

SELECTMEN'S MEETING NOTES

JUNE 26, 2019

Called to Order 6:00 pm

Present: Selectmen: Melissa Spinney, Doug Baston, Greg Shute; Members of the Public: Ralph Hilton, Chris Cooper, Carrie Kipfer, Ron Lear; Press: Jessica Clifford, Susan Johns; Clerk: Liz Brown

Public Comment:

Ralph Hilton thought there should be a moment of silence for Richard Verney, a long-time Alna resident and Korean War veteran who passed away on Friday, June 21.

New Business

Davis Family Foundation Grant

The town was awarded a grant of \$16,100 from the Davis Family Foundation to finish the plastering of the meetinghouse. That is the full amount we applied for.

Old Business:

Update on Old Town Office

The painter has been in painting and is finishing up on the second floor right now. With all the stuff out, the building looks pretty good. Walls, ceilings, floor are all in good shape. It should be finished in a few days. Chris Cooper will go in and do a clean up after the painter is done. It will be listed soon after.

Security System

Selectmen Spinney would like to have exterior cameras and has talked to Kyle Canada. The selectmen will check to see if it will lower the insurance by having cameras.

Ralph Hilton said the locksmith will be here late morning next Wednesday to do the two doors in the New Town Office.

Wiscasset Transfer Station Contract

Selectman Baston talked to Wiscasset Town Manager John O'Connell about the contract. The agreement they came to was that we won't sign the contract right now but will continue month to month and then try and work out an arrangement that all the towns can agree to.

Selectman Spinney ran the back of the envelope numbers if Westport's 500 seasonal residents were factored into the payment formula, with each counting as 1/3 person as a rough surrogate

for a seasonal resident. She did not factor what number of seasonal residents Wiscasset might have, or ours (which we estimate at less than 20), nor did she factor in businesses. But with that one simple variable changed, our costs would go down by about \$4-5,000, Westport would increase their payment by \$17,000, and Wiscasset would decrease by \$14,000

One of the ideas raised was that maybe the towns could go to an annual sticker system of some sort so that only those who used the facility were counted for purposes of determining each town's cost share. Ralph Hilton suggested maybe count the number of dwelling units rather than the population would be a better way to share costs.

Ron Lear, representing the Transfer Station, was present and the selectmen discussed it with him.

Our wish is to try to arrive at a good solution collaboratively with the other communities; one that is fair to all.

The selectmen need a new contract sent as they did not have the new one yet.

Communications: Copy of the email to John O'Connell, grant award letter from the Davis Family Foundation

Other

Selectman Spinney's call for volunteers to help with the community garden yielded one: Linda Abbott weeded the garden all by herself and did a great job.

The Garden Club did the plants out front and they were donated by the friends and relatives of Diana Ayers, who recently passed away. The Garden Club would also like a load of mulch. Selectman Baston offered to get a pickup load and leave it there.

The Flagpole needs to be set.

Carrie Kipfer suggested sending out a town looking for donations of specific plants for the office grounds.

Chris Cooper made a list of the work still needing to be done at the new town office. The selectmen will review it. They did decide that he could do the downstairs shelves and the stair risers now so that the file cabinets could be placed behind the stairs.

Selectman Shute said they are on schedule for the dam project and that on July 9th there would be a contractor meeting. He also said signs would be posted letting people know that they should not be kayaking, etc. there during the project.

Public Comment: None

Meeting Adjourned: 6:50 p.m.