

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 5:30 p.m, via Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Laurie Colgan; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors Paul Tomasi (Northeast Kingdom Solid Waste District); Robin Barton

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: personnel issue, errors & omissions

Public Comment: Robin Barton explained that her brother in law mailed his payment from Colorado and it didn't arrive on time. She asked the Board to extend the tax due date by a week because of the pandemic. The Board doesn't feel that they have the authority to change the due date that was set by the voters, but the Board of Abatement would be an appropriate way to handle this. An abatement request has been received and will be heard in the next few weeks. (The request was withdrawn via email later during the meeting).

Minutes: Approved the minutes of 12/1.

Cabot Recycling Center: The Board discussed the center with Paul Tomasi, Executive Director of the Northeast Kingdom Solid Waste District. He suggested that Marshfield residents should be offered a permit to use the center. Cabot could sell the permits to help defray the cost of the operation. Paul feels that the bag fees should cover the recycling cost, or perhaps a town employee could operate the facility and the bag collection could be handled separately. The Board Paul left to attend the Cabot Selectboard meeting to propose the permit solution, and to let them know the Marshfield Selectboard is not inclined to include the Cabot Recycling Center in the budget.

COVID update: The people who clean the OSC are going to clean after hours when no one is in the building. The building will remain closed.

Chris met with representatives of several area towns. All were in agreement that mutual aid would be a good idea, and the Road Foremen will be responsible for contacting each other when they need assistance, and for working out the logistics. All of the towns involved are insured by VLCT. The Board discussed how the towns could help each other and what would be a fair cost. VLCT has a model agreement that can be modified.

Town Meeting: Rich moved to vote everything by Australian Ballot for town meeting 2021. Chris seconded – all in favor. The Board discussed doing a mailing to let voters know about the changes and how to get more information.

The Board agreed that party names will not be included on the ballot.

Recycling: Paul returned to the meeting and indicated that Cabot was not receptive to the permit idea. Paul suggested to them that they should cover it with the bag fees, but John Cookson feels that he would have to charge too much per bag. Paul suggested that the Town of Cabot should put it out to bid. The Selectboard discussed other options but did not agree to put it in the Marshfield budget.

Old Schoolhouse Common: Faical Yachfine asked permission to park an 18-wheeler overnight at the Old Schoolhouse Common. The Board declined to allow overnight parking because of the difficulty that it causes for snow removal.

Errors and Omissions: The Selectboard approved a change to the grand list value for the Christ Covenant Church.

Personnel: Shane Brickey has given his notice to take a job with another town. Bobbi will advertise for a road crew position.

Budgets: The Selectboard reviewed the budgets. Further review will happen at the December 29, 2020 meeting.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll and authorized Rich to sign them.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the December 15, 2020 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
