

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

The regular meeting for the Board of Selectmen convened in the large meeting room in the Town Office Building at 110 Main Street. In attendance were John R. Morrell and Edward S. Harrison. Dr. Richard M. Smith was absent. Also present were Town Administrator Evan Brassard and the media.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:**

Mr. Harrison made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for September 10, 2019 – open session. Mr. Morrell seconded, and it was so VOTED.

**Green Communities Grant Award:**

Mr. Brassard announced this is the third time in the last five years, the Town of Monson has been the recipient of the Green Communities Grant Award. This time we have been awarded \$232,416. The funds this year will fund four major projects that include the following: roughly \$90,000 to replace the boiler at the High School with a newer more energy efficient unit; a boiler at Granite Valley; more LED lighting at Granite Valley; and an electric vehicle charging station at the Town Office Building. This brings the total up to roughly \$700,000 Monson has received from this program in the last five years.

Mr. Harrison asked if we have any electric vehicles.

Mr. Brassard responded, not yet. We have been looking at replacing vehicles in the Building Department, Assessor's Office, and departments like that who go out on inspections. Now that we have received the grant to install a charging station, we will now be able to look at actually purchasing an electric vehicle.

Mr. Morrell thanked Mr. Brassard and said this is excellent.

**Archive Social – Social Media Software Discussion:**

Mr. Brassard explained he has been working with Archive Social by taking part in a three-week trial, and added he isn't 100% ready to vet this.

Mr. Brassard explained in 2019, one of the things happening is all the social media that's run by the town online; the Police Department, School, etc., is subject to public records request. What happens is things come and go on the sites by getting hidden or deleted, and it becomes hard to find later on. People put in for requests for the social media sources and the town is not able to comply. Mr. Brassard noted another thing that has been a trend lately is people giving tips to the Police Department through private messages, and then deleting those tips later on.

Mr. Brassard further explained, what a company like Archive Social does, is they actually archive all of that content as it's posted online. Everything that is posted online is automatically archived at the time it is posted, so nothing is truly deleted.

Mr. Brassard said he still has to meet with School Superintendent Cheryl Clarke to speak with her about their social media. Mr. Brassard noted Monson does have a pretty robust social media presence at this point; the Town has a Facebook page, as does Parks and Rec., the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Schools, Board of Health, etc., and with all the different content, we really should be looking at a solution to archive the information on there.

Mr. Brassard said he is still compiling numbers, but it looks like it's going to be about \$2,500 a year, once he gets competitive bidding.

**Setting of a Special Town Meeting:**

Mr. Brassard said he would like to request the Board set a Special Town Meeting for Monday, November 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Granite Valley School.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to approve this request as presented. Mr. Morrell seconded, and it was so VOTED.

**Opening Special Town Meeting Warrant:**

Mr. Harrison made a motion to open the Special Town Meeting warrant, with a closure at a future date to be determined later. Mr. Morrell seconded, and it was so VOTED.

**In Other Business to Come Before the Board:**

- Mr. Morrell said a request had come in from Police Chief Stephen Kozloski requesting the appointment of a part-time emergency dispatcher.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to appoint Anthony Gentile to the position of part-time emergency dispatcher effective immediately through June 30, 2020. Mr. Morrell seconded, and it was so VOTED.

- Mr. Morrell gave an update on the Silver Street bridge noting the message board will be placed out front of the Town Office Building announcing the closing of the bridge from October 7<sup>th</sup> to November 16, 2019; approximately five weeks. Mr. Morrell said he has notified the School Department, and the transportation department is working on how to maneuver the school busses around the bridge. Mr. Morrell noted Ms. Loglisci may be putting in an article for the bus transportation, vans, etc. due to the increased expense this will cause.
- Mr. Morrell said regarding the repair of the headwall over the arch culvert at Twelve Mile Brook on Wilbraham Road, \$150,000 had been appropriated at a Town Meeting in the past. This will be going out to bid next Wednesday. This project should hopefully be done before winter. Mr. Morrell noted this isn't a big job and should be completed in a week.
- Mr. Brassard reminded the listening audience the Food Truck Festival will be held this Saturday, September 28, 2019, in Veteran's Field, and that it should be a fun event with a pretty good turnout.

Correspondence was read and completed.

At 7:14 p.m., Mr. Harrison made a motion to adjourn from open session. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was so VOTED.

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Edward S. Harrison