

**Town of Sumner - Select Board Minutes**  
**June 23, 2020 7:00 pm (Zoom)**  
**6:00 Transfer Station Meeting (Zoom)**

**Members present:** Mary Ann Haxton, Kelly Stewart, Edwin Hinshaw, Town Clerk Susan Runes, and secretary to the Select Board Susan Strout.

**Public present:**

The minutes from June 6, 2020 were approved with a motion by Haxton and seconded by Stewart.

**Warrant #24**

**Checks 13820-13849 \$20,339.90**

**Receipts #1816-1931 In the amount of \$32,715.90**

**2019-2020 Tax collected \$1,279,232.51 = 88%**

**2018-2019 Tax collection was = 88%**

**Open Session:**

**RSU #10 Report: Charles Maddaus**

Not present. The Select Board letter which expresses the board's opinion that too much tax is requested from the school district, has been sent to all the RSU10 school board members and all the Select Board members of the communities that are included in RSU10. The letter has also been distributed through the town's email distribution list. Select Board members from Hanover and Roxbury has expressed interest to send out the letter to others after adding the support of the Hanover and Roxbury Select Board members.

**CEO/LPI Report: Fred Collins**

Not present but will be invited to the meeting on July 28 to discuss correspondence.

**Roads Report: Andrew Wickson**

Wickson was not present but attended speed sign training June 18 for the permanent speed sign installation. Wickson's laptop is not compatible with sign software. Town office laptop may need to be used once a month to download statistics.

**Forms, Reports, Correspondence:**

The town acquired property at 126 Main St will be added to town insurance. Other decision as to what steps need to be taken to sell the house and to take care of the house will need to be discussed at upcoming meetings.

Tom Bragg has indicated that he sees a few revisions that need to be made to the contract for mowing municipal lawns and cemeteries. He will be invited to the next Select Board meeting if there is still lack of clarity in contract.

**New Business:**

The Boston Post Cane, which is awarded to the oldest resident of Sumner, will be presented to Evelyn Chamberlain on her 100th birthday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The Select Board members will attend a family open house for the presentation of the cane and a certificate. The cane will then be returned to the Sumner Town Office.

There are many social distancing concerns with the set up for the upcoming election and the Town Meeting. Absentee voting is being greatly encouraged to reduce the number of residents that need to come in that day. The Town Office will be closed for all other transactions that day. There will only be up to three voters allowed in the building at a time: one voting in kitchen, one at office window or map room to register to vote, and one waiting in the lobby between the glass doors. When finished, the voter will exit out the back door unless there is a access issue due to the stairs and then they must exit out the front door. In that case, the incoming voters will need to wait outside until the voter totally exits out the front door. Hopefully, the weather will be suitable to have doors and windows open (with fans) to allow the most air circulation as possible. The ballot clerks and warden will need to be six feet away from each other as well as between them and voters. The state will provide plexiglass barriers, hand sanitizer and other protective equipment for the voting process.

The Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. The building use request first was submitted asking for the cafeteria. We have now asked if the gym can be used to allow for more social distancing. Many aspects of the Town Meeting will need to be considered such as a sound system, voting procedures with health and safety in mind. Also, there will be no refreshments served.

**Old Business:**

Finance/Clerk position – At the last meeting there were two candidates for the Finance/Clerk position. Since that time at an executive session, the Select Board determined only one of these two might be a good fit for Sumner. Before the job was offered, the candidate informed the Select Board that she had accepted another position. The job will need to be posted on the website and MMA again.

Town Report articles from the Select Board members are **DUE June 23**.

Update on Office Computers. The Susans have had the first TRIO training on the new modules.

Updates on Broadband / Fiber

Haxton sounded optimistic that broadband will be offered in the next 12-18 but maybe even sooner. The pricing estimated seemed reasonable ranging from \$55 - \$140 per month. No one is sure how this will affect other sources such as Direct TV.

**Upcoming events:**

Bridgework – Fields Bridge on Redding Road closed June 9 – November 9

Primary election – July 14

Town Meeting - August 11, 2020

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 with a motion by Stewart, seconded by Hinshaw and voted.