

Town of Farmingdale  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
July 10, 2019

Members Present – Nancy Frost- Wayne Kilgore – Andy Vellani

Others Present: Rose Webster – Bob St. Pierre – Jim Grant – Tom Reeves – Andy Hendrickson - Jim Owens

Selectboard reviewed and signed the Treasurer Warrant # 253 and Payroll Warrant # 153

Meeting opened by Nancy Frost at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Bob St. Pierre** was asked to present some information to the Selectboard on land use violations; with excessive garbage and trash on the property, dilapidated buildings and violations to the Solid Waste Ordinance. Bob said with violations that he tries to work with the resident with suggestions on cleaning up the property, giving them a certain amount of time to correct the issue and follow up along the way. He said with some properties the Selectboard will have to decide how much money they want to expend to take care of some of these problem properties; this would include attorney time and going to court. Hiring someone to remove the garbage or secure a property, condemning a property and levying fines can be very costly for the Town. Liens can be placed on the property, but may take years to recoup the costs and may not cover all the costs incurred by the Town. Bob said that one property has gone to court and the judge gave the property owner a reasonable amount of time to clean up the property. Nothing has been done; currently the owner is in jail on another matter and has no funds. The Town Attorney said that you can't get blood from a turnip and going further to push for fines and penalties would not result in getting the owner to clean up the property. Another property that Bob has sent numerous letters and has spoken to the owner has come with little or no results. Bob feels that in regards to the condition for the house, condemning it and removing the wild animals, the Town will have to decide what avenue to take and how much do they want to spend. There comes a point where we can only go so far with the ordinance, the Town does not have zoning.

**Bob** said that he is currently considering how much longer he will be staying in his current position. He said that when he decides that he would give a month or two notice and would try to come in on a limited basis to assist someone taking over the position. Bob feels that the Selectboard may also want to consider that the position be at least 18 to 20 hours a week.

**Nancy** asked Bob if he thought a town-wide cleanup such as the Town used to have several years ago would help eliminate some of the garbage on the properties. Bob said that he felt that it would be helpful so that residents could get rid of some things rather than letting them pile up.

**Tom Reeves** presented information on the Merry Meeting Trail and requested that the Selectboard consider a letter of support for the group before they meet with the Legislators this fall. Tom explained that LD 1141 directs a 25-mile walking /bike trail that will connect several communities from Brunswick to Augusta. The committee voted to carry over the bill to next year's session with the legislators. Andy Hendrickson went over some of the updates that are currently in the works for the rail trail, over the next few months all the benches will be replaced

**The issue with the pump stations** having communication errors was discussed. Rose said that Dirigo Engineering had Sullivan Associates come work on the radios the past couple of days and that they seemed to have corrected some of the issues there. Tim Sawtell also is working with Julian and suggests that the Selectboard and Sewer Committee decide on a second person they want to have put the application on their phone for the SCADA System. Jim Grant mentioned that if anyone else is going to be calling the contractor when repairs are needed that the current maintenance contract should be amended as the current contract states that the Sewer Operator is the only one that call out the contractor.

**Public Comment:**

Jim Grant said that in the last meeting that Jeff Ellis had accused Nancy Frost of perjury regarding her stating that she does not recall any information that Jeff said he presented about the use of a horse trailer Excalibur is using when cleaning the meter pit. Jim said that he had reviewed the recording of the meeting minutes and never once was the Selectboard made aware of this information and pictures from Jeff Ellis. Jim also wanted the Selectboard to know that he is willing to help with writing some of the scopes of work for the Highway projects.

- Nancy Frost made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm. She noted that the Selectboard be in attendance to the Sewer/FRAC meeting on July 17th.
- Wayne Kilgore second
- Vote approved 3/0

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Nancy Frost

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Wayne Kilgore

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Andrew Vellani