

**Buckland Select Board
Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2020 5:30 p.m.
Meeting Via Zoom**

Listing of Topics

Appointments

Senior Center Director, Amanda Joao, introductions
FCSWMD, Jan Ameen - FYBudget Overview

Agenda Items

Senior Center Update

Documents to Sign

License Renewals - 2021
MassWorks Grant, engineering proposal, Weston and Sampson

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Select Board Member Concerns

Town Administrator's Report

Public Comment

Volunteer Recognition

Announcements

Attendees

Dena Willmore - Select Board Chair
Barry Del Castilho - Select Board Member
Zachary Turner - Select Board Member
Heather Butler - Buckland Town Administrator
Amanda Joao - Senior Center Director
Jan Ameen - FCSWMD
James Sullivan - Falls Cable
Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk
Marilyn Kelsey - Resident

Meeting

Meeting was opened at 5:32 p.m. by Ms. Willmore, Select Board Chair.

Appointments

Senior Center Director, Amanda Joao, introductions - Amanda Joao introduced herself as the new Senior Center Director, effective the first week of September 2020, and was welcomed by the Select Board. She gave a brief overview of herself and current Center activity. In answer to what her priorities are, she responded with reflexology, foot care, and insurance counseling.

FCSWMD, Jan Ameen, FY Budget Overview - Ms. Ameen gave a detailed explanation of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD) budget, including how costs are calculated and what are acceptable expenditures for DEP grant funds. Buckland's usage for FY21 is very close to FY20. Going forward, she feels numbers are pretty solid and predictable with the exception of health insurance costs. See FCSWMD documents attached to this meeting link on Town Website.

Agenda

Senior Center Update - Mr. Turner stated that there had been no meeting, thus no report/update. A meeting is scheduled later in the week. In a brief discussion, Ms. Willmore expressed that she is coming to the conclusion that a district is needed, but not in the current format which is too cumbersome; it needs to be re-designed and simplified.

Documents to Sign -

License Renewals, 2021 - Ms. Willmore suggested lowering the license fees to \$1 this year to help with the financial burden experienced by local businesses during the pandemic. Ms. Butler reported that the fees are already incorporated in the budget and many applicants have already paid. Mr. Turner agreed that Ms. Willmore's proposal was a good idea, but it is hard to change at this point. Also, when asked what shortfall that would incur, Ms. Butler reported that it would be about \$7,000. Mr. Turner then moved to sign the licenses, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes.

MassWorks Grant, engineering Proposal, Weston and Sampson - Ms. Butler explained the services this proposal would/would not include. it would not cover a full set of design plans but would provide some engineering toward that end, i.e., road repair, drainage, and making road safer and passable until culvert is replaced. Ms. Willmore inquired if there could be weight restrictions imposed, but Ms. Butler and Mr Turner stated that only DOT could make such a determination. After a brief discussion, Ms. Willmore thought it was worth asking, and Mr. Turner suggested asking for restricting commercial, non-single axle vehicles. Mr. Turner moved to sign the proposal from Wesson and Sampson, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes.

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting - N/A

Town Administrator's Report - See Document.

Public Comment -

Marilyn Kelsey reported that she had read the Ashfield Q & A list regarding the Senior Center and particularly noted Ashfield’s comparison of total population vs percentage of population that are seniors, 60 and over. She asked what Buckland’s comparable statistics would be. Also, she had virtually attended a Shelburne Select Board meeting during which Margaret Payne had addressed the Senior Center. Ms. Kelsey offered her recommendations for a solution to the current Senior Center issues and format for Buckland’s participation.

Volunteer Recognition -

Volunteers that participated in the BSEE wish program were recognized. Of 170 requests, 169 had been met. Mr. Turner then offered to fill the last request thus completing the Wish List.

Announcements

Rapid Recovery meeting announced.

There being no further business, Mr. Turner moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Del Castilho,, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Bolduc, Boards’ Clerk, December 30, 2020

Signed:

Dena Willmore_____

Barry Del Castilho_____

Zachary Turner_____