he bought his house on School St in 2016. After fixing the meter and receiving a reading, the resident owed \$9,577.00 dollars to the town. The Board recommended that we find the average usage and charge resident for 2 years. Roger Scheurer made the motion to charge the resident for 2 years, Gary O'Brien seconded the motion. Don Zukowski abstains. Remaining members are motion passed unanimously.

Radio Update – Mike Towler and Al Zerbato have been working to replace radios, 63 have been replaced since the initial August mailing. Next radio update mailing will go out in November. To encourage more residents to make appointments to change radios, the Board voted to double the estimated usage on accounts starting in the October 2022 Billing. Don Zukowski moved to approve, Roger Scheurer seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Staffing Update – Chris Brittain shared that there have been 4 interviews arranged for the Water Distribution position.

Highway/Cemetery Department

Zach Sorrentino provided an update:

Cemetery Signage – Proofs have been sent to Larkin for new signs to replace the current signage in Fairmount Cemetery pending Board approval. These include updated rules of conduct and decoration of graves. There will be "no dogs allowed" signs posted at every entrance to the cemetery.

Enforcing these rules will fall to the Board of Public Works as they have dissolved the Cemetery Commission. Cemetery employees can encourage visitors to read the signs, any conflicts will be reported to the police department.

Truck/Equipment Update – Zack Sorrentino provided our procurement officer, Jennifer Catolane, with all correspondence had with MHQ. Jennifer sent another email, which was responded to within 20 minutes. She gave MHQ a drop dead date of October 31, 2022. After that date, the town will move forward to be released from the state bid which will allow the town to reach out to outside vendors and move forward with an emergency procurement.

A discussion of what type of truck should be purchased was had between Zach Sorrentino, Len Tisdale, and various board members. Many pros and cons were debated for different sizes of trucks and how to equip them.

There was conversation about equipment including the purchase of mowers and use of excavators.

Staffing Help for Winter – Bryan Carlino will be returning to the Highway Department as a part time winter employee.

Curb Cuts

There was a brief discussion on the accountability of curb cuts and who has the power to make the final decision. Chris Brittain explained that our bylaws do not indicate that final approval must be by the Board of Public Works. Dave Forrest disagreed with Chris on this issue. Chris asked Dave where the BPW had the authority to approve curb cuts. Dave was not able to cite any evidence.

187 West Park Dr – Kim Snyder applied for a curb cut to change her driveway to a half circle to make pulling out of her driveway safer. Application was approved by Superintendent Lenny Tisdale.

200 Summer St – Zachary Gagnon applied for a curb cut for 200 Summer St, which he recently renovated into a 2-family home. At a previous meeting, the application was denied as presented. Superintendent Tisdale approved the application on the condition that the sidewalk is dealt with accordingly.

175 High St – Frank Guerino's curb cut was approved by Superintendent Tisdale after research was performed in the Town Bylaws that 2 driveways are allowed on a residential property.

65 Chestnut St – Dalila Perez applied for a curb on her property. Roger Scheurer made the motion to approve, Gary O'Brien seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

50 Fox Run – Marc Digrigoli applied for a curb cut for which Gary O'Brien made the motion to approve, Don Zukowski seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Capacity Fees

127 Paul Dr – Anastasia King-Desjardin applied for capacity permit for a 2-bedroom home to be built on Paul Drive for which they created their own frontage on the street. All fees are paid. Don Zukowski made the motion to approve, Roger Scheurer seconded, motion passed unanimously.

845 Fairview St – Marc Digrigoli applied for a capacity permit for a 3-bedroom home on Fairview St. All fees are paid. Gary O'Brien moved to approve the capacity permit, Don Zukowski seconded, motion passed unanimously.

865 Fairview St – Robert Piccolo applied for capacity permit for a 3-bedroom home on Fairview Street. All fees are paid. Don Zukowski made the motion to approve, Gary O'Brien seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Abatements

275 East Center St – An abatement was submitted for a pool liner replacement. The Board reviewed the information sent in by the customer and after discussion, they voted to abate \$217.88 on the sewer side. Don Zukowski made the motion to approve, seconded by Roger Scheurer, motion passed unanimously.

165/167 Main St – An abatement was submitted for miscalculated water/sewer bills. The Board reviewed evidence provided and voted to abate the accounting error. Roger Scheurer made the motion, Gary O'Brien seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Roger Scheurer moved to approve the meeting minutes of September 6, 2022. Gary O'Brien seconded, Motion to approve passed.

Commitments were signed

Meeting was adjourned at 1:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Lovett