

Minutes Alford Select Board

January 24, 2022

Present: Select Board Charles Ketchen

VIA Zoom: Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Jayne Smith

Others present in person: Allison Dixon,

Other present via zoom: Sarah DeJesus, Mike Jastremski Joan Rogers

Meeting called to order at 5:31pm

Minutes of January 10, 2022 approved as written

BOH update: Smith reported the Covid numbers are decreasing in Southern Berkshire and in Alford. The School District will be sending home test kits out with students. The rapid test clinics are still happening in Lee and Sheffield, the demand is decreasing.

Sarah DeJesus from BPOP, a syringe exchange program, gave a presentation to the board. This program will be fully funded by the MA Department of Public Health. A mobile van would come to Alford to pick up used syringes and provide clean containers for Alford residents. Smith has agreed to be the liaison for Alford.

Motion by Henden-Wilson according to MGL Chapter 111 section 215 needle exchange program to allow a qualified and appropriate organization to operate a mobile syringe program in Alford. Seconded by Ketchen. Motion passed unanimously.

Highway: No report.

Housatonic Valley Association: Allison Dixon presented the Board with a draft copy of the Stream Crossing Management Plan for Alford. She gave a brief description how to interpret the plan. She encouraged the Town to review the plan and make it available to the public for review as well. Henden-Wilson asked if the Conservation Commission had been contacted, if not, would she send Henry Flint a copy of the plan. Smith suggested Dixon send a digital copy of the plan to be put on the town website. HVA is looking for the Town to adopt the Stream Crossing Management Plan with the intent for the Town to prioritize the crossings that need repair and/or replacement.

Egremont Transportation: The COA transportation fee for Alford to join would be \$3500 per fiscal year.

Other Topics: Town Clerk updates: Henden-Wilson reported the State may change the voting requirements for September which may call for expanded voting hours.

Henden-Wilson asked Germain if she had explored becoming a Notary and what insurance requirements would be involved.

Henden-Wilson asked if the Select Board or Admin. Assistant had a cell phone paid by the Town. Then Chairman does and the Admin. Assistant does not. Henden-Wilson recommended in addition to the Highway Superintendent the BOH Agent and the Police Chief be given a stipend for use of their personal cell phone.

Meeting adjourned 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted
Roxanne Germain

