

Minutes Alford Select Board, Finance Committee and Alford Link Enterprise Fund

April 22, 2019

Present: Charles Ketchen, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Peter Puciloski, Joan Rogers, Mort Josel, Carl Stewart, Joe Nicilosi, Jim Hall, Monty Green, Michael Wilcox By phone Jay Weintraub and Peter Schoeffer.

Meeting called to order at 12:07pm

Minutes of April 8, 2019 Approved

Highway Update: Bid for the Cab and Chassis were opened on April 16, 2019. The Bid was awarded to Sarat Ford for \$43617.00. This included a \$10,000. Trade in. Green will rebid the body. Only one bid was received and Green felt it was too high at \$42981.00.

Green has extended the contract to Butternut Tree Services for one year.

The Town of Alford was asked if they would like to be a part of the Household Hazardous Waste Collaborative administered by Tri-Town Health Department. Green felt it was a reasonable idea since CET is no longer doing the Hazardous Waste Collection. The fee to join will be no more than \$1868,92 for the first year. Motion by Puciloski to join seconded by Henden-Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

12:25 Green left the meeting

Henry Flint, Conservation Chair, submitted a request that the Conservation Commission Consultant be appointed as a "Special Municipal Employee". Motion by Puciloski, second by Henden-Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on the SBRSD school budget. Stewart would like an explanation from the Superintendent at Town Meeting why Alford's share is up 10% when we only have 2% of the student population. Henden-Wilson stated she would not support this budget at the Town Meeting. In part due to the South Egremont School remaining open when there is room for them at the Sheffield Campus.

Discussion on Debt Service for FY2020. The proposed number is \$117,000. \$57,000 if for the Fire Truck same as previous year. \$60,000 for Broadband debt. The \$60,000 represent 40% of the total due on the note. \$90,000 will come from the Enterprise Fund budget. The Finance committee and Alford Link are in favor of the proposed debt service figures.

Alford Link thinks they will have roughly \$200,000 left from the borrowed money when the project is complete. This will be put towards the Debt service once the project is complete.

Finance committee: Stewart made the motion to support the proposed annual budget except features 1, 2 and 3 (SBRSD items) of Article 9. Second by Josel. Motion passed unanimously by the Finance Committee. Joan Rogers will speak at the Annual Town Meeting stating the approval of the budget by the Finance Committee.

Puciloski wanted to know what would happen if the town does not pass the school budget. Wilcox thought that if the other four towns pass the budget Alford will be required to pay regardless of the vote by Alford.

Ketchen asked Wilcox if it would be possible for the Police Chief to give a brief demonstration of the new defibrillators at the Annual Town Meeting. Wilcox was in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm

Respectfully submitted

Roxanne Germain