

Minutes Alford Select Board

September 14, 2020

Present: Charles Ketchen, TJ Horrigan, Marion Ortwein

Via Zoom: Peter Puciloski, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, Jayne Smith, and Joan Rogers

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm

Minutes of August 24th and September 10th approved unanimously.

Constable Appointment: One inquiry for Constable was received from Tim Ortwein.

Henden-Wilson made a motion to Appoint Time Ortwein Constable until the annual election in May of 2021. Seconded by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

BOH update: Smith has been working with Marion Ortwein regarding protocols to re-open the children's library on Saturday mornings. Smith has created a COVID Control Plan to re- open.

Henden-Wilson made a motion to re-open the Children's Library on Saturday mornings from 10am to Noon.

Seconded by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

FLU Clinic will be October 20th from 12noon to 2pm.

Municipal Approving Authority for "Remote Learning Enrichment Programs". New guidance has come from the Department of Early Education and Care. This position would ensure all requirements are met for programs wanting to provide an alternate learning environment to school children. Henden-Wilson made a motion to appoint Jayne Smith as the MAA for the Town of Alford. Seconded by Puciloski.

Motion passed unanimously.

FDA Grant: Alford is eligible for a \$3000 grant to do an assessment of our food program. To be eligible the Town needs to register with the FDA. Approval was given for Smith to apply for the grant.

Reopening SBRSD: Smith would like permission to work with the schools on the reopening plans in conjunction with the Sheffield and Egremont BOH and the School nurse. This would be reimbursable under the CARES Act. Permission granted by the Select Board.

Smith will be working with the Town Clerk to set up the Town Hall on October 27th to prepare for the General Election on November 3rd.

Highway update: The Town of Alford was awarded a \$15,000 grant for the culvert on Green River Road. This is a 3 year grant process. This is the first phase "Field Data Collection and Analysis. This project will be used as a teaching model.

The Town currently rents 4(four) 120gallon propane tanks. Horrigan would like to purchase new tanks so the Town can take advantage of competitive propane pricing.

Meyer Special Permit: Mr. Meyer has submitted the requested plot plan and confirmation of proper solid waste disposal. Ketchen made the motion to approve the Special Permit for the trailer on his property for 6 months. Seconded by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

NO further complaints by the Schoonmaker's on Route 71.

Tax Rate has been approved by the DOR at \$5.55

Elderly Transportation: Mark Pruhenski contacted Ketchen to let him know the Town of Great Barrington is working on replacing the SBETC. When they have a plan in place they will let the Town of Alford know so Alford may be able to join the Great Barrington Service.

The Trees in front of the Church have been taken down. No action to replace the trees will happen until the spring.

John Littlechild from East Road contacted the Select Board about having a "Hunting on Private Property" question on the Special Town Meeting warrant. He was informed that the warrant had already been posted. Puciloski stated when the Planning Board submits for the Zoning by-law changes there is an article that addresses the hunting concern. Puciloski will contact Mr. Littlechild and inform him.

Town Clerk: Early voting will be on the two weekends before the general election. Alford currently has 375 registered voters, and over 150 people have applied for absentee ballots.

Henden-Wilson made the motion to appoint Charles Ketchen as Chairman of the Select Board. Seconded by Puciloski. Motion passes unanimously.

Ketchen made the Motion to appoint Peter Puciloski to the Alford Link Board. Seconded by Henden-Wilson. Motion passes 2 yes votes and 1 abstention

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

Respectfully submitted
Roxanne Germain