



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

CHARLES E. SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2020

PRESENT: Mr. John A. Nason; Chairman, Mr. Marc Richard; Vice-Chairman and Mr. David Dufresne, Clerk

ATTENDEES: See attached list

Opened the Meeting at 6:03 PM

Mr. Nason opened the meeting and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. He advised all that this meeting is being video/audio taped and will be rebroadcast following the meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

The Board met with employees and department heads this evening to focus on remote access for employees. The office received two quotes; one for 3 laptops and the other for 6 laptops. The three critical (Tax, Treasurer and Assessors) are to support employee with children in school. The second quote is for the Accountant, Board of Health and Building/Planning Office.

Also, the Board received a draft of a computer policy that will need to be adopted as the computers would be town property. The draft policy was provided by our insurer, MIIA. Mr. Nason asked that the policy be sent to counsel for review.

Currently, the building is still closed to the public, however all offices are available by appointment. Mrs. Carney asked if there were any disposable masks available for the offices in case of residents come in and they don't have one. Mr. McKeon will be able to provide a few.

Mr. Dufresne stated that neighboring Sturbridge is open, and he has heard from several residents that that are unhappy that we are still closed. Ms. Freeman stated that she was recently at the Sturbridge Town Offices and no appointment is needed, however a mask is. They also have a dedicated individual to sign folks in for contact tracing. Mr. Nason stated that he would like to wait and see where our numbers are after the start of school. Mrs. Carney asked for clarification as to how often should we sanitize. The office will check with the Board of Health as they are not in attendance this evening.

Both Chief Lavoie and Millette stated that they would be doing a test call for the new Swift 9-1-1 system. Mr. Dufresne stated that he had some trouble with the app, however suspected that because he wasn't in the area, that may have been the cause. Again, if any resident/employee is having difficulty with signing up, to please contact the Fire Department at 413-436-5444 for assistance.

Mrs. Eichacker from Conservation stated that erosion control is now in place on the bridge project and she fully expect that MassDOT will be paying much closer attention to detail as the town's eyes are on it.

Mr. Dufresne expressed his concern over communication among the Boards. He reminded all that we are all here for a common goal.

Next meeting will focus on employee evaluations. (Date/time TBD)

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Nason – unanimous at 6:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Acerra
Administrative Secretary



David P. Dufresne, Sr., Clerk