

Town of Farmingdale  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 2023

Members Present – Doug Ebert –Joe Connors-Ike Peppard

Others Present: Mary Andrews -Steve Stratton- Nancy Frost- Gerald Staples-William Thiboutot-Gerald Varnum-Lissa Bitterman-Mary Denison-Bob Henderson-Steve Brooks-Greg Lumbert- Cathie Whitney on Zoom

*First order of business, Elect a Selectboard Chair. Ike Nominated Doug, Joe 2<sup>nd</sup>, Doug accepted the position of Selectboard Chair.*

Meeting opened by Doug Ebert at 6:35p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Selectboard approved and signed the Treasurer and Payroll Warrants # 51, 52, (53 & 54 EOY finals)

*Doug motioned to accept the June 14, 2023 minutes as written, Joe 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.*

**Gerald Varnum-** Discussed cleaning up 93 Bowman St and how difficult it is for him physically and financially to clean the place up. After a lengthy discussion Mary Denison, our town attorney, and the the selectboard gave Mr. Varnum 28 days to come up with a purchase and sales agreement with the stipulation that at the time of closing, the buyer has 14 days to clean up the property to the satisfaction of the CEO. If this doesn't happen by August 9<sup>th</sup> there will be another conversation and penalties.

**Lissa Bitterman-** Apparel Impact, which is veteran owned company, talked about a clothing and shoe box to be put in the town parking lot. They provide over 3000 families and children with clothing annually. Doug agreed to let Apparel Impact put a clothing drop off box by the salt bins.

**Mary Denison-**Reviewed the solar farm ordinance given to her by Mark Lutte. She has no concerns the way it is written. Doug asked if the company that puts in the solar farm goes out of business are they required to get rid of the panels and equipment. Mary D. responded yes as there is a performance bond included in the ordinance.

*Doug motioned to extend the current moratorium that we had in place for another 180 days, Joe 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.*

**William Thiboutot-** Complained about the water issues he is having in his driveway on Northern Ave. He never had issues until they paved Northern Ave. After much discussion with the road commissioner and the board, it was decided the town would have a berm to put in both driveways to resolve the issue. Doug requested Steve to get prices, and get the berm done.

**Joe-** Asked if we charge a fee per square footage for the solar farm, Greg responded "yes".

**Ike-** Josh Howe, Farmingdale's ACO, has been talking about getting done as his daytime business keeps him busy during the day. Bob Henderson has expressed interest in becoming the 2<sup>nd</sup> ACO and he is available to answer daytime calls.

*Doug motioned to bring Bob on as the 2<sup>nd</sup> ACO, Joe 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.*

**Mary-**The Grant for roads has been submitted, we will know by fall if we are awarded the Grant.

- The solar radar sign from DOT will be available this fall. Someone has to take the training and take possession of the sign the same day. Doug requested I reach out to Jim Grant.
- We have a total of fifty (50) tax liens going out on Monday.
- Tax Assessor will be here on August 3<sup>rd</sup> to do the tax commitment, Mil rate will be established.

- Summit Rates are rising by 12% this year, 9% in 2024 & 2025. Doug requested that Mary contact Dead River to do a study to see if/or what we will save to convert back to propane.

Steve-Bruce Crockett has a walk behind push sweeper that belongs to the town that he will be dropping off at Steve's house.

Talked to Jason at Pike and he said the cross pipe below the farm is not Pikes responsibility, Steve said it was put in the scope of work. Steve will review contract

*Doug motioned to adjourn at 7:47, Ike 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.*

The next regular meeting will be August 9, 2023

Date 8-9-23



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Doug Ebert

  
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Joe Connors  
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Ike Peppard

**\*\* Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, the minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of comments at the meeting, but a summary of the discussion and the actions that took place. Visit our website for the audio of this meeting. [www.farmingdalemaine.org](http://www.farmingdalemaine.org).**

Minutes prepared by: M. Andrews