

Town of Thorndike

Selectmen's Meeting 9.16.2020- Minutes

In attendance: Hustus, Moulton, Cusano, Gardiners, Falzetta, Cunninghams, Greenberg, Veazie, kj Ard, H Sorenson, P Pendergast, J & W Trafton, D Berry, B Carter, A Hamblet Z Bond, Nelson, Layne, LouAnne, 5 unnamed people

- **Open the meeting**
D Berry opens the meeting at 6:30 PM

- **Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Minutes from last meeting presented**
Changes made to page 3
Motion was made to accept the Greenbergs on the Parks and Rec Committee
Motion was seconded and passed, 3-0

- **Snow Removal Contractor Bids**

Selectmen received and reviewed snow plow bids from Wayne (\$175,890) and John (\$180,000).

A motion was made to accept John. It was seconded and passed , 3-0.

Dicussion:

J Trafon stated that John's work over the last 3 years speaks for itself and that his work has been highly praised over the years.

G Falzetta stated his concern about Wayne having lived in a different climate.

- **Fire Department**

Second application for the position of Fire Chief was received. Selectmen reviewed the new resume. A motion was made to accept Shawn Bristol as the new Fire Chief, with a 6 month probation period, and to accept him for a 3 year term once the probationary period is complete. The motion is seconded and passed 2-1.

Some parts are on order and others are ready for pickup at NorthEast Equipment.

Can we get approval for Engine #6 Pump Test? D Berry asks if there is a test date available.

T Veazie suggests that the lights can be fixed while it is out for testing.

Truck #9 needs a backup light.

The last of the Speedy Dry was used to assist Freedom.

D Berry asks if it was Ravens or Reliance. Veazie replies that it would be convenient to use Reliance, since it is available anywhere. D Berry asks how much it would cost.

Cunningham replies that it could be anywhere between \$1200 and \$1800.

Trafton makes a motion to allow a \$2000. spending cap for repairs to the truck. The approval to buy Speedy Dry was included in the motion, which was seconded and passed 3-0.

The fuel gauge will be fixed.

- **Park and Rec Committee**

Halloween Event is discussed. No large event can be planned, due to Covid-19. Several suggestions are presented: driving tours of houses, a virtual costume contest (H Sorensen), several online contests (Z Bond).

Berry moves to table discussion of Halloween event, noting that great progress had been made. This motion is seconded and passed, 3-0.

Event Room: Wi Fi

Amber provides update. She reports that Ryan says that moving the router will solve our WIFI problems. Ard says that if WIFI is available, student portal can be used to mark student attendance. He says that school supplied hot spots don't work, because there is no cell service. Greenberg states that the nearest tower is at Unity College.

Berry tells Amber to call an electrician for an estimate for running a cable for the router. Z Bond restates that Ryan's equipment should work. We should price check the booster. She asks if the board can approve a cap to order, to move things along, as this is something she feels can't wait.

In further discussion, Trevor suggests that students could be driven to the Town Office, checked in, then parents could leave. Greenberg says that there are assignments that students need to do online. Ard says that using that has already been approved.

Falsetta asks how many routers would be needed and if we have enough bandwidth for students.

D Berry moves to table this discussion. The motion is seconded and passes 3-0.

- **Old Business**

Center Cemetery

Maine Gravesite Services has overbooked themselves, but Thorndike will be first on the list for next spring.

Salt and Sand Shed

Falsetta reports that Monday meetings were suspended until needed for next steps. Berry moves to table the meetings. Motion is seconded and passed, 3-0.

A motion to accept the RFP is made.

Ard says that this pre-fab includes AE firm and that we don't need a firm, just a town AE.

Falzetta says that he was going to do 3 proposals . He talked to the State Professional Engineering Society President. He stated that an engineer for the town is a must, that we cannot use the company's engineer.

Why do we need AE involved with a pre-fab? Because the town doesn't know tech specs and AE can help the town in choosing the right pre-fab.

You can provide request for rough AE and get the best bang for your buck.

Ard asks what they are going to do. The pre-fab will do all three.

Trafton says this is complicated and that none of us are tech experts. He didn't get the weight. He wants to make 2 solid plans to present in order to make an educated decision. If we go with pre-fab, we will have an engineer on the ground while it is built.

W Trafton says that an AE is not choosing the vendor.

Falzetta said that is true, that AE will bring multiple options. The Selectmen will present and choose an AE and present choices to voters.

Wayne states that this engineer is accountable, so if they screw up, we can sue them.

LouAnne says that it can't be decided tonight but that Jeff provided good information. D

Berry makes a motion to put out to bid. The motion is seconded and passes, 3-0.

Ard says that the engineer could just choose the option that would profit him the most.

Falzetta replies that it can be combined so that both are required.

Trafton says that we need to maximize the dollars we spend on building and maintenance:

- 50 year stick built wood laminate

- Pre-fab (fabric) is much less expensive to build

Citizen says that the engineer chooses a company for each specialty.

Dates to submit bids : October 1-14

Bid for both types of building must be submitted

To be published in Bulletin, Community Voices of Thorndike, Website, Ravens, others

Motion is made, seconded and passed 3-0 to put out the bids.

Falzetta says we should inform the DEP of our progress. Berry agrees. Patty says that the Select Board should be contacting the DEP and CC Selectmen.

Berry liaison to DEP, CC and Enid. Passed 3-0.

- **New Business**

- Reynolds Road

- Spring paving \$130,000-\$150,000

- More into summer road work (RAP)

- Wayne says Curtis Pond Rd is going to be graded.

- Town Office Appointments

Motion is made to make Amber the Information Officer. Motion was seconded and passed 3-0.

Email Sexton position

Bulletin Board

Quote for Republican Journal Oct 7

Town Page

Advertise assistant plumber Oct 7

Advertise Assistant CEO

Patty – Planning Board has not met.

Charlie and a Selectman showed up at a house. A 12 year old reported a confrontational interaction. The Planning Board needs to meet to clarify how we approach. Let's enforce consistency. Our regulations need to be addressed. We need to be reminded how.

Ard says he wants to make a formal complaint against Charlie Porter and Bob Carter. Procedure is not being followed. Selectmen should not be enforcing ordinances. That is what Charlie should do. I have not received a fine. Thorndike has no Accessory Ordinance on skids. Berry reads the ordinance. It will be added.

Patty makes clarification on Berry contacting. Second Wednesday back on regular schedule. Note to schedule 2 X meetings.

- **Other**

Sand pile – 2500 yards minimum. There are currently 4,000 yards.

Salt- \$51.99 per ton

We have our plastic on, but we need more tires.

Toby Farrington will be grading a few roads in October.

Falzetta says that state law allows 10 days to have it covered.

Election Volunteers

Meeting X 3

\$4001. for the second Workers Comp Insurance payment, is due in January.

Remove Spectrum as of May 26 (talk to Lynn- they might owe us)

Sidenote: Selectman expressed concern that this is not the first time that someone has questioned the CEO's approach. Enforcement needs to be done fairly across the board. This is an issue we need to deal with as a town. We will look over the town's code enforcement over the next few weeks.

- **Warrants:**

A/P Warrant from
Current Warrant \$59,800.74
Payroll Warrant \$2685.42
Tax Committal - .0247, Bills go out

- **Adjournment**

8:20 PM, meeting is adjourned