

Town of Mercer
Municipal Officer's Meeting Minutes (Draft)
June 11, 2020

Meeting Opens: 6 p.m.

Present : 1st MO- Ricky Parlin. 2nd MO Gary Mosher. 3rd MO Dari Hurley. Yolanda Violette (Town Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector) Tammy Lamphere (Minutes)

Residents: Joel Lamphere, Fred Laplante, Bruce Hurley and Mike and Sue Bartholf

Guests: Joe Lewandowski, Rick Drew from Aggressive Cuts (road side mowing), Steve Foster and Robin Day.

Special Announcement : Ricky Parlin would like to thank Dari and Bruce Hurley for all their hard work removing all brush that Ricky cut down for the road side ditching project. Multiple loads were removed from Main and Elm Street.

Citizens Inquires:

-Donna Civitella sent in a complaint about the condition of Elm Street.

-Fred Laplante received a letter, from an anonymous person, about possible illegal activity in the bog on Ladd Rd. The letter was vague but did give map and lot info. Gary stated that this is not a town issue.

Old Business:

-Winter Road Contract Update: Joe Lewandowski was unable to obtain a bond. The contract states that if a performance bond cannot be secured there is an option of the MO accepting a open amount of money. Joe presented the MO with \$25,000.00 This money will be put in escrow and the town will collect the interest. If at some point if Joe is able to secure a bond, the \$25,000.00 will be returned to Joe. A motion was made to accept the \$25,000.00 **VOTE: 3-0.** Gary asked if the Winter Contract could be signed. The Town needs to have a liability insurance contract signed. Gary would like to get this done at the next meeting. Joe agreed that he would have it ready on June 25, 2020. Gary is getting prices on winter sand.

-Assessing Update: No updates. Harriet would like to set up a meeting at the a workshop on either June 23 or 24. After discussion it was decided and agreed by all 3 MO that a workshop would be set up for Tuesday, June 23 at 3:15. Justin from the State Tax Assessing will be here On 6/16/2020 at 10:45.

-Boundary Line Agreement: Amanda Meader is trying to keep things at a minimal. Andrew Zullieve would like move forward and close this. Lora lost her trust documents so this will delay the situation.

-Old Town Office: Rick Loadwick stated that there was an interested party but interest was lost once they saw the settling of the concrete. Thank you to Dari for mowing the lawn at the Old Town Office. The turn around at Clement Rd needs to be addressed. Ricky wants to holdout for now.

-Grading: Mercer Sand and Gravel has graded Hampshire Hill, Corson, Decker and Tibbets Road. Elm Street needs to be graded before any more ditching can be done. Joel stated that he would be hauling away good material that could be used on the road if he ditched prior to grading. Yolanda mentioned that the Ditching Contract would need to be amended and extended to June 30, 2020 Gary trimmed ESRR. Mercer sand and Gravel will be grading Elm Street on Monday or Tuesday of next week. Rome Rd will not be graded at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

-Recording of MO Meeting: Yolanda questioned Tammy's bringing in a voice recording and recording the meeting. Dari stated that she was aware the Tammy was recording and it is a public meeting. Recording is allowable.

-Rick Drew from Aggressive Cuts LLC. Discussed cutting back the brush on the roads. Rick was disappointed that the town has not hired someone to do the trimming. The cost would be \$1000 a mile (both sides of the road). The MO thanked Rick for coming in.

-Steve Foster and his Contractor Robin Day: Presented a request for the town to purchase 3 culverts for the town road they have repaired. Steve purchased land on Maguire Road. He has logged it and spend \$30,000 on gravel to repair the road and would like to install 3 culverts. Steve said that there is interest in the land above him for camps and having a road that is driving friendly will a plus for people buying the land. Steve is willing to pick up and install the culverts at no charge to the town. Ricky motioned to buy 3 plastic culverts, Gary seconded it. **VOTE: 3-0**

-Pond Rd: Gary gave an update on the work that Charlie Baeder is doing. There will be interviews for contractor to do road surface, culverts and ditching on June 18, 2020.

-Norridgewock Town Manager and Public Works Dept: Gary spoke with both and they are willing to assist with any information the Town of Mercer may need with installing culverts.

-Norridgewock Fire Dept: Gary spoke with the Mr. Labelle (Town manager of Norridgewock) about the high cost of Mercer's \$37,000 Public safety and Fire Protection bill. Gary discovered that there is no contract and that the Mercer has just been paying the bill that is sent. Gary was also informed that the bill will continue to increase. There was discussion on speaking to surrounding towns and see if there could be a cost savings there in upcoming years. Dari mentioned that Adam Keene might be willing to help negotiate. Gary wants to speak to Mr. Labelle to try to negotiate a lower cost.

-Summer Roads: The town replaced the 2 borrowed culverts from Joel Lamphere.

-Winter Roads: Discussion was made of salt and sand. Prices are being collected.

-Bridge Updates: Annual report from the State on the Bridge on Main Street (Bog) and the bridge on Elm Street (Indian Stream) where presented.

-Donations for Heating Assistance: Blue Sky Labs donated \$500.00 Smithfield Baptist Church also donated \$500.00.

-Scholarship Letters: Dari wrote letters to each recipients who submitted but did not receive the scholarship. The 3 MO signed each letter.

-Town Office Hours: Yolanda is on vacation from June 29- July 2. The office will be closed during the day but Sherri will be open on Tuesday (June 30) and Wed (July 1) during the evening from 6-7:30 pm July 6th there will be new normal office hours. The office will continue to use the windows and evening hours will end at 7:30. Dari asked about Rapid Renewal that the State offers which allows residents to renew vehicles online. Yolanda stated that cost around \$10,000.00. Bruce Hurley warned that the State will be pushing for more online access because of the complications the Covid-19 presented.

-Culvert Bids: Much discussion was made concerning the information needed in the bid contract. Dari will draw one up and have Ricky and Joel go over final draft. More discussion on this will be done at the upcoming workshop.

-School Budget: Meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2020. All Mercer residents are encouraged to go!!!

Approval of Warrant: Vote 3-0

Approval of Minutes: Correct spelling of Mosher. Vote 3-0

Schedule of Next Meeting: WO June 23, 2020 3:15. MO July 9 and 23, 2020

Adjournment: 8:10 pm