

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2023

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey

Guests Present: Julie Smith, Kristen LaPell, Terry Severy, Nancy Woolley, Orca Media, Maya Newroot, Tony Goupee

Guests Present on Zoom: Troy LaPell, Carly Patrick, Orca Media, Martha Slater, Mary Fratini, Robert Franks & Jeff Gephart.

Doon called the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Doon moved to approve the September 25, 2023,

Review August Treasurer's Report: Doon moved to approve. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Amend Capital Assets Policy Software and Movable Equipment Threshold amounts to \$10,000: After reviewing the policy it was determined we should increase the threshold amount from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for movable equipment and software purchases. Doon moved to amend the Capital Assets Policy from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for software and movable parts as advised. Pat seconded. All in favor, so voted.

Park Use application- October 10 3pm-5pm Library-Childrens author John Churchman as guest: Due to inclement weather, the Park Use Application was no longer needed. The event will be held inside the library.

Park Use Application-October 20th 4:30-7:00pm Rochester PTO-Giant Pumpkin Weigh In: Doon moved to approve. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Access Mobility Elevator Lift -3yr contract: Doon moved to approve the 3-year maintenance contract with Access Mobility for the Town Office Lift Elevator. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Emergency Management discussion: Larry Plesent approached the board about purchasing radios to have for emergency events. Terry shared his thoughts. He said the radios would be expensive and to get a frequency, it would take about a year. He felt that in an emergency event he would make sure the director would have a radio to use. Terry explained that the radios used by the fire department are all serviced and much more dependable. Larry expressed his gratitude, and the board was appreciative for Terry's input.

Owl-what is it, how much did it cost, and who initiated the purchase: Doon shared the owl was the first purchase from the ARPA funds in 2020. He said the owl cost \$1,000 and was used to facilitate open meetings during COVID when large gatherings were frowned upon.

Formally approving NEMRC as the firm to do Town wide appraisal: Doon moved to approve NEMRC's proposal as the firm to do the town wide appraisal starting in July 2025. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Library Updates: Library is currently being painted. The top, upper section and front painted only. Tony shared there will be a trustees' meeting tomorrow evening at 5:30 pm. He introduced the Library Director. Maya Newroot was present to share how happy she is to be the director. She is excited to build the library and create more programs and find ways to keep the library relevant for everyone in the community. She invites everyone to come in and check out the library.

Highway Updates: Highway department has been stockpiling sand. The trucks are still being repaired. The final inspection was done of West Hill Bridge. Martha asked if the highway crew could take the benches and picknick tables off the park to store for the winter. Frank said he would let the road crew know.

Utility Updates: Terry asked about using the water and sewer excess funds to use towards maintenance projects such as manholes that need to be replaced, installing the new sewer pumps and some hydrant replacements. The office will review as well as the budget and finance to determine what projects can be done and set up a maintenance schedule to do a project every year.

Energy Coordinator Update: Jeff said he had submitted the MERP application for a level 2 Energy Audit. That will cover a diagnostic analysis of the building. The primary target for the audit will be the town office building with \$5900 spent annually on fuel and electricity. He shared 22 towns that have received grants through this program and the second round of this program closes at the end of the month.

Grant Updates: Kristen shared that the town has received the Grant & Aid reimbursement for Cooper and North Hollow in the amount of \$27,000. She said with FEMA we currently have 3 projects-Jones Mountain, Debris-combined from all locations and North Hollow. She has been working in the FEMA portal answering questions and submitting documents.

Doon moved to adjourn at 7:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith