

Arrowsic Board of Selectmen Minutes, December 22, 2020

Present: Walter Briggs, DeeDee Jorgensen, John White sr., Brett Jensen, Sheila Spear, Will Neilson, Don Kornrumpf

THE Meeting was called to order at 6.05 pm.

Approval of Minutes

After further amendment by Will, he moved and DeeDee seconded, approval of the minutes for December 8, 2020. They were unanimously approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report and Warrant

A small charge from the state for unemployment benefits has been paid, though it is not clear that the town owes this. Staff stipend checks will be distributed tomorrow.

Sheila reminded the Board that another copy of the Casella Contract needed to be signed since the first had been mislaid. Will has yet to sign.

DeeDee will copy the contract signed by Chris Wislcoxson and send a copy to Sheila
Warrant # 12 for \$74,611 was approved unanimously on a motion by DeeDee, seconded by Will.

6:30 AFD Brush Truck Replacement Committee - Joe Bonnett, Michael Kreindler

Michael reported that Joe, himself and Jeremy Blaiklock, who had worked on the engine mini pump replacement, had reconvened to work on replacing the Fire Brush Truck. This was part of the 2015 AFD long term planning recommended replacement schedule, approved by the Select Board and the Town Meeting. This is the second phase: to replace Brush Truck, for which the 2020 Town Meeting town approved using \$70,000. The Committee was currently exploring design and procurement and was narrowing down the options. They were fairly confident they would achieve their goal of staying within budget by purchasing the base vehicle separately from the fire apparatus. They are ready to order the vehicle from Casco Bay Ford, which has a municipal discount. Joe added that they have shopped this around, and have worked with several different models and vendors. They will need to draw from the account. Sheila will forward any invoices to the Brush Truck Committee c/o AFD in-box.

6:45 CEO Transition

A motion by Will, seconded by Walter, to appoint Chris Wilcoxson to the position of CEO/LPI and MK to Assistant CEO, effective January 5, 2021, was approved unanimously.

Walter will draft a message to inform the Town. Sheila will inform the Town Attorney, MMA Legal, State CEO Program (Paul Demers)

Walter reported that the West Bath LPI is available to assist with plumbing inspections if needed, in return for the associated fees.

Homestead Exemptions

The Board reviewed four Homestead Exemptions. Two of these (Schau and Johnson) had been submitted in time to be eligible for the 2020 property tax billing

but had not been brought to the Board's attention. The other two (Carr and Stoneman) will be eligible for the exemption in the 2021 tax year.

- Jonathan and Tina Schau
- Randolph and Deborah Johnson
- John and Patricia Carr
- Nick and Vicki Stoneman

Will moved to approve the Homestead Exemption requests, retroactively where necessary, of Schau, Johnson, Stoneman and Carr. DeeDee seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Walter will contact the Schaus and Johnsons about submitting abatement requests.

ABA Broadband Update

Don reported to the Board as follows:

1. Mission contract: Mission have signed the Consulting Agreement and Scope of Work with immaterial change to the last draft reviewed by Kristin. - hours at lower rate, & excessive insurance requirement deletion. Agreed DMK would resubmit signed contract to Kristin for final legal review
2. NO/ISP RFP review: The ABA technical team discussed the latest draft RFP for the Network Operator/Internet Service Provider with Mission, which should be distributed before Christmas. Mission has produced some new names as addressees to be considered: First Light, GWI, Santex, and Matrix to add to Axiom, LCI, Consolidated and Spectrum. A first check on these new names show they might be serious bidders. The target NO/ISP selection process completion date is late January 2021.
3. Project Engineering proposals: The team has completed an initial review of responses and created a comp sheet, which was difficult as the bids used differing presentations. We need Mission input to make better sense of the bids to respond. The target date to engage a Project Manager is mid-January 2021.
4. BSI Line of Credit: Documentation seems to be complete. DMK will request formal offer letter of bank confirming terms and conditions.

2021.2022 Budget planning

The Board agreed to begin discussion to review non-committee budget items in February. The deadline for Committee requests is April 1. Sheila mentioned a number of staff matters that the Board might want to consider in this context.

New comprehensive plan

There was a brief discussion about the process needed to put a proposal to Town Meeting 2021 to develop a new comprehensive town. It was agreed that the current plan is out of date and uncompliant with state requirements. Will pointed out that it will probably need to be outsourced by hiring a consultant and that the local point person might be an individual or a committee. Walter will discuss the matter with Jennifer Geiger, chair of the Planning Committee.

TRIO Training

DeeDee, Sheila and perhaps Brett will take the Introduction to TRIO training scheduled for January 14. After that Sheila to approach the Deputy Tax Collector about further hands-on assistance.

Motion to adjourn, moved by DeeDee, seconded by Will, was passed unanimously at 7.14 pm.

Planning ahead:

- PA system - purchase?
- Inquiry about M5/L1 (Town Clerk)
- Arrowsic Education Committee
- Remote Access to TRIO for the Assessing Agent