

## Minutes Alford Select Board

October 25, 2021

Present: Select Board Charles Ketchen, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Monty Green, TJ Horrigan

VIA Zoom: Jayne Smith, Alice Halsted, Tricia Bevan

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm

Minutes of September 27 and October 4 approval on hold until November 8.

BOH update: Smith reported the COVID numbers in Berkshire County are leveling off. SBEPC is working on a Clinic for booster shots in South County. Smith would like to spend the \$2500 USDA grant funds on a need assessment for Alford residents and the rest to be used for the Public Health Collaborative. Smith asked if the VNA funds allocated for FY2022 could be used for the Public Health Collaborative. Ketchen replied that a vote at a Special Town meeting would be required. Henden-Wilson asked Smith if the SBRSD are planning to make the COVID Vaccine mandatory for students. Smith replied the school has not made a decision yet.

Highway update: Horrigan reported he had one candidate apply for the open Highway position. Aaron Coons was introduced to the Select Board. Ketchen made the motion to appoint Coons to the highway department. Henden-Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Horrigan noted the paving on Route 71 and Green River Road has been completed. The rooves on the Town Hall and the Highway garage have been repaired.

Horrigan asked the Select Board if he could be compensated for his cell phone once he becomes the Highway Superintendent. He stated the Town has a Verizon Plan and he does not get Verizon Coverage at his house. Henden-Wilson made a motion to compensate Horrigan \$900 per year for cell phone service. Ketchen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ketchen praised Monty Green for his many years of dedicated service to the Town of Alford. Green thanked the Select Board.

Historical District Commission: Halsted asked the Select Board if they could have the annual "Lighting up the District" on November 27<sup>th</sup>. As in years past, they would like to purchase 3 cut evergreen trees. She asked if the Highway Department would put them in place and put the light on them as in years past. This year they would like to have the Seekonk Marsh Brook Trail lighted with luminaries and have hot chocolate at the end of the path. She asked if the Highway department could blow the leaves off the trail before the event. The Select Board gave permission as requested the AHDC.

Old Business: EDM- No new information.

Short-term Rentals- Henden –Wilson received some information from the Town of Mount Washington and she will forward that to the Planning Board.

New Business: Grant Writer- Ketchen stated there are many opportunities for Grants that will be coming along if the Infrastructure bill passes. He suggest the town increase the Grant Writer budget for FY2023 and the Town start looking to hire a Grant Writer. Tricia Bevan stated she has written grants for various things in the past and would agreeable to assist.

Henden-Wilson suggested that a motion be placed on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for the "Board of Selectman" be changed to "Select Board".

MVP Grant: Carrieanne Petrik will be invited to the next Select Board meeting to share how the MVP Grants could be useful to Alford.

BNRC Sigh Permit: Tabled until next Meeting.

Meeting adjourned 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted  
Roxanne Germain