

Minutes Alford Board of Selectmen

September 24, 2018

Present: Charles Ketchen, Chairman; Peter Puciloski, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson Roxanne Germain, Selectmen's Secretary, Carl Stewart, SBRSD School Committee Rep; Monty Green, Highway Superintendent

Meeting called to order 7pm by Charles Ketchen, Chairman

Minutes of September 10 and 17 approved.

Carl Stewart was asked to the meeting to give the Select Board an update on what is happening at the school. There is much discord amongst the staff of SBRSD, the parents and the Superintendent, reports Stewart. To highlight some of the issues Kurt Degrenier, Dean of Students had a Title 9 complaint filed against him and he did not return for the start of the school year. This upset many of the parents in the district. An investigation has been conducted and he has returned to school but the report of the investigation has not been made public. Jim Berlstien a Physics Teacher for 17 years in the district made a public post on Social Media on how he now works in a "hostile work environment" this post has incited concerns from parents that their children are not safe at school. Parents are also very upset with the Superintendent that she is not responsive to phone calls and emails from them. She does not respond individually she will send out a "group" or "blanket" email to the community as a whole.

Ketchen asked Stewart if he could organize a meeting with the Superintendent, Principals of both schools and at least 5 members for the School Committee to see if he could mediate a solution to all the discord currently happening in the district. Stewart is agreeable to arrange a meeting but states it will only work if all parties are willing to compromise.

Henden-Wilson would like to see the Superintendent removed. Stewart noted a couple of problems with that one being she is only one year into a 3 year contract. Unless she resigns on her own.

Highway Department

Green submitted a letter from Magai Arboriculture regarding the dead trees at 16 Green River Road that are Town trees on the property of Dorothy Terino. They claim the trees are only a hazard to Ms. Terino home not the Town roads. (See attached). Puciloski suggested the Select Board hold an American Shade Tree Act hearing and make a final decision regarding the disposition of the trees. National Grid would like to remove the trees at no cost to the Town.

Green submitted the bid for the Town to purchase its own compactor in the amount of \$17,464.85. Motion by Henden-Wilson to accept second by Puciloski. Motion passed unanimously.

Blacktopping is done for this fall. The lines have been painted on all roads. If the line painters are back in this area before winter Green will ask them to do No. Egremont Road.

Puciloski made the motion to appoint Jay Weintraub to the AlfordLink Commission board since Bruce Forester had to step down due to health concerns. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourn 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Germain

