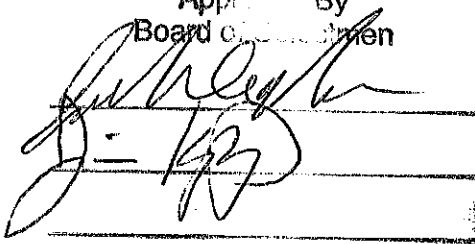


Board of Selectmen Minutes
October 26, 2020

Call to Order
Pledge

BOS Member: Jim Knapp, Joe Varga, Jon Hotchkiss all present

Approved By
Board of Selectmen


Minutes for 10/5/20 and 10/8/20. Jon made a motion to approve and Jim seconded. Joe abstained.

New Business:

Rick Washburn: Rick was asked by Joe about what can be done with line 4311-04 overtime (109.38%) and line 4311-32 Highway Seasonal (94.17 %). Rick's response was "we will use the block grant for the overages" because they have a bottom-line budget. There was further discussion on where the "block grant" can be used. Consensus was that the "block grant" can be used for any highway department line item except for any warrant articles.

Jim asked Rick about the feasibility of the highway department absorbing the lawn mowing line, the beach maintenance line and shoveling of walkways after plowing. Rick's response was "we are a highway department and that sounds like a DPW."

There was a lengthy discussion about the personnel policy regarding over time, on call pay and seasonal employees. Rick's response was that it may require more manpower to perform the added tasks if directed by BOS.

Changes to overtime and on call pay would occur by changing the personnel policy. Sincere there are department representatives on the personnel policy committee they would find out from that individual if the policies were changed.

There was a quick discussion about the area the highway department uses to turn around on Governors Rd. The BOS had decided last year about how to reimburse the property owner, but it never happened. It was discussed that we need to follow through with that decision

John Mullen:

John Mullen and Carol Vita spoke about the conservation committee. They were recently sworn in by the BOS because the committee had some resignations over the summer and was down to one member. They are now looking for volunteers to help on the committee. They are thinking of sending out a survey to the town residents to ask for volunteers and what the residents would like from the committee. They are also looking for input from the BOS on what they board would like from the committee. To better serve the town they would like to have an email address, phone, and if possible, a computer. There was a discussion about Tanglewood as that had been the last project the conservation committee was working on.

John Mullen talked about speaking with the heritage committee about the old town hall and changes that can be made by the selectman. He stated that the Selectmen oversee the building. They can install and mount anything they would like. The heritage committee asks that they just keep it clean looking. The heritage committee just does not want individuals that rent the OTH to be putting tacks or tape on the walls and ceiling. He also stated that the heritage committee would like to thank the BOS for putting in fire and security alarms in the OTH.

Janet Kalar:

Janet sent a letter disputing the town paying to replace Jim Knapp's mailbox. Barron Brothers damaged the original mailbox during construction on Ridge Road. The mailbox was only replaced physically by the highway department after making arrangements with Barron Brothers. The town of Middleton is not responsible for replacing mailboxes damaged by snow plowing. The BOS do not want to set a precedent for fixing mailboxes damaged by snowplows in the future. Janet's case was dismissed considering the evidence presented. All board members agreed.

11/2/2020 Board of Selectmen meeting canceled due to elections the following day. The next meeting will be 11/09/2020 approved by all board members.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.