

Selectboard Regular Meeting • July 25, 2019
Approved Minutes

Selectboard Present: H. Childress; C. Fenton; P. Kenyon, T. Redfield

Town Officers Present: Lister Sally Achey; Town Clerk Laura Castle; Auditor Sarah Grimm; Treasurer Jenny Talke Munyak; Road Commissioner Bill Reed

Public Present: George Gonda, Fire Association

Called to order: 7:00 p.m.

It's a long way to Poultney...

Minutes: T. Redfield moved to approve the minutes of the regular and special meetings of July 11; P. Kenyon 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]

Public and Guests: George Gonda appeared as a member of the Building Committee of the Fire Association Board of Trustees, currently George and Don Hemenway with a potential third member. Their purpose is to keep accurate and timely information moving between the Fire Association and Selectboard so that we can move forward well on the mutual building projects.

The Selectboard asked the Fire Association for basic use requirements and regulatory demands for the proposed firehouse, so that we can work with helping to prepare a design. We will also discuss the possibility of shelter capacity at the new firehouse, which will entail a conversation with RRPC and the Red Cross.

Town Officers: Laura attended a Secretary of State's elections training yesterday.

Lister Sally Achey asked whether the Board wanted to institute a penalty for late filing of homestead declaration (October 1st annual deadline). T. Redfield moved to apply a 5% penalty for late filing of homestead declaration; H. Childress 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Treasurer Munyak presented her calculations of the 2019-20 general government and highway tax rates. H. Childress moved to set the 2019-20 Town General tax rate at 0.396, and the Highway tax rate at 0.335; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. (Last year's was Town General 0.415, Highway 0.329.) This gives an overall 2019-20 property tax rate (school, Town and Highway) of 2.1824 for homestead properties, and 2.3095 for non-homestead properties.

Highway:

- Mowing was completed last week, with 57 hours of use.
- The plugged culvert at upper North Street has been cleared.
- We received the small equipment grant, for the replacement of an industrial-capacity leaf blower.

- JCB continues to provide poor service: arriving without parts, doing repairs in ways that aren't locally adjustable, shearing bolts and pins. There's still no resolution on the bucket.
- Bobby's back at work on the Cemetery and small trimming around guardrails and the garage
- Bill has been back and forth with VTEL on roadside marking
- Tom Fuller is planning on West Street paving during early August, while the Poultney bridge is closed at any rate.
- Bill saw a person fall at the gravel lot in front of the new Town Office lot; Bill placed and back-bladed some gravel to level it, as a safety consideration. The Board offered appreciation to Bill for being proactive.

Town Lands: Our engineer has prepared a water source permit renewal for the Town Office well. H. Childress moved to apply for renewal, at \$150 application fee; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Solid Waste: The Town has received our recertification for Transfer Station operation, through the end of 2028.

Correspondence: There is no correspondence folder in the drawer.

Board Orders: H. Childress moved to approve the board orders as presented; P. Kenyon 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Executive Session: H. Childress moved to enter executive session; T. Redfield 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Executive session begun 9:17 p.m. T. Redfield moved to exit executive session; H. Childress 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*] No action taken.

Adjourn: T. Redfield moved to adjourn; H. Childress 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk