Sullivan Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

September 13th, 2021

6:00

Selectmen: Mike Pinkham, Rusty Gordon, Roger Wakefield

Town Clerk: Jessica Parker

Audience: Mike Pinkham II, Allen Colebank, Neil Jordan, and Rebecca Alley from the Ellsworth American.

Call to Order

Mike Pinkham called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Approval of August 16th minutes

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the August 16th minutes.

M. Pinkham made a motion to correct last month's minutes to state that R. Wakefield had made a motion to get more office help and the motion passed 3/0.

Treasurer's Warrant

R. Wakefield made a motion to accept the warrant as presented. R. Gordon 2nd. Motion passed 3/0

Business Practice and Procedures

Tabled for the month of September.

Review of Treasurer's Report

R. Wakefield reviewed end of year report, stating that the fire department only spent 70% of their allotted budget. EMT's were slightly over budget as was the transfer station. Town properties were under budget.

For revenue, planned revenue for administration doesn't include expected tax revenue. R. Wakefield would like for that to change this year, which would be to the town's benefit.

Fire department had over $80,000 in donations along with donations for the EMT's.

In the packet is what came out in September, and must be updated, as to what passed at the town meeting. Amy Dunn helps to update the information to Trio.

New Ordinance update

There were 4 new ordinances that were passed at the town meeting this year. Four others need updating, including the medicinal marijuana ordinance. The town is looking for volunteers to help starting mid-November for a special ordinance work session.

Plowing and local road maintenance

R. Wakefield stated that only 88% of the town road maintenance budget was spent including plowing, due to that the selectboard would like to compile a prioritized list of roads that need to be maintained.

M. Pinkham questions Neil Jordan about the plowing priorities, as Town Office and Fire Stations appear to be lower on the list. N. Jordan agreed stating that the roads are the highest priority, however the town office has always been plowed prior to opening. He states that it takes two and a half to three hours to make the loop around the town. If the town decides to raise the priority on the Fire Stations, then the roads will suffer. M. Pinkham II offered a suggestion to remove the Fire Stations from the plowing contact to which N. Jordan agreed to. The Selectmen decided they would discuss the matter with the Town Manager.

New Local Fish Factory/Farm

R. Wakefield played a video about the fish farm and how other communities are against it.

R. Wakefield made a motion to send a letter to Angus King, Jared Golden, Janet Mills, Susan Collins and the Department of Marine Resources stating the town's opposition.

2nd by M. Pinkham

M. Pinkham suggests waiting until DMR has a full and final application. He also suggested having a public hearing on the matter. R. Wakefield said the town should advertise the for the public hearing. R. Gordon was in favor of the public hearing.

Motion failed 0/3

Action: Investigate where the company is in the application process.

Action: Have a Public Hearing for the town to voice their opinions.

Knowlton Abatement Appeal

There was an executive session to discuss the abatement of the Knowlton Property.

M. Pinkham made a motion to settle the abatement with the Knowlton's for the appraisal of $135,000 for the tax years of 2019 and 2020.

R. Gordon 2nd.

R. Wakefield questions why the town pays for the appraisal.

M. Pinkham replies to say that anytime in a civil case the loser pays the fees.

Motion passes 3/0

New Business

Fire Department Ordinance

M. Pinkham would like to review the ordinance and have a discussion and have the Selectmen be apart of it.

R. Wakefield stated that the New Ordinance Update should include the new fire department ordinance.

KnoxBoxes

M. Pinkham stated that he had received a call from a Fire Chief who does not have a key to the KnoxBoxes for the Schools in the town of Sullivan. The town of Sorrento also doesn't have a key.

Michael Pinkham II is the one responsible for obtaining KnoxBoxes. He stated that there are KnoxBoxes at the RSU 24, Dollar General, Dunbar's, Mountain View Grammar School, and Sumner High School. He had given keys to all area towns to have access to the KnoxBoxes, however it became a liability, and they all were returned.

M. Pinkham makes a motion: Allow the Town Manager to research why other Schoodic area Fire Departments don't have KnoxBox keys to Sullivan buildings.

R. Wakefield 2nd.

Motion passes 3/0

Masons Supper:

The Selectmen would like to advertise the Mason's Supper on the town's website.

ARPA

R. Wakefield stated that the town needs to apply for the ARPA funds which will be $128,000. We would receive half this year and half next year and, he would like for the Town Manager to apply for the funds. We need to compile a list of ways to use the money.

R. Gordon questions if we need to reapply for the second half next year. We do not know.

R. Wakefield stated that there are restrictions on the funds, and certain categories that the spending must fall into. The spending will also be audited.

R. Wakefield made a motion: To have the Town Manager apply for ARPA funds, and to compile a list on how to use the funds.

M. Pinkham 2nd.

Motion passed 3/0

Blaisdell Cemetery Road-Name Change Request

Allen Colebank would like to change the name of the road that he lives on. He stated that he is the only one currently living on the road. He would like to change the name from Blaisdell Cemetery Road to the Blaisdell Road.

R. Wakefield asked if there was currently a town road sign, which there is.

There was no motion made and the Selectmen said they had no objections

Reports

Age Friendly

Candy Eaton stated that due to the rain, the Age Friendly walking trail will need culverts put in. She has ordered new signs for the Community Garden to alert people it is not open to the public and to contact the food pantry or the take it or leave it table at the Town Office. Age Friendly will host a flu clinic at the Town Office on September 28th. Age Friendly had their first in-person meeting in almost two years, and that it was successful. Candy Eaton also stated that she would like a monthly financial statement.

There will be a public supper at the Rec Center on October 23rd.

Candy Eaton also mentions bringing the ARPA funds to the budgeting committee.

Action: Schedule a budgetary committee meeting.

Broadband Committee

Don Snoke not in attendance. No report submitted.

Harbor Committee

M. Pinkham stated that he had reached out to individuals that had not yet paid their mooring fees. People should be coming into the office in the next couple days.

Code Enforcement Officer

Rebecca was not in attendance however R. Wakefield had spoken to her and said that regarding the property on Bert Gray Road, that she had spoken to the owner and when he's ready he'll ask Rebecca to go over to inspect it. If she inspects the property and there's no violation, then there's no bases for. R. Wakefield stated that the steps do not fall in the description of a building. He also mentioned how Rebecca does not currently have a computer to work at in her office. The computer will stay in the office for Rebecca to use as she needs and be available to the Town Treasurer as well.

Town Manager

Stacy Tozier not in attendance. No report submitted.

Fire & Rescue

M. Pinkham II stated that the new school is very secure and that the chances of it catching on fire are very slim. He also stated that there are two fire hydrants on the premises along with a third on Route 1 and a fourth behind the fence. M. Pinkham mentioned that he was told the water line that came down Punkinville to the hydrant was corroded and due to that the fire fighter would not get full pressure to the hydrant. M. Pinkham suggested that when the lines are redone in the future there should be one line to the school and a separate line to Sorrento.

Cemetery Committee

Gary Edwards was not in attendance. No report submitted.

To Do List

R.Wakefield stated that we will need the tax rate as soon as the Town Treasurer is back in the office. We are also waiting on the auditor for the 2020 audit. He also stated that we are still looking for volunteers for a parks and rec committee. The town's website needs to be updated. The new Fire Department Ordinance is not on it. M. Pinkham stated that he had compiled a list of others that maybe able to help in the office if needed. The Town Manager is setting up a meeting with Northern Light to facilitate a new EMS contract with them. R. Wakefield stated that we still need a list for negotiation. R. Gordon stated that after working at the transfer station over the weekend the compactor was filled to capacity. He also mentioned that the demo tickets are not making it from the transfer station to the Town Office. He said he heard from someone on Romeo Blvd and was told that the road was tipping a bit to the side and the water was going into a nearby basement.

Public Comment

Rebecca Alley asked Michael Pinkham II if the Fire Department had to respond to a recent fire incident in the town, he answered that they went as medical and there was no fire upon arrival.

R. Wakefield asked if the board was planning to keep the new six o'clock time slot. M. Pinkham said that since it hadn't attracted much of an audience, they would return to the 5 o'clock time slot.

M. Pinkham made a motion to go to executive session under MRSA Subsection 405(6)(A) Personnel. R. Wakefield 2nd. Passed 3/0.

Regular session adjourned prior to executive session at 7:32 PM.

Adjournment:

Michael Pinkham made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:00 PM; 2nd by Rusty Gordon. Passed 3/0

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Parker, Town Clerk and Acting Secretary

Minutes September 13, 2021 - Approval on October 12, 2021

Michael A. Pinkham

Russell O. Gordon

Roger E. Wakefield