Sullivan Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
November 13, 2023
5:00pm

Selectmen: Reginald "Bud" Means, Norman Bamford, Erin Shanahan
Town Manager: Ray Weintraub Town Clerk: Yvette Grindle
Audience: Mike Pinkham II, Don Snoke, Gary Edwards, Velma Thomas, Keith Hamel, Bethany Leavitt, L.C. Davis, Roger Wakefield, Daniel McKay(County ACO), Michael Pinkham I, Lea Pinkham, Kim Stecher, and William Andrews.

Call Meeting to Order

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

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Norman Bamford moved to accept the minutes from the October 23, 2023 meeting as presented. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and the motion passed 3/0.

Adjustments to the agenda

Erin Shanahan added to vote on the tax commitment for 2023.

Treasurers Warrant

Norman Bamford moved to accept the Treasurers Warrant as presented. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

New Business:

Bid for Alewives

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to put the bid out for Alewives. Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0

December Meetings

Reginald "Bud" Means noted that the second meeting on December landed on the 25th of the month and they could do just the one meeting in December or move the second meeting to another day.

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to have just the one meeting on December 11th , and a second meeting could be scheduled if any issues arose. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Tax Commitment 2023

Norman Bamford Moved to use the 2022 tax assessments for the 2023 property tax commitment. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Old Business:

KRT

The Town Manager reported that KRT will be at The Town Office on Monday and Tuesday November 20th and 21st 2023. For the Town of Sullivan property holders to appeal their tax assessments. Willie Andrews inquired about reaching out to folks who may not use Facebook or internet or see the electronic sign. The Town Manager stated that he would reach out to Candy Eaton about assisting with reaching those members or the community.

ACO Hiring

Daniel McKay the county ACO spoke about his qualifications and how he saw his role as an ACO. He also took questions from the Selectboard. Norman Bamford requested that he submit his resume to the Town Manager. Dan stated that he would see to having it sent over to the Town Manager.

Roads/E911

E-911 The Town Manager stated that there was an issue with the Teams training session, so it will be rescheduled at a later date to be determined.

Roads The Town Manager noted that he was able to arrange a meeting with the state's Road Ranger on Wednesday 11-15-2023. He hopes that this will help with getting some answers about the issues with drainage on Grange Hall Road.

The bid for the work on Tunk Lake Road work came in after the deadline and will have to be put back out for bid in the paper. Reginald "Bud" Means noted that the culvert needed to be checked that it was free of leaves and asked if they could have help from the fire department with clearing the debris from the culvert.

Reginald "Bud" Means submitted a request from Cashley Builders to have an advance on the Taunton Drive project so they may order the culverts needed for the job.

Norman Bamford moved to amend the contract with Cashley Builders to include an advance to purchase culverts needed for the job. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Forensic Audit

The Town Manager reported his findings upon calling other towns whom have had Forensic Audits in the past. The cost in one town was $22,000, for a 2-year forensic audit, along with the cost all Grant monies would be put on hold or lost for the duration of the audit. Norman Bamford stated he had gone over all the information and didn't see the need to have a forensic audit at this time. Erin Shanahan stated she was still undecided.

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to resend the previously voted on action For the Town of Sullivan to have a 2-year Forensic Audit. Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Town Manager Reports:

Town Manager

Pre-Qualification Applications: The Town Manager presented 3 road contractors Pre-Qualification applications to the Selectboard. Upon review.

Norman Bamford moved to accept the contractors applications to be prequalified for work in the Town of Sullivan as they meet the required minimum for standards to qualify to be approved and would be graded at a later date. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0

Tunk Lake Road Speed Limit Concerns: The Town Manager presented the concerns of Mr. Erbes on Tunk Lake road about the number or larger trucks surpassing the 25-mph speed limit by his house. Mr. Erbes also represents several of his neighbors concerning this excessive speed on the Tunk Lake Road. The Town manager had a list of vehicles and companies that he personally made note of as exceeding the speed limit. Mr. Erbes has also contacted the local Law Enforcement requesting a higher police presence in that area.

The Town Manager stated he would reach out to the businesses on the list Gerry Erbes had on his list to give them an opportunity to speak to their drivers.

Transportation and Disposal Agreement with DM&J

The Town Manager passed around the proposed contract with DM&J to the Selectboard Members. It was discussed about the ability or lack of companies willing to do curbside pick-up especially with the number or private roads in the Town. After further discussion,

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to table the contract with DM&J until some further investigation could be made into other possibilities. Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0/

Sullivan Fire & Rescue

Chief Pinkham gave a written report for October calls. He also discussed the work that the He, The Town Manager, and Don Snokes was doing to find out what would be required of the Town to lower

their ISO rating, from a 9-10 to a 6. Don Snoke was working on figuring out how much savings to the individual tax payer this could be, and at what cost to the Town. That the savings to individuals in insurance premiums could be significate for a small investment in the fire department. Suggestion or reaching out to the Winter Harbor Agency , Brown, Holmes and Milliken or JT Rosborough (Not the National Companies),To see what their current insurance and what it could be if the ISO rating was down to 6.

Committees:

Cemetery Committee

Gary Edwards address the Selectboard about having one universal deed for the Cemetery's in Town. It is a fillable form that can be used for all the cemeteries.

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to accept the new universal deed for the Cemetery's. Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Gary Edwards also requested the Selectboard appoint Mary Hanna to the Cemetery Committee.

Erin Shanahan moved to appoint Mary Hanna to the Cemetery Committee. Norman Bamford seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Gary also reported on the damage done at the Gordon Cemetery due to someone getting stuck. The damage was reported to the Hancock County Sherriff. Gary Stated that not much could be done as the graves belong to the Family not the Town. A discussion of having a gate placed. No action was taken.

Parks and Rec Committee

Keith Hamel discussed the meeting on November 30th 2023 on Sullivan Daze. They are attempting to make the annual event a more Town wide event and are encouraging business members to come to the meeting.

The picnic tables and benches were discussed some have been completed and should be placed soon. The funding for the proposed new benches and picnic tables are still being discussed as to where the monies will be coming from(i.e.: Gordon's Wharf budget, Flanders Beach budget..).

Public Comment

Roger Wakefield enquired about the placement of the picnic table at Flanders Bay Boat launch. Reginald "Bud" Means noted that he believed that near the beach roses would be a good place to put the picnic table. He also noted that it was a nice spot to place a picnic table as its nice and quiet. He also stated that there needs to be clarification as to where the public access and private land boarders lie.

Mr. Wakefield also asked for a clarification as to who was supposed to contact Greg Ring about mowing the Gordon Wharf. Reginald "Bud" Means noted that would be the Town Manager. Mr. Wakefield He also noted that the granite from the Hastings House might be used to build up the wall at Gordons Wharf.

Board Comment

Reginald "Bud" Means Thanked everyone for turning out and that their input was appreciated.

Erin Shanahan wanted to make note of all the community support and fundraisers for Ryan Gordon. She mentioned all the fundraisers and other ways of helping.

Executive Session

Norman Bamford moved to Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6) (F) to discuss confidential records. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Norman Bamford moved to not go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6) (A) to discuss personnel matters as this matter was voted down earlier in the meeting. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to take a break for executive session. Norman Bamford seconded and the motion passed 3/0.

Moved to Executive Session 6:15pm.
Called back to order at 7pm.
Reginald "Bud" Means reported the Selectboard approved the abatement for the 2022 taxes for 957 Tunk Lake Road. The Selectboard requested that the Town use the KRT appraisal for the 2023 taxes, also that Mr. Ronald Stanley file the application for Homestead and Veterans exemptions. They also noted that the 2021 taxes were paid by Key Bank. Total abatement $2181.27.

As for the property on 266 Tunk Lake abatement has been denied as this is Heirship property, however at this point it will not be seized by the town. The Town needs to reach out to the heirs to find out what is going on as to who is responsible for the taxes.
Reginald "Bud' Means stated the abatement Mr. Jeffery Hardens requested was denied due to the lack of proper paperwork.

Motion to Adjourn

Reginald "Bud" Means moved to adjourn the meeting. Erin Shanahan seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Reginald "Bud" Means

Norman Bamford

Erin Shanahan