

Minutes Alford Select Board

June 13, 2022- Approved

Present: Select Board Charles Ketchen, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Peter Puciloski

Others present via zoom: Jayne Smith, Alice Halsted, Debbie Harper, Tricia Bevan and Shirley Meuller, Taylor Millspaugh.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Puciloski nominated Ketchen as Chairperson of the Select Board. Henden-Wilson seconded the nomination. Nomination approved unanimously.

Minutes of April 25 approved as amended

BOH update: Smith report Southern Berkshire County has moved to yellow. Alford has had one case in the last 2 weeks. The State is going to distribute home test kits Alford will get 90 kits.

Stream testing is starting on June 14 by the HVA. Smith has been trained on stream testing and will be testing on alternate weeks. Ketchen asked if she could test on Alford Brook and Green River at Route 71. The sharps container for the Transfer Station has not arrived yet.

Smith recommended pooling Alford's funds from the Opioid settlement with the other South County towns.

Highway: Horrigan reported after November 1, 2022 textiles will need to be recycled. Horrigan introduced Taylor Millspaugh from CMRK. CMRK provides recycling boxes for textiles and will pay the Town 7 cents per pound of recycled clothing. Henden-Wilson stated she was in favor as long as it would not create more work for the Highway Department. Horrigan thinks it may save the Town in tonnage for garbage hauling. Henden-Wilson made a motion to allow CMRK to provide containers for textile and household item recycling. Second by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

Roger Trucking contract: Rogers Trucking asked to renegotiate the last year of the 3-year contract due to the dramatic increase in fuel. Horrigan contacted Adam Costa and he agreed it is in the best interest of the town to renegotiate at this time. The result is a 28% increase over the current contract.

Henden-Wilson made a motion to accept the price increase by Rogers Trucking. Second by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

Driveway Permits: Horrigan would like to revise the driveway permit policy to include all contractors doing work in Alford. If any contractor damages a town road, they will be liable for repairs. Horrigan would like this policy to be part of the building permit process. Puciloski made a motion to adopt the revised driveway permit policy as proposed by Horrigan. Second by Henden-Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

Horrigan is concerned with the traffic congestion at the Transfer Station and he has proposed making a one-way traffic pattern.

Horrigan reported Gov. Baker announced the distribution of Chapter 90 WRAP funds. Alford will be getting an additional \$57,947 in reimbursable grant funds.

Horrigan reminded the Board he is currently the only one who can legally drive the new truck. He is proposing the town pay for school for Casey Searing and Aaron Coons. As part of the proposal, each employee would sign a contract for repayment if they left the town within 5 years of completing the course. Puciloski asked Horrigan to get Town Counsel opinion and draft a contract.

Appointments: Puciloski made a motion to appoint Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson to the position of Town Clerk to begin on July 1, 2022. Seconded by Ketchen. Motion passed Puciloski and Ketchen in favor Henden-Wilson abstained.

Henden-Wilson made a motion to appoint Roxanne Germain to the positions of Treasurer and Tax Collector. Second by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

Henden- Wilson made a motion to appoint Karl Cooper interim Electrical Inspector. Second by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

Alford Artist Collective – Debbie Harper is requesting to use the Town Hall and the open space behind 9 Alford Road on September 4, 2022. The Collective will be having studio tours throughout Alford this day. Harper is requesting help from the Highway Department to hang a banner in the center of Town if allowed. Harper was asked to fill out the building use form for the Board to approve.

Historic District Commission: Halsted informed the Board they would like to have a small gathering on July 2, 2022. This will be a bring your own picnic event. She is requesting permission for a tent to be set up behind the parsonage building. Traffic will not have to be redirected for this event. She is requesting the use of Town Hall to set up a video presentation. This event will be for Alford Residents. Henden-Wilson made a motion to approve the event as proposed. Second by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk: Election results- All incumbents were re-elected to office. The results are posted on the Town Clerks page of the Town website.

Henden-Wilson informed the Board the State of MA is requiring Town Clerks to do Early and Absentee voting for the Primary in September and the General election in November.

Henden-Wilson informed the Board she would be using a Poll Pad system for the elections in September and November. She also noted she could use 16 and 17 year olds as poll workers.

9 Alford Road update: There have been no responses to the invitation to bid.

Police Department: Ketchen reported he has contacted the State Police about duty in Alford. The State Police informed Ketchen they are having a hard time finding officers to do 4-hour shifts. They would like an 8-hour shift.

Other Business:

The Estate of James Maher has bequeathed the Town of Alford \$5000. Puciloski made a motion to accept the \$5000 from the Estate of James Maher to be deposited in the Preservation Trust account. Second by Henden-Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 7:25 pm

Respectfully submitted
Roxanne Germain