

MINUTES *approved minutes*

Board of Selectmen Meeting with Budget Committee and EMDs: August 9, 2021, 6PM

Present: Frank Emig, Ray Leonard, Jim Jennison, Mark McIntire, Judy Aron, Mike Aron, Gregg Bascom, Alyssa St. Pierre, Ken Grant, Cheryl Sanctuary, Brenda Melius, Conan Cook, Linda Christie, Dan Giusepone, Jennifer Bland, Pete Toner, Glenn Elsesser, Susan Metsack, Claudia Istel, Linda Volpe, David Clark, Beverly Buxton, Tom Esslinger, David Bland, Patrick and Kelly Wright

Flood Response:

1. Update: MM reported that all roads are now passable and Highway will be moving to more permanent repairs. JA reported she is in conversation with the State regarding gap funding to cover repair costs while we wait for a FEMA declaration. It was noted the Town has spent approximately \$150,000 on repairs since the damaging storm on July 29-30 and that State officials and a contracted engineer have begun work on damage assessing.
2. Input: LV noted need for more signage to stop traffic on Ryan Road. FE recommended closing the road. DC noted need to reopen culverts on Crane Brook to avoid further erosion in the event of rain. BM noted increased truck traffic on Charlestown Road due to Route 12 closing. PT suggested taking out a bond to finance repairs and FE noted FEMA would be available before a bond. TE recommended reviewing past suggestions to keep Crane Brook to one side of the Crane Brook Road. LC and CC both inquired about fund balance including its amount and consequences of lowering it by applying it to repairs. It was noted a reduced fund balance could result in the need for tax anticipation notes.
3. Request to Department of Revenue to over expend the 2021 voted budget: It was noted the Town could request to use \$350,000 of fund balance to cover unanticipated flood repairs and still retain enough in fund balance to meet DRA guidelines. FE polled Budget Committee members as to whether they agree to the request to over expend with consensus to agree. Motion SM/KG to sign the request letter to DRA, passed.
4. Other funding sources: The Town's portion of the American Rescue Plan (Covid) which is just over \$93,000 was discussed. Gregg Thibodeau has worked on our application within the State's GOEFERR portal. The application requires affirmation the Town will accept the funds. Motion JJ/RL to accept the ARPA funds for which the Town is eligible, passed. The application requires an electronic signature. Motion FE/JJ to authorized Gregg Thibodeau to sign the application for the Town, passed. The application includes two attachments which require signatures and uploading. Motion FE/JJ to sign the attachments for uploading, passed.
5. EMD meeting plan: It was noted EMDs have met consistently since July 30. For the remainder of August meetings will move to Mondays and Thursdays as needed.

Meeting adjourned: 6:55PM; Respectfully submitted, Kathi Bradt