

TOWN OF RUSSELL  
SELECTMENS MINUTES  
2/20/2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

<u>X</u>	Tom Kulig
<u>X</u>	Gloria Farrell
<u>X</u>	Wayne Precanico

TOWN EMPLOYEES

<u>X</u>	Nancy Boersig
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WESTFIELD RIVER RACE UPDATE

- 1.) Harry Rock & Kathryn Koegel Committee members updated the BOS about upcoming event Race is planned for April 20th, Expert starting at 9:30am ending at Hilltown Health Center Classic ends in Woronoco and starting in Huntington at green bridge. Post awards at Strathmore Park. Due to events from last year adding 4 new responding spots, no pending legal action at this time. Committee is looking forward to working with the town and Police & Fire, meeting scheduled for March 4th.

INFORMATION:

- 1.) HIGHWAY UPDATE
  - a.) Mass DOT looking for options on traffic flow for bridge replacement on Blandford Stage road BOS agree that they still need one lane open during construction period. Wayne will check on width of lane for Fire truck purposes (15ft).
  - b.) John looking into rims and tires for Loader.
- 2.) POLICE UPDATE
  - a.) BOS approve the design for submitted Police Garage, Nancy will update PVPC
  - b.) Police department updating booking and training areas at school
- 3.) FIRE CHIEF UPDATE
  - a.) Chief presented year end data on status of department for 2023
    - 1.) The # of people that are responding to calls is up. 78calls 15 Members
    - 2.) Most of the no responses where for false alarm at apartments during construction
    - 3.) Engine 3 is the next truck to be replaced. Cost for 2,100 gal Pumper @\$550,000 stock In 2027 heavy trucks will need to meet new standards cost @ \$100,000 more
    - 4.) Awarded 2 grants in 2023: Regional grant for air packs \$140,000 36 air bottles with life of 15 years AFG \$10,500 Turnout gear
    - 5.) One officer trained on Ice Rescue can train other members, Swift Rescue training in the fall
- 4.) GATEWAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE
  - a.) Kristen Smidy to attend April 2nd meeting to discuss FY25 Budget

REVIEW PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

- 1.) Voted to accept minutes from 2/6/2024. Wayne made a motion to accept as written and Tom seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0 in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1.) WESTFIELD RIVER ACCESS SITE
  - a.) Chester Concrete viewed the site and gave an estimate cost of @\$19,400 for a ramp Wayne will follow up on costs for permitting. Gloria will contact state to see if they can develop a smaller scale access area.
- 2.) REQUEST TO FLY PRO-LIFE FLAG
  - a.) BOS reviewed policy Tom developed, Wayne moved to accept the policy as submitted, Tom seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0 in favor
- 3.) FY25 ONE STOP GROWTH GRANT
  - a.) BOS need to set meeting date to develop project list
- 4.) ARPA PROJECT LIST
  - a.) Projects-Mini Splits Town Hall-BOS approve to allocated @ \$13,996 for the purchase
  - b.) Booking Bench Police Station-BOS approve not to exceed \$1,500 for the purchase Wayne made a motion to accept these purchases from ARPA funds, Tom seconded the motion Motion carried 3-0 in favor.

5.) OTHER OLD BUSINESS

- a.) A new music event is calling about the permits needed for the Boy Scouts Camp

NEW BUSINESS:

1.) OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- a.) Tyson Carpenter submitted a letter of interest for the Zoning Board. Tom made a motion to appoint Tyson for the term ending June 30, 2024. Tom seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0 in favor
- b.) Sue Maxwell updated the BOS on the activities at Cemetery and Historic:
  - 1.) Historic received \$9,500 grant
  - 2.) Confirmed that Highway will need to do Cemetery mowing this season
  - 3.) BOS approved Atlas Preservation to hold clinic in town on grave stone cleaning
  - 4.) Sue requested a fence to be installed along Westfield road side (Rt20)

PUBLIC INPUT:       None

ITEMS SIGNED:       W#18  
                          W#18A

Adjourned 8:33pm