

Bridport Selectboard Meeting
Monday, November 8, 2021
Town Office 6pm



PRESENT: Tim Howlett, David Bronson, Bob Sunderland, Steve Huestis, Joan Huestis Also Present: Julie Howlett (Town Clerk), Kathleen King (Town Treasurer), Dusty Huestis (Road Foreman), Bob Coffey (Auditor)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chair, Tim Howlett

Public Comment: Bob Coffey representing the Auditors let the Selectboard know they would not be performing a formal audit of the financial records for this calendar year.

Secretary's Report: Joan made the motion to accept the minutes of the October 12, 2021 Selectboard meeting. Bob seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Bob made the motion to pay bills in the amount of \$159,906.40. Joan seconded, motion passed.

DPW: Operations & Finance: Salt bid was \$81.00 per ton, hauling will begin soon.

Culvert & Bridge Report:

Lake Street Culvert: Paving will begin Tuesday.

Basin Harbor Road Culvert: Debisschop went over budget by \$42,000. GPI and Debisschop are at an impasse with payment #3.

Rattlin Bridge Road: We have a new project manager through FEMA. Project is moving along, FEMA wants the army corps of engineers to sign off on it.

Middle Road Bridge: No discussion.

Middle Road Culverts: No discussion.

Financing of Projects: The Selectboard signed the \$60,000.00 grant anticipation loan for the Lake Street Culvert Project and the second \$200,000.00 construction loan from National Bank of Middlebury that the Selectboard approved at its September 13, 2021 meeting.

New Business

Discussion of Twice Monthly Meetings: Selectboard will meet as needed.

Delinquent Tax Sale: Joan made the motion that at the proposed November 30, 2021 Tax Sale of real estate of Taxpayers Martha C. Orvis and David J Knauss, any member of the Selectboard is authorized to have the Town bid in an amount that is owed for taxes and costs, without limitation for allowed legal assistance and delinquent tax collector fees, due from the Tax Sale proceeds to the Town from the Taxpayers. Steve seconded, David abstained, motion passed.

Joan made the motion at the proposed November 30, 2021 Tax Sale of real estate of Taxpayer Joseph Gleason, any member of the Selectboard is authorized to have the Town bid in an amount that is owed for taxes and costs, without limitation for allowed legal assistance and delinquent tax collector fees, due from the Tax Sale proceeds to the Town from the Taxpayer. Bob seconded, motion passed.

Financing Debt on Construction of Highway Garage and Firehouse: Joan made the motion for the Selectboard to approve the financing of the final \$150,000.00 construction debt of the Highway Garage

and second Firehouse; by obtaining a loan for \$90,000.00 from the National Bank of Middlebury payable in annual principal payments of \$30,000.00 in 2022, 2023 and 2024 and by obtaining a loan for \$60,000.00 of Town Cemetery funds by the Board of Cemetery Commissioners payable in annual principal payments of \$30,000.00 in 2025 and 2026 with interest at the same rate as the bank will be charging on its loan. Bob seconded, David abstained motion passed.

Digitization of Records: Joan made a motion to spend \$5,945.00 from the preservation fund for digitization of land records. Bob seconded, motion passed. Joan made the motion to spend \$40,720.00 of ARPA money to be used for the digitization of historical land records back to 1978. Bob seconded, motion passed.

Old Business:

2022 Map Contract: Selectboard signed the map contract with Chris Chamberlain.

Masonic/ Community Hall: Hall has been cleaned since oil spill, new carpets and vacuum have been purchased.

Office Configuration: Discussed new ways to configure the office with new heating source.

ARPA Money: See Digitization of Records above, ARPA money was approved to be used for this purpose.

Budget: The budget committee will meet on Tuesdays November 16, 23, 30 & December 7 & 14.

Quarterly Auditing: Discussed during public comment, Auditors will not perform quarterly audits.

Policy Work on Substance Abuse: No discussion.

Policies and Procedures for Town Clerk Office: Julie gave board members a policy to review.

Other Business: No Other Business.

Executive session: No Executive Session.

Adjourn: Joan made the motion to adjourn, Bob seconded motion passed. Adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,