# Town of Greenville Board of Selectmen Minutes – October 9, 2019

Call to order at the SAU 87 Mascenic Education Center, 16 School Street, Greenville at 3:33 p.m. Present: Chairperson Carla Mary, Selectmen Doug Reardon and Margaret Bickford, and Town Administrator Tara Sousa.

# Meet with Rob Lauricella Re: Utility Partners Monthly Report

The Selectmen met with Rob Lauricella of Utility Partners to review the monthly operating report. Mr. Lauricella discussed a recent violation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant's phosphorus limit. He explained that Underwood Engineers had recommended trying a reduced amount of Ferric, in an effort to reduce copper in the effluent. The plant has since returned to its previous dosage. He believed DES would understand the reason for the violation, and discussed a positive visit by Dick Emberly of DES. Mr. Lauricella presented quotes for two urgent repairs needed at the WWTP: Wilson Technologies for an electrical upgrade needed for the chemical storage trailer, and Electrical Installations, Inc. for a VFD replacement.

Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to accept the quotes of Wilson Technologies (\$2,234.79) and Electrical Installation, Inc (\$3,439.00) as presented. Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.

Mr. Lauricella discussed the sample results received for the Water Department lagoon sludge, which had levels of arsenic and aluminum which do not allow for ground application. Selectman Reardon asked if the Town could resample. Mr. Lauricella answered that this was already the second sampling, with the first test result being 60 mg/kg and the second being 33 mg/kg, and that he had asked and been denied by DES to sample a third time. He discussed quotes received for the removal of the sludge, with Englobe out of Quebec, Canada, being the lowest cost per ton, at \$116.75. Quotes from Waste Management and Casella to landfill the material were \$145 and \$200 respectively. The logistics of the trucks accessing the area and being loaded were discussed, including the use of the Highway Department's loader. Chairperson Mary questioned if the Town had sufficient funds based on the quote. The Town Administrator discussed the available funds in the Water Expendable Trust, and that the funding could come up short if the tonnage is at or above the estimate. Mr. Lauricella explained that the estimate is very rough, and is based on the size of the pile. The Town Administrator noted that she had reached out to our new DRA Auditor to determine the process for an over-expenditure of the water budget, should that become necessary, but had not yet received an answer.

Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to accept the quote of \$116.75 per ton by Englobe for the removal of the Water Department lagoon sludge.

Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.

Mr. Lauricella discussed recent repairs by Ell on the communications equipment at both water towers, reporting that the remote communication from the towers regarding levels was now operating well. He also discussed reports by two companies that had evaluated the filters at the water plant. The Town Administrator directed the Board's attention to Underwood Engineers draft of the review of potential water and sewer connections for Barton's Ridge, and their notation that they cannot recommend

additional connections until operational issues with the filters are resolved. In reviewing report details regarding the filter media and underdrains, Chairperson Mary requested that Mr. Lauricella obtain a quote from Blue Earth for evaluation of the media.

Chairperson Mary asked the rest of the Board if they felt Mr. Lauricella needed to continue coming to meetings on a monthly basis, as that had been instituted when maintenance/operational issues were identified at the water plant last year. She expressed that those issues had been addressed, and she felt he could meet with the Town Administrator as necessary, submit his monthly report, and only come to Selectmen's meetings for "big things". The rest of the Board concurred. Mr. Lauricella thanked the Board for making that change.

# Meet with Mike Patterson of Pilgrim Foods Re: Industrial Wastewater

The Selectmen met with Mike Patterson of Pilgrim Foods regarding the Companies interest in discharging process wastewater to the WWTP. Chairperson Mary asked Mr. Lauricella to stay for the discussion. The Town Administrator explained that, based on a previous meeting where the financial impact of receiving industrial revenue from Pilgrim Foods was questioned, she had put together examples of the financial impact of accepting different amounts of industrial waste from Pilgrim Foods billed at the current Town rate, using Mr. Patterson's estimate that the maximum daily amount would be 9,000 gallons. She also provided examples of how that revenue would impact the GEVD formula, presuming this revenue would be considered "industrial revenue" under the current GEVD contract. Chairperson Mary discussed the current status of the Administrative Order the Town is operating under, and the Board's previously expressed intentions to not make any substantial changes that could affect the Town's efforts to meet the recommended permit limits. She expressed that any future consideration of receiving Pilgrim Foods' process wastewater would require a dedicated septage receiving facility at the plant. Mr. Patterson questioned the levels that would need to be met through pre-treatment. Mr. Lauricella discussed the current recommended limits the Town is trying to meet. He questioned if Pilgrim Foods was seeking alternate locations for its waste, and Mr. Patterson discussed the current hauling of waste to Rochester and this option being investigated an additional site. Mr. Patterson did not have details on the composition of the process waste, but suggested Mr. Lauricella could get in contact with Claire Lund, an engineer working with Pilgrim Foods, for more information. Mr. Patterson indicated that they are not yet pretreating their waste. Chairperson Mary expressed that Pilgrim Foods had a history of violating its discharge permits, and that nothing has changed to give her confidence that that permit limits would be respected. Mr. Patterson expressed that the entire management staff had changed. Mr. Patterson questioned in Chairperson Mary was speaking for the Board, and Selectman Reardon answered that the Board recognizes the Chair's expertise in this subject and generally does allow her to speak for the Board in these matters, as well as needing to consider recommendations by Utility Partners. Mr. Patterson expressed that the Board is saying "no' and that he will need to explore other alternatives. Selectwoman Bickford expressed that the Board is saying "not yet" at this time. Mr. Patterson left the meeting. Mr. Lauricella expressed agreement with the Board's stance.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Basement**

The Town Administrator reported that she had been in contact A+ Painting as a potential contractor to repair the meeting room and other areas, but had not yet been able to coordinate a meeting with him.

She discussed needing a decision on the choice of a finished concrete floor versus a wood sub-floor in order to get an accurate quote for the other work. Selectman Reardon was concerned about the durability of the floor and suggested asking the concrete contractor about adding fiber mesh to the concrete. The Selectmen agreed that concrete was the best option, given the previous water issues. They questioned if stamped concrete was an option, to give the floor a more finished appearance. The Town Administrator will contact the contractor with those questions.

## **Cemetery Roofs**

The Selectmen reviewed 3 quotes for the resurfacing of 2 roofs at the cemetery. The Town Administrator relayed Cemetery Trustee Jim Hartley's preference for the contractor who provided the second lowest bid. Reviewing the bid details, Selectmen Reardon expressed his preference for the low bid, as the contractor recommended rubber roofing on the low-pitched roof, versus the proposed rolled roofing in the next lowest bid. The Selectmen compared the potential additional costs for subsurface repairs. Chairperson Mary noted the low bid also offered a 5-year workmanship warranty.

Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to accept the bid of Bickerton Contracting in the amount of \$4,300.00

Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.

### **New Business:**

The Selectmen reviewed the appointment form for Fire Chief Charles Buttrick, which was for a term of one year, per his request.

Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to re-appoint Charles Buttrick as Fire Chief for a term of one year.

Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.

#### **Warrant Articles**

The Town Administrator reviewed previously discussed potential warrant articles to confirm the Selectmen's intent to pursue, including an increase in the service-connected total disability credit, a solar exemption, creating a Park & Recreation revolving account, as well as expenditures for pool painting and repair of sidewalks and walkways on Main Street and at Town Hall. The Selectmen confirmed pursuit of these matter on the 2020 warrant.

## **Budgets: Welfare, Highway Department**

The Selectmen reviewed the Town Administrator's presented budget for Welfare. The Town Administrator explained that with the departure and non-replacement of the part-time office clerk in the executive office, she would like to see some of those funds allocated for a Welfare Officer. With adjustments to other line-items, the overall increase to the budget would be \$1200. Chairperson Mary expressed support for shifting that responsibility off of the Town Administrator, as welfare often takes her away from other important matters. The Selectmen discussed Carrie Traffie as a potential candidate, as she had served briefly as Welfare Officer when the Town Administrator was first transitioning to her new position. The Selectmen indicated that they would support the creation of the position immediately. The Town Administrator recommended waiting for approval of the budget at Town Meeting.

The Selectmen reviewed Road Agent Tom Plourde's submitted budgets for Highway Administration and Highways & Streets. The Town Administrator noted the salary request reflects a 2% increase for staff,

with a 4% increase for the Road Agent position, due to continuing to be below the average compensation. Selectwoman Bickford questioned what is included in the "Hwy Admin" and "Hwy Safety" line-items, as it was currently well underspent. The Town Administrator will check with Mr. Plourde and get back to the Board.

## **Town Report Bids**

The Selectmen reviewed 3 bids obtained by Kelly Fitzwater for the printing of the Town Report. There was a \$70 difference between the 2 lowest bids. Chairperson Mary expressed her preference to utilize the same printer from last year, who had the second lowest bid, due to the known quality of the product received, and the other Board members concurred.

### Trick-or-Treat

The Selectmen discussed several options for the time for Trick-or-Treat. The Town Administrator noted previous public feedback that the time be limited to 2 hours, and expressed her opinion that continuity is helpful for people to plan. She confirmed that last year, the time was set as 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and the Selectmen agreed to the same time for this year.

## Letter from State Senator Levesque Re: State Budget

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from State Senator Melanie Levesque regarding the approval of the State's biennial budget.

#### Miscellaneous

Selectwoman Bickford discussed budget discussions at the Joint Police Board regarding salaries and the cost of losing officers due to low wages. She relayed that the Board would be reviewing salary study data. Chairperson Mary expressed support for whatever the other Selectmen decide as representatives to that Board, but did express concerns about morale issues if the Police Department is constantly receiving a higher percentage than other Town Departments. The Town Administrator discussed her preference for specific dollar figure increases that reflect a market wage adjustment for positions, versus a percentage increase that results in the highest paid positions receiving the largest increases.

The Town Administrator discussed a notice received that the Town is a member of the class involved in a class action suit negotiating an opioid settlement. She explained that no action was necessary, unless we felt there was a possibility that the Town would pursue our own suit in the future. If we opted out of the class, we would protect our right to sue, but receive nothing from a settlement reached in this case. The Selectmen confirmed that they wished to remain in the class.

The Town Administrator noted that there was a revised MS-1 for the Selectmen to sign, due to changes our Assessors recommended for the Eversource utility values.

### **Signature Folder**

#### The Selectmen:

- Reviewed, discussed, and approved the minutes of the September 25, 2019 meeting and the October 3, 2019 non-public session.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved check manifests for accounts payable and payroll.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved Purchase Orders: Highway, Emergency Management.

Reviewed, discussed, and approved Veteran's Credit: Calderon.

Motion by Chairperson Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectwoman Bickford, to adjourn the meeting at 5:24 p.m. Motion carried with 3 in favor, none opposed.

Submitted by: Tara Sousa/Town Administrator

Approved by:

Carla C. Mary/Chairner on

Douglas A. Regrdon/Selectman

Margaret Bickford/Selectwoman