Minutes Alford Select Board

March 8, 2021

Present: Via Zoom Charles Ketchen, Peter Puciloski, Jayne Smith ,TJ Horrigan, Joan Rogers, Tim Ortwein, Peter Schoeffer , Mort Josel

Guest: Beth Regulabuto, Superintendant of SBRSD

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm

Minutes of February 22, 2021 Approved

Henden-Wilson joined the meeting at 5:13pm

Ms. Regulabuto presented the FY2022 School budget. She noted the total enrollment has stayed the same this year. The overall operating budget is up 1.49% and Alford’s share is up 3.3%. Regulabuto outlined the district’s social/emotional goals for the coming year as well. There is consideration next year to reinstate a late bus schedule.

Smith asked of the district was participating in the pool testing. No the district is not participating. Regulabuto did say the district is using the bynox testing for symptomatic adults. There are no plans yet for Graduation.

Wilson asked how PPE had been paid for and Regulabuto answered by the COVID Grant. Wilson asked how the late bus would be funded. Regulabuto stated from State funding.

BOH update: Smith reported that Gov. Baker is starting to reopen Massachusetts. How is that going to look for Alford? Town buildings will remain closed at this time.

Town Meeting: Smith suggested we hold the meeting outside under a tent as we did last year.

Smith reported there is currently some legislation in Boston to invest in Public Health nursing. Smith would like to enter a collaborative with Tri-Town Health on behalf of Alford with the Select Board approval. The board is in agreement with this collaboration. Smith suggested we continue to maintain our relationship with Berkshire VNA and continue to have funds allocated in the FY2022 budget.

Highway update- Horrigan is working on the Culvert Grant. There may be some more funds available and the work may start sooner than previously thought.

SBVA: No action at this time. The Select Board would like to contact the other towns served by SBA and see what they plan to do. Rogers expressed there needs to be a different formula for assessment than EQV. What would be a fair price to pay?

Library Agreement with Great Barrington: $1700 for FY2022 and $1900 for FY2023. Henden-Wilson made the motion to accept the contract with Great Barrington for 2 years. Puciloski seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk update: Absentee ballots will be allowed for the Annual Town election. Henden-Wilson with consult with Town Counsel regarding the Marijuana By-law if it needs to be on the Annual Town meeting warrant on just on the election ballot.

Meeting adjourned 6:45 pm

Respectfully submitted

Roxanne Germain