Sullivan Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
August 14th, 2023
5:00pm

Selectmen: Reginald “Bud” Means, Norman Bamford, Erin Shanahan
Town Clerk: Yvette Grindle
Audience: Don Snoke, Velma Thomas, Troy Hanna, Mary Hanna, Eleanor Koons, Barbara Raymond, Marie Zwicker, Candy Eaton, Ray Weintraub and Sandra Dascallias.

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
Reginald “Bud” Means moved to approved the minutes from the July 24, 2023 meeting as written. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion, and it passed 2/0.

Adjustments to the agenda
Erin added to discuss the options for zoom broadcast of the Selectboard meetings. This was added to the new Business section of the agenda.

Treasurers Warrant
Reginald “Bud” Means moved to accept the Treasurers warrant as presented Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 2/0.

New Business:
Announcement of New Town Manager
Reginald “Bud” Means Ray Weintraub as the new Town Manager. Mr. Weintraub will be starting September 5th, 2023.

Buying/Using a Trailer for the Speed Sign Discussion.
Erin Shanahan opened up the discussion for a purchase of a trailer to put the speed sign the Town has to notify motorist if they are going the appropriate speed for the limit set by law. Erin had presented some online quotes from the Harbor Freight company.
Norman Bamford moved to purchase a trailer from Harbor Freight with a cost up to $600.00 for the trailer. Reginald “Bud” Means seconded the motion, and it passed 3/0.

Proposal of Funds to send out the Town Crier
Reginald “Bud” Means asked Yvette (Town Clerk) about why the town wasn’t currently doing bulk mailings. And she stated, that in the past members of the Town office staff would see numerous copies of the crier in the recycle bin at the Post Office. And so, the consensus in the office it would be better to have people “Subscribe” to the crier and they could have it sent in their regular mail or a digital copy sent via email.
Erin Shanahan suggested that the October 2023 with a notice about individuals signing up in order to continue receiving the Crier via regular mail or email.
Erin Shanahan moved to do a bulk Mail for October’s edition of the Town Crier with a letter in the October Crier informing people that future editions of the crier will be mailed to individuals who sign up to have it mailed to their mail box or digital format in email. Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0

Prequalification Applications
Reginald “Bud” Means noted that many companies are not interested in filling out the Prequalification Application, in order to do work for the town. It was a general consensus to keep the process in place at this time and to readdress if needed.

MMA Insurance for Full Time Employee’s
Reginald “Bud” Means noted that the money had been budgeted for the 23/24 FY for 3 employees to have insurance. But the Selectboard had to approve spending the monies for the Health Insurance for the individual’s

Norman Bamford moved to have health insurance for the full-time employees through M.M.A. Erin Shanahan second the motion and it passed 3/0

P.A.W. – Looking for someone to take over this organization
Marie Zwicker discussed the program and assured the audience and selectboard it is not associated with the pet food cupboard that is handled through the Thrift Store at the Sorrento Sullivan Rec Center. Candy Eaton suggested talking with the former Town Managers to see how much time was involved. When it was run through the Town office a few years ago. No action was taken.

Richard Passantino (Ditching and Seeding part of Flanders Pond reimbursement)
Mr. Passantino had sent the town a receipt from Seed and Feed for grass seed, that he requested to have it reimbursed, as it was used to seed in the ditching work. That he had done with out asking the Selectboard prior to the work. The main concern if the Selectboard allowed this once other people would take similar actions.

Norman Bamford moved to not reimburse Mr. Passantino for the grass seed. All though they appreciated Mr. Passantino for doing the work. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Zooming Selectboard Meetings
Erin Shanahan met with Xavier Tracey from RSU 24 about having the Selectboard meetings over zoom. At this meeting he suggested getting an “Owl”. Candy Eaton stated Age Friendly has an “Owl” the Town can use and suggested trying it out first to see if it would be satisfactory for the meetings.

Don Snoke suggested another service “Town Hall Streams” this subscription service was put into the budget for the 23/24 f/y.

Reginald “Bud” Means Moved to do a trial run using the “Owl” with Zoom to see how well it would work. Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Old Business
Roads/E911
Reginald “Bud” Means discussed the need to do some immediate repairs on Higg Street. He had talked with Cashly and T.R. Construction and with Jason Tracey to put in bids and just T.R. Construction had returned a bid.

Norman Bamford moved to approve T.R. Construction to do the work required on Higgs Street as an emergency action to repair the washed away road. Erin Shanahan seconded and it passed.

Reginald Bud Means will reach out the T.R. Construction again to do the repair work
Reginald “Bud” Means reported that the town had a $30,000 grant for needed road work this was earmarked for the bridge on the Ashville Road (Granite and Guardrail repair). He also noted that the Town had received a grant for 90,000 for preventing waste water entering ocean and other waterways.

Hastings House
Reginald “Bud” Means reported he had been in contact with the state and they had recommended waiting to post the demolition of the house and buildings until the decision on the grant was finalized in January of 2024. Once that was granted or not the town could notify the 4 tribes to see if there was any interest in the property before demolition. If they had no interest then demo could be started.

It was noted by Don Snokes that the Demo was not included in the request for grant money. And it maybe possible to get it ready for construction before the grant was decided.

Reginald “Bud” Means moved to see what the town can do to get the hastings house ready for construction before the grant comes through for the municipal building Erin Shanahan seconded and it passed 3/0.
Town Manager Reports
Town Manager/Treasure/Clerk
Reginald “Bud” Means open the discussion for a Bank CD for $28,946.75 with Machias Savings coming due. The Current one earns .05% interest. The one that the Town just renewed for the cemetery was for 4% interest for one year.
Erin Shanahan moved to have Reginald “Bud” Means to see about getting a higher interest rate on the CD from Machias Savings Bank. Norman Bamford seconded the motion, and it passed 3/0.

Oaths of Office
Yvette Grindle administered the oaths of office for Candy Eaton and Don Snoke for the Budget Committee.

DMV Municipal Fees
The Board and the Town Clerk discussed the possibility of increasing the charges for Registering a vehicle or Trailer from $4.00 to maybe $5 or $6. These fees could go towards repairs to roads or other needs in the Town. Norman Bamford asked what other surrounding towns charge. This was tabled till the next meeting.

Sullivan Fire Rescue (Options to combine with Sorrento)
Reginald “Bud” Means noted that he had passed around the report for Fire Chief Pinkham as the Chief was not able to make the Selectboard meeting. “Bud” gave a general overview of the report. And noted that He and the Fire Chief attended the Town of Sorrento’s Selectboard meeting and from his observations it would not be a good idea to pursue merging the Sorrento’s and Sullivan’s Fire departments at this time.

Sullivan Daze Report
Reginald “Bud” Means noted that the amount raised has yet been settled as there was still bills to take out of the amount raised to have a true picture of the total raised at this event.

Committees:

Age Friendly
Candy Eaton had passed around a written report before the meeting had started but made special note of the Photo OP on Sunday 9/17/2023 at 10am. She asked if at all possible please show up the more the better to have your photo taken with the group. Candy also noted AARP Maine Beacon Community Award has been given to the Sullivan Age Friendly. The Awards will be held on October 3rd 2023 in Lewiston. See the attached sheet to see the full report.

Budget N/A
Cemetery N/A
Communications
Erin Shanahan mentioned the continued work on getting all the committees and the work they do organized. Also, the work to improve the distribution of the Town Crier.

Comprehensive Plan N/A
Harbor Master
The need to advertise the position was discussed. Norman Bamford stated that he had one application already. It was noted that the position in the Ellsworth American and with M.M.A.

Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings, and Grounds) N/A
Ordinance Committee (Cannabis)
Don Snokes reported that he had attended a meeting with the State Cannabis Committee in Jonesport and found it quite informative. The chairman of that committee is willing to come out to have an informational town hall meeting here in Sullivan.

Parks & Rec
Don Snokes stated that the Parks and Rec hope to start planning the 2024 Sullivan Daze at their meeting on September 14th at 6pm. The hope is to create a sub committee to work on the event.
The tent at the Sumner Memorial Park that is by the gazebo will stay up until mid-September. There was a discussion weather or not to charge individuals to use the gazebo for weddings or other public events. It was decided to ask for a donation if someone chose.

The last item Don addressed about the parks and rec committee as to actually was on the committee and who do they report to? Reginald “Bud” Means requested to have a list of the current regular committee attendees of the Parks and Rec meetings.

**Public Comment**
Mary Hanna asked what was the progress on developing a 5-person selectboard.
Reginald “Bud” Means stated it will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Board Comment**
Reginald “Bud” Means thanked everyone for coming out, that it was good to have the input from the town members.

**Motion to adjourn**
Reginald “Bud” Means moved to adjourn the meeting Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0

The Meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm

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Reginald “Bud” Means

Norman Bamford

Erin Shanahan