

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of December 19, 2019

Approved December 30, 2019

Meeting Opened : 7:00 pm

Present: Selectmen Vern Worthen, Gary Mosher and Jerry Redlevske. Tax Collector-Treasurer: Yolanda Violette, Secretary: Tammy Lamphere, Town Forester: Daren Turner
Residents: Myke B, Dari Hurley, Fred LaPlante, Rob and Tina Gardner

Town Forest Logging Addendum to Contract :

Darren updated the logging contract. The update explains the formulas that will be applied to all other species (White Pines, Spruce and Balsam Fir Sawlogs were described in original contract) and any sawlogs, pallet or veneer. Contacts can be viewed at the town office. Selectman approved addendum of town forest contract 2-0-1 Jerry abstained (He is the logger). Selectman signed. Jerry signed at the logger.

Darren noted that logging has begun and Duncan Redlevske predicts that 12 loads a week will be harvested and transported to the mill. Darren is satisfied with production, harvesting, and quality of work.

Citizens Request:

- Dari Hurley noted that minutes on the Town of Mercer website are up to date and thanked Yolanda.
- Following up on the town residents request that Vern speak to 2 Johns Plumbing about poor workmanship done on the furnace. Vern will speak to them "in person" December 20, 2019.
- Following up on town residents request to contact DEP on the removal of the oil tank in the basement of the MCC. Vern left a message with someone that was the incorrect contact. Dari contacted the correct person, Mr. Moulton, at the state level, but was informed that DEP will not assist in removal of the tank. Dari looked into possible grants to help reduce the cost for the town. She was told that there are many grants /other programs available with proper preparation but getting help now does not look promising.

Oil Tank Project:

Precision Tank of Jay submitted a bid of \$4830.00

Bob's Cash Fuel submitted a bid of \$8967.00

The bids cover removal of the 1000 gallon tank, replacing with# 2 330 tanks with rubber coating on the bottom and stainless steel legs.

A motion was made to accept Precision Tank bid of \$4830.00. Dari Hurley asked if the bid covers pumping the tank out. No one was sure of the answer. Gary will contact Precision Tank and verify.

Relining Chimney Project and Brick Pillar:

Rivers Edge Masonry submitted a bid of \$3050.00

Bruce Michonski submitted a bid of \$2550.00

Vern mentioned Athens Chimney could do it for \$2000 but he didn't have written estimate

There was discussion on the immediate need to address the liner. Gerry and Vern thought the project could wait until 2020. The residents felt it was a something that needed to be addressed now.

Selectman made a motion to repair the chimney and oil tank at the same time. 3-0
Funding for oil tank is to come from MCC fund. The chimney will be part of an article next year.

Exterior Lighting Grant Application:

Yolanda was pleased to announce that the Mercer Community Club will cover the cost of the installation of the exterior lighting. The total bill is \$6822.00 . The MCC will be reimbursed \$1700 from the Maine Efficiency grant.

Community News:

- The selectmen delivered the Holiday baskets to our Senior Citizens!
- Verna Parlin sent a thank you card!
- Vern and Jerry took a poll while delivering baskets. Gary chose to obtain, feeling it was inappropriate. The Poll Question: **Are you more concerned with having better roads and paying higher taxes or keeping taxes lower?**
- RESULTS 50/50
- 2 Tree Growth were signed
- 2020 Waterville Humane Society contracts were signed

Other:

Engagement Letter for Auditor- Keel Hood was signed

Warrant

Preview approved 3-0

Warrant signed 3-0

December 5 Minutes: Approved 3-0

Next Meetings: December 30. January 9-Warrant articles due from citizens due from citizens for March 7 annual town meeting; January16-Budget committee meets with Selectmen to review money articles on the town meeting warrant.

Adjourned 8:32