

TOWN OF JEFFERSON
SELECT BOARD
June 24, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Jefferson was held at the Select Board Office Monday June 24, 2019 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Kevin Meehan, Chair Tom Brady and Cindy Silver members comprising a quorum of the Board.

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Cushman, Assistant to Selectmen; Winnie Ward

Kevin Meehan opened the regular Select Board meeting at 7:50 pm. The Highway and Transfer Station report was reviewed.

The warrants were signed for the payroll and accounts payable.

Invoices were approved for payment July 1, 2019.

Public Input:

Winnie Ward said that she was in to discuss the care of the Town Garden. Winnie said that Green Up Jefferson has done such a great job and there have been so many comment made about how nice everything looks, then you get to the Town Garden. Winnie said that the Town Garden looks awful. It looks like you the Board have 90% of the Town planted now if you could just get the Town Garden up to speed. The Town Garden was started by volunteers, and most of them faded out down to just two and then we faded. There are three beds two are fine, one needs to be weeded and cleaned up. The 7x12 bed next to the monument is very crowded. Winnie met with a landscaper and they discussed what could be done in that bed. Perennials can be planted. Winnie said that it does not look like the bed has been either fertilized or mulched since they did it. So that will have to be done. The landscaper would also take care of the soil as well as come once a month to take care of the beds. It will take two men about an hour to get everything cleaned up. There are four "Miss Kim" lilacs that have not been pruned for some time, they should be done every year. An arborist is going to come in and do this work. Winnie said that she has private fund to do the pruning this year. The other thing is that there is a sign at the trough that was put up by the JAC's who used to take care of the trough and there is a sign about the trough. The JAC sign should be removed and the trough history should be put in it's place. It does not look right the way it is. There is one perennial that should be let in the garden and that is the peony, which came form Helen Merrill's garden. Helen started the Town Garden and out of respect for her, Winnie said the peony should stay, everything else should go they are in poor shape. Winnie said that she has all the figures for the cost of all this work. Putting in new perennials \$220, labor cleaning up and restoring beds \$400, once a month care \$100 per month. Volunteers had done the work for years and they just get tired. The yearly cost would be about \$1000. Winnie said that 90% of the Town looks good now if the Town Garden could get done everything would look good. Winnie said that she didn't know how much money the Town has to put into this but, she thought she would start with the Board. How is the landscaper Jamie Davis of The Northern Garden. He has been doing other work in town. Cindy said that she had a letter from him with a brochure introducing himself and stating that he is working at the Bellevue Barn and he would be happy to stop by to discuss

his services. Cindy said they are out of Stratford. They also do Crane & Bell in Lancaster.

Cindy asked about Greg Gordon. Linda said that Mr. Gordon does all the plantings for the cemeteries and the trough. He has done the weeding when doing the planting. Winnie said that there is no weeding being done at the Town Garden. Linda said that she knows that some of the weeding has been done in the past because she did it. Cindy asked if this is something that Greg would do? Linda said that she believes he works a full time job. Winnie said that she has called Greg several time and he has not returned her calls. Tom asked where would the money come from if the Town where to do this. Linda said that it would probably come from the buildings and grounds budget or parks and recreation. Tom asked if there was enough money that has been budgeted to cover this. Linda said that there has not been any extra money budgeted per say. You may be able to take something from another line item. Linda said that there should be \$1000 that can be used. Winnie said that she did not believe you would need that much. Linda said that with the monthly fee until October it would be \$1100. Winnie said that she may be able to get private money now but if it is not maintained it will be right back where we were. Cindy said that she is curious if there is any way that this can be mentioned to the Green Up Jefferson group to see if they have any funds available. Just to see if there is anything there. Cindy said that she believes that they got a grant for a few hundred dollars. Cindy said she does not know if all the funds have been exhausted. It would be great if Green up Jefferson could take this on. Winnie said that would make perfect since. Cindy said all the other flower boxes are not costing the Town anything that is all personal donations. Cindy said that it is so nice to come through the Town and see all the flowers. Cindy said it would be great if Winnie could have a conversation with Green up Jefferson to get their thoughts. Maybe they could give it a kick start. Winnie said the planting is the thing that has to be done. Cindy asked how many areas there are. Winnie showed a map that she has. Winnie said that she will talk with Kate. Winnie said that the flowers that are in the garden came from her garden. Cindy said that if Kevin and Tom agree that she would like Winnie to go back to Green up Jefferson to see if there are any resources they have. And maybe there is someone in their group that would be interested in taking it on. Winnie is concerned about anyone taking it on, we have been that route and it doesn't last because they get burned out. Winnie said that she thinks it a great idea if they could get hooked up with Green up Jefferson. Winnie said that this idea on the Town Garden just started a couple days ago. Cindy said she is glad that Winnie brought her concerns and plans to the Board. It was asked how much was the arborist going to cost, yes this has been donated this year but, looking to future budgeting. Winnie said they charge \$65 an hour and said that it is estimated to take about 1.5 hours. Winnie said that fertilizer and mulch yearly would only cost \$40, 6 month of care at \$100 per, and the pruning would only have to be done every few years. It would be estimated that an annual budget would be \$1000. Kevin said that he would think that every spring they would have to go in and do a complete clean out of the beds. Cindy said the garden is around the monument. Tom asked if Winnie will be checking with the others to see if any of them can help. Cindy said that she thinks it would be good if Winnie went back to Green up Jefferson to see what there thought are even if it could be a portion of the garden. This may allow the Town to have a \$500 budget versus a \$1000 budget. Cindy said that there may be someone within the group that would be interested. Cindy asked Winnie to check with Green up Jefferson and get back to the Board. Winnie said that she will be away for the next week. Kevin asked if he could look at the design sketch before she left. Tom apologized for being so late. Winnie said that she would get back to Cindy with any information she comes up with.

Reports of Departments/Boards:

Highway Department: NONE

Office:

Linda said that she had worked on minutes, sent property cards to insurance company. The ad for Assistant to Select Board was put into the papers. The ad will run in each paper for two weeks.

Linda said that she has set up the interviews for July 8, 2019 starting at 4:00 pm with ADG and followed by EH Danson at 5:15.

Minute Approval:

Tom Brady made a motion to accepted the minutes of the June 19, 2019 meeting as presented. Cindy Silver seconded the motion. The motion carries.

Unfinished Business:

CAI will be in on Wednesday morning to discuss what will have to be done to get the tax maps put online. Linda asked if any of the Board would be available to attend. Cindy and Kevin said that would not be able to attend. Cindy said that she would have liked to attend.

Linda said that she had gotten in touch with Donna Dupont at Eversource letting her know that the Board would like to hold off doing the installation of the street lights until October. Donna said that she would put a hold on the work order so to keep it in the system.

Tom asked what will be done with the pellets that are taken out of the hopper which has to be done before the repair is made. Linda said that they cannot be reused because they collect condensation and clog up the auger. Tom asked if there was a pellet stove in the Town Garage that maybe the pellets could be used. No, there are no other pellet stoves. Linda said that if there is any use at all the pellets can be used as sawdust. Norman Brown said that if the Town had no use of the pellets that he would use them at his place. Unfortunately, the pellets can not be reused. If the Town had of known we would not have bought pellets until after the silo had been emptied.

New Business:

Linda suggested that the Board have a list of questions to use during the interview process. This would make sure that both companies were asked the same questions. ADG did say that he would be bring one or two others with him because does the marketing and someone does the technological side.

There was a discussion regarding getting a list of questions ready. Each Board member can make up a list and get together before the meeting to come up with a final list. Cindy asked Linda to check with North Country Council to see if they have a templet of questions that could be used. Linda will contact Michelle Moren. Linda told the Board that Michelle had offered any assistance she could provide. Linda asked the Board if Michelle was available would they like her to attend. Cindy said that she would like that very much. Kevin and Tom agreed. Linda will ask Michelle.

Tom asked if Cindy was going to be available for the July 1 meeting. Cindy said no she would not be available. That being the case Tom said that the July 1 meeting should be cancelled, Kevin will not be available.

Linda will contact the Historical Society and reschedule their appointment to July 15. Linda said that she had talked with Debbie Dubois as the Board had requested.

Public Input: None

Non-Public RSA-91-A:39(if needed): None

Any Other Business:

The next meeting will be July 8, 2019.

Adjournment:

Cindy made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded the motion. Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,