

Sullivan Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

February 13th 2023

5:00pm

Selectmen: Mike Pinkham, Bethany Leavitt, Reginald “Bud” Means

Town Manager: Stacy Tozier, Town Clerk: Yvette Grindle

Audience: Mike Pinkham II, Larry Tozier, Don Snoke, Candy Eaton, Jeff Harden, Andrea Jones, Greg Ring, Norm Bamford, Mike Hosking, Kimberly Hosking and Malachy Flynn from the Ellsworth American

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5pm by Michael Pinkham with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the minutes

Bethany Leavitt moved to approve the minutes from 1-30-2023 meeting Reginald “Bud” Means 2nd the motion, and it passed 3/0.

Agenda Adjustments

Adding plowing issue on the corner of US Highway 1 and Route 200.

Treasurer’s Warrant

Bethany Leavitt expressed concerns about the cost of the new multi-purpose vehicle and question if it might be more cost effective to reimburse the Fire chief for using his personal vehicle. Chief Pinkham stated it was better to have the multi-purpose vehicle for calls that might involve a lost hiker on Donnell Pond. It is not feasible or practical to use a big tanker truck for such calls when they occur. Michael Pinkham also adding that the rate of reimbursement that the town offers is not adequate to cover the wear and tear on a personal vehicle.

Michael Pinkham Moved to accept the Treasures warrant as presented Reginald “Bud” Means 2nd motion, and it passed 2/0 with Bethany Leavitt opposing

New Business

5 Person Selectboard

Tabled

Maintenance Person

Kristal Bubar stated it would be beneficial to have a person to do general maintenance work and trash pickup. Don Snokes added that this would include mowing of Sumner Park. He also stated that several volunteers are aging and the volunteer labor pool is thinning. Bethany Leavitt asked several questions pertaining to job description. The Town Manager also brought up the need for someone to do maintenance work on the Town Office building. Don Snokes stated he had talked with Gary Edwards and they just needed the approval of the Selectboard to go forward with writing the proposal. And for Gary to include it in the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2023/2024. Bethany Leavitt expressed concerns about adding more to the budget and taxes.

Plowing Issue

Mr. Jeff Harden addressed the Selectboard about the snow being plowed up to close to the building on the corner of US Highway 1 and Route 200. He stated he had attempted to reach Neil Jordan of County Wide Construction who has not returned his calls. Mr. Harden also asked for an abatement on his property taxes due to the loss of business, he had incurred due to the building not being accessible.

The Selectboard agreed to contact the owner of the plowing company to get the snow removed and advised The Town Manager to not pay the monthly bill until this issue was resolved.

Old Business

Roads and E-911

Bethany Leavitt asked how the town was advertising about the pre-qualification process for road work. And requested that the Town Manager put it in the newspaper.

Re-Valuation Update

A quick update on the status of the re-evaluation was given and will be added to the agenda for the next Selectboard meeting.

Reports

Town Manager

The Town Manager presented the state's growth management program information. An email from Tom Welgoss from Surry about a survey "POLCO" that might be helpful in engaging the community's input on the comprehensive planning. The Town Manager presented the warrant for the special Town Meeting on February 23rd, 2023 to be signed.

Bethany Leavitt asked as to where the warrant was to be posted. The Town Manager stated she posted it at the Sullivan and Gouldsboro Post Office, Dunbar's Store, on the Town's website, also on the Town's lighted sign. The Town Manager presented an email from the town's lawyer Daniel Pileggi that answered several questions, about the length of selectboard terms and if a ballot could be issued at the Special Town Meeting. The Town Manager also presented 2 Liquor Licenses to be signed by the selectboard for Tracey's Seafood and Acadia Bay Inn.

Bethany Leavitt inquired about the lawsuit Mr. John Keenan has against the town and the Town Manager updated the selectboard that the Maine Municipal Association has supplied an attorney for the town.

Age Friendly

Candy Eaton asked the selectboard if there was any comments or questions after reviewing the 5-year progress report.

Bethany Leavitt moved to approve the age friendly report as presented Reginald "Bud" Means 2nd motion and it passed 3/0

Candy discussed one of the projects not included in the report was the tax stabilization program that 148 applications was submitted representing 207 homeowners. Upon review of 33 applications three are not listed on 2022 tax commitment list (at least one is a rental). Candy also touched upon some of the next steps for Age Friendly Sullivan, a survey, June celebration, benches @ walking trail and kayak rack @ Flanders Beach. They added five more homes to the list for delivery of sand buckets, one of the homes requires a weekly refill. And Candy made note to save the date of 4/22/23 for Earth Day and Schoodic Scenic Byway clean-up and cookout.

Harbor Committee

Michael Pinkham noted that at the Special Town Meeting and the vote on the changes to the current town ordinance.

Code Enforcement Officer

Mike Gurtler presented a fee schedule for Sub divisions and Site plan application fees. Currently there is not set fee schedule in the ordinances. After some discussion for clarification and wording.

Michael Pinkham moved they accept the fee schedule with the changing of the wording replacing "and" with "and/or" Bethany 2nd the motion and it passed 3/0.

Mr. Gurtler then readdressed Allen Colebank and the property on 55 Schooner Lane. Mr. Colebank has not addressed the code violations that was discussed in the December 12, 2022 Selectboard meeting. He presented 3 course of action the Town could following, 1. Doing nothing, 2. Taking Mr. Colebank to Court, 3. Both parties coming together to negotiate a reasonable course of action. Mr. Gurtler noted that action #3 would likely happen once the court proceedings was started. After some discussion on what course of action should be taken.

Michael Pinkham Moved to contact The Towns Attorney to file suit against Mr. Colebank for violation of the Shoreland Use Ordinance. Reginald “Bud” Means 2nd the motion and it passed 3/0

Sullivan Fire & Rescue

Chief Michael Pinkham II reported the calls for January 2023 there was a total of 21 calls. That the Cascade License is up for renewal and that the Town Manager is assisting with renewing that online. Chief Pinkham informed the Selectboard of upcoming training and the yearly maintenance of the trucks and other operation task. He is working on finding out what is needed to lower our ISO rating.

A general discussion about grants and the need to be prepared act quickly when a grant comes out as most grants have a 30-day deadline. Bethany Leavitt brought up the FEMA grant and Don Snopes noted that he had looked at it, and emphasized the need to have materials ready so town could apply for more grants.

Cemetery Report

Don Snokes reported the committee had met in January and was working on ordering signage for the cemeteries.

Parks and Recreation

Don Snokes spoke on their meeting with 12 in attendance. They are working on addressing the drainage issue at the Sumner Memorial Park. Working with Maine DOT to see if they can come to a solution for the drainage issues.

Kristal Bubar discussed purchasing benches and picnic tables for the parks in the town along with trying to get information out to members of the town about the various parks and recreational areas in Sullivan.

Public comment

Bethany Leavitt read a letter from Mr. John Keenan in regards to the flag at the town office. This issue was taken care of a few days before receiving Mr. Keenan’s letter.

Select Board Comment

Reginald “Bud” Means addressed concerns about starting to get the Sullivan Daze Celebration organized for this year. Fire Chief Pinkham stated he would like to see more than the fire department help with organizing this event.

Bethan Leavitt asked about when the budget committee meetings was held and if it was published, posted on the sign or post office.

Mike Pinkham Brought up his concerns about the upcoming Winter Fest on Flanders Pond and with the current lack of solid ice on the pond. The Safety of people driving with heavy vehicles on the pond. Discussion about how to limit access from the public beach. It was decided to ask someone to park a large dump truck or two in front of the public beach access to prevent people from driving large vehicles onto the ice. Also ask the Town Manager to check with the Town’s Attorney and get back to the chairman.

Adjournment

Michael Pinkham Moved to adjourn at the Meeting Bethany Leavitt 2nd the motion and it passed 3/0.

Meeting adjourned 7:30pm

Michael Pinkham

Bethany Leavitt

Reginald “Bud” Means