

**Town of Sumner - Select Board Minutes  
November 10, 2020 (Zoom)**

**Members present:** Kelly Stewart, Mary Ann Haxton, Edwin Hinshaw, Town Treasurer and Tax Collector Sherry Sullivan, Town Clerk Susan Runes, and secretary to the Select Board, Susan Strout.

**Public present:** none

The minutes from October 27, 2020 were read and approved with a motion by Hinshaw, seconded by Haxton and voted.

**Warrant #9**

**Checks #14066-14097    \$145,414.50**

**Receipts 39-73    In the amount of \$216,060.40**

**2020-2021 Tax collected \$297,638.49 = 20%**

**2019-2020 Tax collected = 21%**

**Open Session:** none

**RSU #10 Report: Charles Maddaus**

Maddaus was not present by sent a report that the school board focused on protocols and expectation of CO-VID 19.

**CEO/LPI Report: Fred Collins**

Not present

**Roads Report: Andrew Wickson**

All the sand is ready for winter. The Andrews Road bridge work has been completed.

After more evaluation of Tom Standard's proposal for a road study, the Select Board member understand that his plan is to pave all roads in Sumner. No one on the Select Board feels that paving all roads is realistic or desirable. Another road committee meeting would be helpful to bring concepts together in a workable plan.

**Forms, Reports, Correspondence:**

An abatement/supplement for Ellen Goldberg/Dulcie Brown has been created by the assessor. The form needs to be signed by the Select Board. A portion of a property was sold and the assessment had incorrect acreage in the new property sizes.

**New Business:**

The fire department is looking to add Narcan and Oxygen to the rescue truck. Stewart just want to Select Board to be aware of this. All expenses will come out of the current operating budget.

The work of the Broadband committee is moving into new stages in its work. Official appointments are needed for any committee with fund spending authority. Hinshaw made the

motion to form an official Broadband Committee, Haxton seconded, followed by a unanimous vote. All members who are not on the Select Board should have appointments. The Committee will consist of Mary Ann Haxton, Ed Hinshaw, Larry O'Rourke, Mike Sabin, Haley Bullocks, and Jay Hansen, who works as IT for RSU#10. Sabin has volunteered to serve as secretary for the committee.

The county commissioners will have a budget workshop on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Haxton plans to attend.

The Town Office staff is working on a plan for walk-in hours and/or appointment hours. The discussion centered around having the Town Office open for appointments on Tuesdays and Saturdays as a starting trial depending on what is seen with numbers of cases. The hope is for adding walk in hours after about a month.

Sullivan added that she is trying to set ACH payments allowing customers to pay directly through their bank.

#### **Old Business:**

The next step in the legal steps of addressing the non-compliance by the Hart Property owners on Arthur Allen Road will be made by attorney Martha McLean. Sullivan added that the resident had made a call to the Town Office saying the water in her area was occasional run-off and not wetland.

Two offers have been put in for the property at 126 Main Street. One offer wants to verify there is a clear title. The offer was is for \$40,000. The Purchase and Sale agreement asks for a response by the Town by November 12. Hinshaw makes a motion that the Town move accept the offer. Select Board members will sign the document on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

The bill from Martha McLean has been received at the office for \$1,060.00 which is more than the budgeted \$900 legal fee. The remaining balance will be taken out of the Select Board discretionary fund. This was a motion by Hinshaw, seconded by Haxton and so voted.

An animal rescue kennel has not been found that will make an agreement to take in stray animals.

Sullivan gave an update on the Election revealing that the day went well with most keeping social distance and wearing masks. There were also numerous residents registering to vote and updating addresses.

Haxton provided an update on Broadband Committee. Besides the letter that was mailed with every property tax bill, another information sheet has been distributed to all Sumner students in RSU#10. Another letter will go out via email with the details of the first steps of the Broadband committee.

There is a way to test the computer speed at each location or house. One unknown fact is how far off the main roads will the broadband service be available. The number of interested people will be lower than expected if the service does not reach them. Wickson has learned that fiber will be run along

Fields Hill Road next summer. Wickson shared that he would be ditching along the same road.

Wickson discussed that he would like to purchase a chain saw. The funds would come out of the Roads equipment account.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 with a motion by Hinshaw, seconded by Haxton.

**Upcoming events:**

**Town Office closed for Thanksgiving, November 26**

**November 10, 2020 minutes**

Submitted by Susan Strout

Approved: November 24, 2020