

TOWN OF MONSON

"A town where friendliness is more than just a word"

August 25, 2022 – Select Board Meeting

Present –Tyler Adkins, Sandra Hardy, Sue Chase, Marti Gagnon,
Justin Thomas, Bruce Thomas, Loreta Dube, Alaina Zelkan

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:00 PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Sandra mentioned that Fairfield Antiques has some wrought iron fence that is similar to that which surrounds the churchyard cemetery. They are willing to sell it to the town for \$4,500.00. Alaina will look at the budget and see if it will be possible to purchase the fence.

Monson, MA needs to be formally thanked for their enthusiastic participation in the August 20 Bicentennial events. Sandra will speak to John Tatko about possibly making them something out of slate.

Sandra will work with Jade to get the Selectboard meeting videos posted on You Tube. The first Recreation and Festival Committee meetings are scheduled for Sept.1.

Sandra wondered what can be done to get better cell phone coverage in town. Tyler will try to work with executives at AT&T and Verizon when he returns from vacation.

Sue Chase asked for an update on the open Sexton position. Alaina stated that the position has been posted on Facebook and the town website. One application has been received.

Tyler Adkins asked for updates on the following:

Follow up from Matt at Maine DOT. Alaina reached out to him but has not heard back.

31 Water St: The owner of the property has been served, the contractor is finishing up another job and then he will tear down the building. Going forward, the Town Manager Report will include a Code Enforcement section.

TOWN MANGER REPORT

Alaina stated that she needs authority from the Selectboard to sign contracts. Tyler Adkins motioned to authorize Alaina to sign the contract with Rod Bjork to do work on the Bjork Road, seconded by Sue Chase.

TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE: No Report

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: The August 20 parade was a big success. The Fall Festival will be held on September 24. There will be a Hiker Feed at the gym from 12 -2, a cribbage tournament from 3 – 5, a decorating contest and a kid’s scavenger hunt in the morning.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: The plants were delivered and are in the artisan shed waiting to be distributed.

OLD BUSINESS

Opening of Snowplow Bids: One bid was submitted by Chad Davis. The bid was for three years and pricing is as follows:

Year 1 - \$195,000.00

Year 2 - \$214,000.00

Year 3 - \$235,000.00

Alaina spoke to Steve Lawson, who is unable to plow for Monson this year. Mike Wood is also unable to bid this year. Alaina has also reached out to a few companies to inquire about renting plow trucks. Sandra feels that the town should accept Chad’s bid as winter is coming quickly.

Bruce Thomas stated that this scenario looks like a replay of 3 years ago. He recommended Chad and feels that he did a good job plowing for Monson. He also stated that no one rents plow trucks, and the town doesn’t have a lot of options right now. After a brief discussion it was decided to run the bid ad for 2 more weeks and make a decision at the next meeting.

ATV Road Access Guidelines: Sue suggested bringing more groups and the public into the discussion. Many towns review their approvals every year, with public input. A public meeting

will be scheduled, and all the local ATV clubs will be invited. Alaina will speak to the clubs, the Sheriffs Office and the Game Wardens. A date will be decided at the next meeting.

31 Water St: The owner has been served. The building will be torn down after the contractor finishes another job.

NEW BUSINESS

Liquor License Renewals Lakeshore House/The Quarry: The Selectboard signed the license renewals for both restaurants as well as the warrant for the upcoming Special Town Meeting.

Abatements: The Selectboard signed 5 abatements for Homestead Exemptions that were not applied.

Recreation Committee Appointment and Oath: The Selectboard signed Recreation Committee appointments for Morgan Mareglia and Molly Poole.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.