Town of Greene

 Select Board Regular Meeting

 January 22, 2024

Selectboard Present: John Soucy – Chairman, Amanda Leclerc, Sheldon Bubier, Mark Randall, Kevin Mower.

Absent: Carol Buzzell – Town Manger (vacation).

Also present: Greg Keene – Public Works Supervisor, Brent Armstrong - CEO

Members of the public present: Don Bedford, Kevin Capponi, Julie Monroe

This meeting is televised on WGLT channel 7 and 1301 Greene, Me

**Call to Order:** Soucy called the meeting to order @ 6:00p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Leclerc made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8th, 2024, meeting and waive the reading of the minutes, seconded by Mower. Voted 4-0

**Treasurer’s Report:** Soucy stated that Carol was on vacation, but everything looked to be under 50 percent. The building maintenance and emergency management was up a little due to purchasing barricades.

**Public Discussion**: Don Bedford asked about updates on the Main Street bridge. Soucy said we are still staying on top of this. Soucy believed that the latest email that Buzzell had received was regarding the RFQ’s. Don was concerned that the grant may expire sometime in 2024. Soucy stated he would check on the grant but did not believe it had an expiration date on it this year. Bedford also wanted to thank the highway department for all the time spent on Main Street and getting the road passable. Bedford was also interested in how much money had been spent on this. Greg said he put the money spent on repairs for this road into the FEMA budget. Bedford also asked about the budget for next year. Bubier said that the chairman has already asked for the quarterly report, and believes that Carol has started putting that together, and that they will have a meeting on this soon.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Update on roads:** Gregg stated that they hired a cherry picker and that was a huge help picking up a lot of the trees. The crew struggled with the last storm. Greg stated that the guy who was hired as back-up never returned our call. Also had a worker that was put on leave. He also stated that people are following too close to the plows, people do not realize when they are following too close that our drivers cannot see them, so they had a few close calls when backing up. They cleaned out some equipment from the wash bay. He also got an update on the backhoe; they are waiting on some parts. They changed out sander chains on the trucks. Gregg completed FEMA for Eric Farrenkopf. Greg has been reaching out to residents regarding different issues and is just asking for people’s patience and they will get there and address these issues. Soucy mentioned the snow plowing across the road, he asked that we work with the people of the town on this matter. Gregg did mention one resident that is pushing the snow onto our culvert and that is causing an issue. The guys cleaned it up, and now it is back over the culvert. We have had a lot of complaints regarding mailboxes being hit during plowing. Bubier also stated that a lot of the mailboxes being damaged were from the slush and stated that someone was following one of our plow drivers and actually saw the slush take out a mailbox. Gregg passed out some information on the laws regarding mailboxes. Gregg said on a good note, Public Works did receive a thank you card from one resident.

**Update on transfer station**: Soucy welcomed new employee Ron Lambert. Greg mentioned he has ordered the oil spill container for the transfer station. Greg is getting a handle on the building that needs to be put up and containment.

**Update on fire department**: Soucy mentioned the cost recovery program. Currently in the SOP we are not charging residents of Greene. We want to propose that we change the SOP on one specific item which would be on electric vehicles. If there is a fire with an electric vehicle there is an additive that is put on the fire and then it’s covered with a special blanket. The blanket is a one time use at a cost of $4,500.00. Soucy recommends that we update the SOP. This would then be charged to the owner’s insurance company.

**Other**: Nothing to update.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**VFW – Greene Dragons Snowmobile Club & GYAA**: Kevin Capponi said that they have got the furnace working. Capponi said that there are still some more repairs that are needed. They are also looking to get a couple of shipping containers for storage (2 - 20ft) Soucy said to give them a couple weeks and they will have an answer. They are now able to hold meetings there. They still need to locate the septic tank so that water and toilets can be used. Bubier mentioned that Bob Hodgkins would be a great resource for information.

**Solid Waste Committee Member Appointment**: Motion was made by Leclerc to accept Phil Lavoie’s application for the Solid Waste Committee. This was seconded by Mower. Voted 4-0

**Committee Reports**: Bubier stated that they had their solid waste committee meeting, and only 2 members were present. 5 were absent. Bubier was asked to suggest that if the members do want to be on the committee to please come to the meetings and if not, they could resign. No hard feeling either way, but we do need the members present at the meetings. They went over the expenses for this quarter, nothing out of the ordinary. They also mentioned a dress code for the attendants of the transfer station, this would help people to distinguish who the attendants are, and this would help when fees are being paid. They went over the new brochure and the new fees.

They also thought a new sign would be helpful. The brush was ground the cost was $2,000.00 plus $5.00 a ton. Corcoran was interested in buying two of our old compact containers for $750.00 apiece, they all agreed that was a good price. Corcoran also offered to haul our glass mix for $140.00 a load. Corcoran also offered to haul all our stuff, but at this time the committee didn’t think that was a good idea.

It was also mentioned to have a building to store our backhoe and household universal waste and a space for a swap shop. The cost is very high and Bubier and Bob disagree with that idea. We do not have to fix what is not broken, and we do have a Quonset hut already there.

Leclerc mentioned that at the last meeting the comprehensive plan was reviewed from November 1999.

They also accessed the last plan recommendations to see that they are completed, and still relevant.

They received state data and will update that information. They also will conduct data gathering and hold public hearings.

**Other**: N/A

**Announcements**:

The Selectmen’s meeting will be February 26th at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Office. The Assessor is in the office twice a month. Call the Town Office for an appointment. The CEO will be available during normal business hours. Please call 946-5146 (office) for an appointment.

**Approve Accounts Payables/Payroll Warrants**:

Mower moved the following warrants:

**Accounts Payables Warrants**:

Warrant # 65 for $ 59,545.24

Warrant # 68 for $ 13,064.79

**Payroll Warrants:**

Warrant # 64 for $ 18,584.85

Warrant # 67 for $ 16,942.38

**Benevolent Fund Warrants**:

#4/AP #66 for $ 2,776.05

Warrant # 3 $ 485.25

All these were seconded by Leclerc. Voted 4-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kelly Ouellette, Deputy Town Clerk John Soucy, Chair