

# MINUTES *approved minutes*

**Board of Selectmen Meeting:** March 1, 2021 **Present:** Frank Emig, Jim Jennison, Glenn Elsesser, Brenda Melius, Conan Cook, Gregg Thibodeau, Jennifer Bland, Ray Leonard, John Luther **Approve minutes:** BOS meeting February 15, 2021: Motion FE/JJ to approve, passed; **Bill manifest:** Motion JJ/FE to approve with addition, passed. **Payroll manifest:** Motion FE/JJ to approve, passed.

## **Public Input:**

1. Glenn Elsesser reported final bid of \$12,200 for the 1994 loader. Motion JJ/FE to accept the bid and sign bill of sale, passed. There was discussion as to whether the backhoe should be sold privately with consensus the trade in of \$10,000 offered was a fair price. Loader buyer to be contacted for payment and pickup. MM recommended Old International be posted for sale. Motion JJ/FE to post, passed. GE will post. Ray Leonard asked whether the old loader could have been repaired and it was noted repairs would have exceeded the value of the machine.

## **Highway Department Report:**

1. Work update/plan: MM noted Echo Valley turnaround is blocked, JJ will contact owner; also River Road trees are leaning into right of way hampering snow removal, there was consensus to trim. MM noted crew will work on shoulders and potholes as weather permits.
2. RFPs for 2021 projects: MM noted need to require contractors use own loader. Revisit 3/15/21.
3. Black North signage: MM noted substantial dead end sign at entry and will check for a sign for the C6 transition.
4. Spring road postings: Motion JJ/FE to post, passed.

## **Action items:**

1. Building permits: LeBlanc porch permit, Hill Road: Motion FE/JJ to extend permit, passed.
2. Intents: None.
3. Conservation Commission:
  - a. Gregg Thibodeau relayed Kristian Fenderson interest in putting land into conservation. There was consensus for ConCom to work with KF on this as needed;
  - b. GT spoke of reviving the office of Tree Warden. There was consensus that interest in the position be solicited.
4. Acworth Broadband Committee (ABC): GT gave an update noting New Hampshire Electric Coop (NHEC) has committed to bringing service to all of Acworth as part of its Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding. This would require no financial commitment from the Town and could be in place this year. ABC has studied NHEC's capacity and reported their infrastructure is state of the art. ABC is also following up with Consolidated Communications (CC). GT noted several surrounding towns will vote on bonding participation with CC at their 2021 town meetings. JJ voiced bonding reluctance and FE noted Acworth voters' historical lack of support for bonding. There was consensus to proceed with Requests for Information with CC and competitive companies in order to fully explore that option.
5. DRA MS-535 previously reviewed: Motion JJ/FE to sign for uploading to DRA portal, passed.
6. 2021 Reval: Press releases about the Reval have been placed in the Newsletter and website. There was consensus that is sufficient at this time.
7. Town Meeting: There was discussion with John Luther summarizing logistics for daytime voting and the evening in-person meeting. The United Church Fellowship Hall will be used for overflow of socially distant seating in Town Hall with a computer connection provided by the Church. Although the Selectmen have requested masking there will be provision for those who cannot mask.

## **Other items:**

1. Nonpublic: None.

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:10PM; Next meeting March 15, 2021; Respectfully submitted, Kathi Bradt