

Sullivan Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
July 24th, 2023
5:00pm

Selectmen: Reginald "Bud" Means, Norman Bamford, Erin Shanahan

Town Clerk: Yvette Grindle

Audience: Don Snoke, Velma Thomas, Keith Hamel, Troy Hanna, Mary Hanna, Gary Edwards, Eleanor Koons, Barbara Raymond, Betsy Wakefield, Bethany Leavitt, Mark Pierce, Eleanor Koons, Graham Platner, Roger Wakefield, Philip Dunbar and one unnamed guest.

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Reginald "Bud" Means at 5 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Norman Bamford moved to approved the minutes from the July 10 2023 meeting as written. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion, and it passed 3/0.

Adjustments to the agenda

Erin added to discuss the general structure of the meeting schedules to have new business the 1st meeting of the month and on the 2nd meeting of the month to do committee reports.

Reginald "Bud" Means added discussion of pre-qualifications applications submissions. Tabled to the next meeting for further discussion

Treasurers Warrant

Board set aside for further discussion, as there were some questions needing to be addressed.

New Business:

Expiring Contracts

Lawn/Cemetery Mowing

Erin Shanahan asked Gary Edwards about the added cost in the FY 23-24 budget and to see if it was more than it needed to be. Gary Edwards stated that the budget was up due to the need to do more than 4 mowing's a season, and that there were several trees needing to be removed as they had come down over the winter. But He would look into the monies spent and see if it was to much or not adequate.

Five Person Selectboard

It was noted that with the 3-person selectboard that its very complicated as if any 2 of them conversing constitutes a "Quorum". This will have to wait for the Annual Meeting in June 2024.

Norman Bamford moved to formally look into having a 5-person selectboard. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion, and it passed 3-0.

Norman Bamford will start looking into the process of how the Town can go about having a 5-person selectboard

Roof and Windows for Town Office Building

Reginald "Bud" Means presented quotes from Mainly Vinyl for the work needing to be done on the Town Office Building and on a Fire station.

Town Office Roof - \$26,001

Vinyl Siding Fire Station -\$4,200

Fire Station Door (Damaged and needing to be larger to accommodate the New Truck) \$14,975

Clarification that some of this could be covered under MMA insurance policy. Also, to know how much of the cost was due to the larger sized door for Fire Engine.

Norman Bamford moved to hire Mainly Vinyl to replace the door, siding at the Fire Station, and fix the roof at the Town Office. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Reginald “Bud” Means did a side note report that it appears, That the new truck will be coming sooner than expected by 6-12 months and will have a newer chassis.

Planning Board Vacancy

Graham Platner spoke about the need to fill 3 seats on the Planning Board.

Erin Shanahan talked on having a complete list of committees and what is involved with each committee. To better inform the general population of the Town.

P.A.W. – Looking for someone to take over this organization

After some discussion of Lynn Dunbar and Gail Brown taking this on. Concerns that it would be done on Town time and who actually benefits from this program. It was decided to request Marie Zwicker to come to the next Selectboard Meeting to get a better understanding of what she wants and what would the Town responsibilities would entail.

Old Business:

Roads/E911

Reginald “Bud” Means reported that Public Notices had been sent to the Ellsworth American, and that they will be in the 7-27-2023 edition of the paper. The Public notices are for Taunton Drive ditching and culverts, The Culvert on Higgs Street needing to be repaired, and Upper Tunk Lake Road past the Donnell Pond Road the is a drainage / culvert needing to be resolved.

E-911

Reginald “Bud” Means made note that a good number of houses need to be corrected in the E-911 system as they are not in the correct place on their properties. Also noted that the E-911 application should go out with building permit packets.

Pre-Qualifications

Bethany Leavitt addressed the board enquiring as to who had submitted applications for pre-qualification. Reginald “Bud” Means stated he had ones from TR construction, Willie Andrews, and Jason Tracey. Norman Bamford noted it would be good to have them in place in instances of emergency work.

Hastings House (Question Norman Bamford to speak about saving the House)

Norman Bamford passed around a report and noted that it would be nice to keep the Hastings House or to make a point to not have a Modern box like the Dollar General Store, or the New Charles M. Sumner Learning Campus. Its not a positive move to have historic buildings demo and replaced with more modern looking buildings. If we can’t remodel the Hasting house to consider doing a building with a more vintage look than what has been built in recent years. Reginald “Bud” Means noted (along with several members of the audience) that the Town members voted to “Buy and Demolish” the hasting house for the purpose of a new Municipal Building and Fire station.

It was also noted that there maybe Native American Artifacts on the site, So the Town should contact the state of Maine archeological division to have the land properly checked out.

Reginald “Bud” Means will look into contacting the proper authorities about the archeological concerns.

Town Manager Reports

Town Manager/Treasurer/Clerk

RSU Adult ED Use or other areas of Town Office Building

The Ault Ed RSU 24 asked to use the community room for approximately 20 classes, over the Fall Semester. Reginald “Bud” Means opened the discussion, that they are also using the room down stairs for exercise classes. After some public and board general discussion it was decided to table this item until the next meeting in August.

Sullivan Fire & Rescue (Options to combine with Sorrento)

The Public noted that it has been at least 4 months and no movement has been made and expressed concerns about in a previous meeting Fire Chief Pinkham stated he didn’t was to write a MOU.

Reginald “Bud” Means plans to reach out to Rob Wilpan and see if he could attend the next Sorrento Selectboard meeting. Some discussion or forming a “Task Force” and Gary Edwards recommended

letting Reginald “Bud” Means and Rob Wilpan talk and then form a task force if needed.

Committees:

Communications

Yvette and Erin will work together on this and see what they can do to help get word out about the vacancies and opportunities to serve in the Town.

Comprehensive Plan

Graham Platner asked what is this committee’s purpose. Gary Edwards responded that it was an overall look at the Town and its members and decide where the citizens wish to go forward with in the town and what changes need to be made. To reach the goal in the future. The Original committee was Gary Edwards, Mary Hannah, Rob Eaton, and Jim Huff. Graham Platner noted that the Planning Board should also have some say on this plan. Graham will be adding it to the August 10, 2023 Meeting that starts at 5pm.

Harbor Master/Committee

Roger Wakefield reported the Float off Gordons Wharf has now been put in place. He also noted that there was a couple of kayaks at the wharf and that there should be no kayaking at that section of the bay due to rip tides. Signs need to be ordered and put up.

Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings and Grounds, etc.)

Infrastructure met a few weeks ago and started writing down an inventory of roads, parks and other assets owned by the Town. Then started to prioritized which ones needed to have work done now not later.

Ordinance Committee (Cannabis)

Reginald “Bud” Means recused himself from this committee as Norman Bamford was also serving on this committee. Gib Buell and Barbara Raymond has asked to serve on this committee. Reginald “Bud” Means, recommended that they meet on a monthly basis.

Planning Board

Graham Platner noted they are working on having one “Land Use” Ordinance instead of several. Some that contradictory the others, and having the one land use ordinance would remove the contradictions.

Parks & Rec

Don Snokes Stated he has several items.

1. August Crier will have a small article featuring the playground.
2. The Rec Center is fixing up playground area and Level the Swampy area so picnic tables can be placed for families to sit and enjoy their kids playing.
3. They are putting in a Wi-Fi extender so that parents sitting at the new picnic tables/ benches can use it to do work or just read emails
4. Gordon’s Warf Building
5. Sullivan Daze in 2024 the Parks and Rec will be taking this over, and will start planning in August of 2023

Tennis Courts

Roger Wakefield noted that the repairs to the fence should occur soon and that they are working to clean up the monument that is sitting out in the field.

Town Manager Search Committee

Has Disbanded with a recommendation send to the Selectboard.

Public Comment

Bethany asked about getting a real survey down at Flanders Beach for a real boundary line to be set Also, that the town strive to not increase taxes mil rate above 2.5% more than current mill rate

Board Comment

Motion to Adjourn

Executive Session 1 MSRA 405 Subsection 6

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to executive session 1 MSRA 405 Subsection 6 Norman Bamford seconded by Norman Bamford @ 7:20 pm, and it passed 3/0.

Town Manager

Out of executive Session at 8:50pm Gray Weitroule was offered a warm welcome.

Norman Bamford moved to hire Ray Weintraub Town Manager at a salary of 60,000 a year and after 6 months according to job performance a raise after the first 6 months. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion, and it passed 3/0

Gray accepted this offer and His Official Start Date is September 5th 2023

Gun Permits

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to go back into executive session at 9:15 pm to discuss a gun permit. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion, and it passed 3/0

Return to regular meeting at 9:20 pm

Norman Bamford moved to approve the gun permit. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion, and it passed 3/0

Erin Shanahan moved to adjourn the meeting, Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm

Reginald "Bud" Means

Norman Bamford

Erin Shanahan