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Minutes of Sutton Select Board meeting  
10/27/2016  
Sutton Town Offices, 6:00 PM

In attendance: Tim Simpson, Scott Spencer, Joe Solinsky, George Colburn (Town Clerk), Gail Weed (Assistant Town Clerk), Brandon Mazur (Secretary), Bruce Melendy (NVDA), Deb Jackson, Rick Jackson, Paul Brouha, Carol Brouha, Hank Parker, Sue Parker, Bruce Conley, Janice Conley

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Joe.

Scott moved to accept the minutes of September 22's Select Board meeting as written and printed. Tim seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as printed.

Scott moved to accept the minutes of September 29's Select Board meeting as written and printed. Tim seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as printed.

Scott moved to accept the minutes of October 21's water project meeting with the spelling correction of "Select Bard" to "Select Board." Tim seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as revised.

The meeting then moved on to the Treasurer's Report. Scott moved to accept the Report are printed. Tim seconded. The Report was approved.

Delinquent Taxes will be taken home by the Select Board and reviewed.

Two snow plow bids were reviewed: one from Spencer's Service and one from Shufelt and Son Trucking. Tim moved to award the bid for the west side of town to Spencer's Service and the east side to Shufelt and Sons Trucking. Joe seconded the motion and it passed.

Tim motioned to amend the awarded bid to Shufelt and Sons trucking as being contingent on Shufelt being able to sand. Joe seconded and the bid was amended.

The floor was then given to Bruce Melendy of NVDA. Bruce presented a draft of an updated Local Emergency Operations Plan for the Town of Sutton. Bruce briefly summarized the draft's contents. The Select Board will review the draft in the interval between the next meeting, suggest any revisions to Bruce if necessary, and vote to adopt the draft at the next Select Board meeting.

The floor was then given to Paul Brouha. Paul discussed the creation of an advertisement for a road crew worker. Paul suggested that as Rick will retire eventually, an apprentice road crew worker could learn on the job with mentoring and supervision before taking over independently. Paul's research found that Peacham is currently advertising for a road crew worker, as are 5 or 6 other towns in Vermont, and these can be used as models for Sutton to craft its own. Joe said Vermont Better Backroads could help in crafting a job notice and application. Tim pointed out the demand for the job will be less hours than part-time: a few hours here and there as needed, when needed – during ice storms for example. Because of this, Tim feels that advertising the position is unnecessary. Rick has never expressed any notice or timeline for his retirement. Joe did suggest that it's prudent to have a job description drafted, accepted, and ready. Scott pointed out that a list of potential "standby" workers (approved by the Select Board after a check of driving records and CDL status) is wise, as one or two

of them might not be able to work on short notice. Tim asked what the “day help” or “on call” worker will be paid. Tim suggested \$13-15/hr. Scott stated he favors \$13/hr and moved to start workers at \$13. Tim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Carol Brouha was then granted the floor to discuss HS 122 assistance for senior citizens in Sutton. Some citizens in Sutton might need help understanding their tax bill, and not know to claim the Homestead Exemption and are thus missing out on money they may be in great need of. Gail said the computer tells her who has claimed exemption, but not who hasn't. Carol wanted to know who hasn't so she can contact them to apprise them of their rights. Gail estimated this would take about 10 hours a year. Carol would volunteer the hours if granted permission. Scott recognized Carol's gesture but thinks the call should come from the Town. Scott motioned to grant the Town Office (either Clerks or Listers) permission to make the elderly aware of HS 122 for one year, on the clock. Joe seconded and the motion passed.

Bruce and Janice Conley were next given the floor. Their neighbor Crystal Rolfe has moved the horse shed closer to the house and the garbage has been moved, but is still there. Bruce stated there have been rats and the German Shepherd dog has bitten his tenant's young son. Bruce stated that when he was allowed a glimpse into the interior of the house about one year ago the amount of accumulated garbage he observed inside is unsafe for children to be living with. Janice has stated she has never seen the parents abuse their children and have seen them playing outside with their children. Joe suggests having the other neighbor, Cassandra Sicard, contact the Department of Health and explain horse manure is accumulated over the shared well. The Dept. of Health will then issue Joe, as Health Officer, a water test kit. Joe is going to visit the property about the garbage.

The meeting then moved on to old business. The proposed new dog ordinance was discussed. Tim motioned tabling the adoption until the next Select Board meeting, along with sending a copy of the ordinance and explanation of the changes to Clint Gray. Joe seconded and the motion passed. Scott also asked Gail to make the proposed ordinance public on the town's website.

Scott will sign checks on November 30. The next Select Board meetings will be December 1 and 29.

Tim moved to cut a check to Mark Simpson Building and Renovations for a 25% advance (\$10,920.00) of the cost of the new lean-to shed. Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Checks were signed.

Scott moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

These minutes prepared by Brandon Mazur, secretary