

Minutes Alford Select Board

May 24, 2021

Present: Select Board Charles Ketchen, via Zoom, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Peter Puciloski
Others: TJ Horrigan, Via Zoom Jayne Smith, Alice Halstead, Julie Scott, Tricia Bevan and Shirley Meuller
Meeting called to order at 5:02pm

Minutes of May 10, 2021 approved unanimously

Select Board reorganization post-election 5/18/2021, Henden-Wilson nominated Charles Ketchen for chairperson, motion was seconded by Puciloski. Ketchen accepted the nomination and motion passed unanimously.

BOH update: Smith reported on May 29th Gov. Baker has lifted the mask mandate for fully vaccinated individuals. Smith feels it is reasonable to re-open Town Offices with proper signage.

Smith report the first Public Health nurse has been hired through the shared Berkshire County grant. Smith was questioned about the open meeting law and the validity of ongoing zoom meetings. She is not sure at this time how that may or may not change. Smith asked Horrigan if he had applied for any recycling grants, which he has not. Smith agreed to keep him in the loop if any are available and suited for Alford.

Highway update-Horrigan reported the roof repair has been awarded to Scott Wodecki, it will take 6-8 weeks for the materials to come in. Horrigan asked if the work was not complete by June 30th for the funds to be carried forward to FY2022.

The water pump on the John Deere tractor broke and it may take 2 weeks to get the repair complete.

Highway garage and AHD: Ketchen asked the AHD why the Town garage and shed were included in the Historic District. Halsted replied it was in the original plan from 1975. Ketchen and Henden-Wilson both agreed that those buildings and surrounding property should not be under the opuses of the Historic District Commission. Puciloski commented that the only jurisdiction the Historic District Commission has is what can be viewed from the road and the Commission can prevent new construction but could have a say as to color and style of new construction. Ketchen asked what would need to be done to exclude the Highway garage and grounds. Puciloski stated the whole process would have to start over with the application to the State Historic Commission, public hearing and Town Meeting vote.

Halsted stated the AHD wants to make sure the Town center keeps its character.

Structural Engineer for 9 Alford Road: EDM in Pittsfield will be contacted to do a review of the foundation and structure to see if the building is structurally sound and provide cost estimates for renovation. Jim Hall offered to be a liaison for the Town since he worked for EDM many years ago. Ketchen made the motion to have EDM do a structural review of 9 Alford Road and use Jim Hall as the Town liaison. Motion seconded by Henden-Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Pastor Ken Phseay asked if the Church could use the Town Hall for a reception on June 13 after the Memorial Service for the Barnham family. Henden-Wilson asked for a \$50 fee be charged for a cleaning fee due to Covid protocols.

The Town Clerk asked if a new bulletin board could be installed at the Transfer Station. Horrigan will order one and install.

Henden-Wilson reported the Annual Town Election saw 53 voters and all Articles passed. The Historic District by-law revision has been sent to the AG office. . She did comment that the Solar and Marijuana by-laws are not currently on the website and should be added. At the very least, a disclaimer should be posted reflecting the current changes.

Old Business: The AHD would like permission to hold a Labor Day event in the center of Town. The tent would be in place as in past years. Folks would bring their own picnic lunch and maybe a Jazz trio for background music. Halsted requested Town Hall be open to display reflection from the "Snap Shot in Time"

Henden-Wilson made the motion to allow the event on Labor Day weekend. Motion seconded by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

Henden- Wilson asked if the Select Board meeting could be change to 5:30pm on the second and fourth Monday's of the months. No objections from Ketchen or Puciloski.

Meeting adjourned 6:03 pm

Respectfully submitted
Roxanne Germain