

Minutes Alford Select Board

January 23, 2023

Present: Select Board: Charles Ketchen, Peter Puciloski, TJ Horrigan, Joe Morandi

Zoom: Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Joan Rogers, Alice Halsted, Shirley Meuller, Tricia Bevan, Ruth Seidler, Ellen Bairstow, Julie Scott

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Minutes of January 9, 2023 approved as written

BOH Update: No Report

Highway update: Mr. Horrigan presented a document from MA DOT developed in the 1980's to the Select Board. This document states what the posted speed limits should be in Alford. He will be changing the speed limit signs to reflect this agreement. Some of the posted speed limits will be increased to 40 mph. He informed the Select Board in order to modify this agreement it would take speed studies, crash studies and engineering studies, which would be very lengthy and expensive.

Fire Department: Mr. Morandi from the Fire department furnished plans for a proposed addition to the backside of the existing firehouse. The building would be 8ft X 30ft with a shed roof. This addition would be used for storage of equipment that is currently in the main garage. Mr. Morandi asked what the next steps would be. Mr. Ketchen asked the Fire Department to get a couple of estimates that could be used to get a figure together for the Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Puciloski noted if the funds are approved at the Annual Town Meeting then the projected would have to go out to bid depending on the dollar amount of the project.

AHDC: Ms. Halsted offered to help the Town make a comprehensive plan for the spaces in the center of Town that need attention. Examples were handicap ramps, handicap parking for buildings and the Seekonk Marsh Brook Trail. Ms. Bevan offered to look for grants through the Shared Streets Program. Ms. Henden-Wilson would like to see the handicap ramp at the Town Offices building done first. She also noted that the renovation to the Parsonage should be completed before any landscaping or playground equipment is installed. MS. Meuller informed the Select Board she attended a Zoom meeting by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission she noted the focus of the meeting was community and green spaces in the Berkshires. Ms. Meuller reiterated the need for a comprehensive plan to be compiled and brought before the Select Board.

Other Topics: Southern Berkshire Ambulance sent a letter to the Town asking for support in FY2024. The amount in the letter was \$27,275.39. This will be forwarded to the Finance Committee to take into consideration for the Annual Town Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:17pm

Respectfully submitted
Roxanne Germain