

Minutes Alford Select Board

August 24, 2020

Present: Charles Ketchen, Monty Green, Jayne Smith- In Person, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Peter Puciloski, Matt Kollmer, via Zoom

Others: Butch Ray – in person, Jenna Schoonmaker, Tim Ortwein – via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 5:03 PM

Minutes of August 10 approved unanimously

Highway update: Paving on West Road will be August 31 and September 1. Tim Drumm will work at the Transfer Station on Sept 1st. There was no damage from the last storm. Green questioned the Board on the status of the 2 maple trees in front of the Church.

Henden-Wilson made the motion to have the 2 large sugar maples in front of the church removed. Seconded by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously. The removal will come out of the Tree Warden budget.

BOH: Smith reports there are 2 suspected cases of COVID-19 in Alford possibly coming from a short term rental situation. The people in question have been quarantining in Alford. Smith reports schools will be reopening soon she has not been asked by SBRSD to be involved with the plan as of yet. The state guidance is that all people 6 months through college get the flu vaccine. Smith reports she has been in touch with Thea Basis, Alford COA, and a flu clinic will be held in October in Alford.

The e-coli in Alford Brook is decreasing and Seekonk Brook has normalized. Green River at route 41 is, however, 10 times over the limit.

Special Permit for 11 Rowe Road: George Meyer submitted an application for a special permit to have a camper in his yard while his house is being rebuilt. Smith has inspected the property and has concerns about access to water and sewer during the winter months. They currently do not have a plan to dispose of fecal waste. A plot plan and a plan for functional water and sewer need to be in place before the Select Board can proceed.

Motion by Ketchen to continue this hearing until September 14, 2020 at 7pm. Seconded by Puciloski. Motion passes unanimously.

Schoonmaker complaint regarding Butch Ray, Electrical Inspector, Solar inspection on August 10, 2020. Ms. Schoonmaker is upset that the Ray performed the inspection without her or her husband present. During the inspection Ray instructed the solar contractor to cut her Arborvitae to have a 3 foot access to the electrical box. She would like to know why she was not informed by the inspector about the tree needing to be trimmed.

Ray explained to the Select Board what the state code is for inspections of this type. This is why the branches needed to be removed. Puciloski asked Ray if he cut the branches himself. He replied no the solar contractor did.

Puciloski informed Ms. Schoonmaker that the Town Of Alford cannot make restitution for the tree since the electrical inspector did not cut the tree. She would have to hire a lawyer and file a formal grievance. Ketchen suggested the Board make a site visit to have a look at the tree. A Visit is planned for Friday, August 28, 2020 at 9am.

A Special Town Meeting needs to be scheduled for the proposed Marijuana By-Law change. Tuesday, October 6th at 7pm.

Town Clerk: Hendon-Wilson informed the Board that Larry Pezze has resigned as Town Constable. She will need another Constable for the State Primary on September 1, 2020.

Hendon- Wilson made the motion to appoint Tim Ortwein as Constable until the the May 2021 annual election. Second by Puciloski. Motion passes unanimously.

Hendon-Wilson gave an update on the site visit with the Historical District Commission at 7 Alford Road. She informed the HDC that the water and sewer issues must be taken care of before any other use of the building is considered. Hendon-Wilson was very happy to have TJ from the highway department on hand to explain what is needed for the highway department as far as space is concerned.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted

Roxanne Germain