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TOWN OF LUDLOW

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2023
Board of Public Works Conference Room

Members Present: Stephen Santos, Keith Ouellette, Alex Simao, Matias Goncalves, Daniel Soares

Also Present: Rhonda Burelle

At 6:00 PM Mr. Santos called the meeting to order. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE

#1108 – John Hanifin – 79 McClean Parkway – Request for reimbursement in the amount of \$685.00 for Roto Rooter bill. **Mr. Santos** read aloud the request details. The board members discussed the situation and **Mr. Ouellette** stated that there is no way to know if we have a blocked sewer main, if we had received a call first to check our main, we could have possibly diverted it. I don't believe we should reimburse him for it. **Mr. Simao** stated he is not sure how to vote on this and that he wishes we had more information **Mr. Soares** stated that there is no way of telling if the blockage was created from his lateral and pushed towards the main. **Mr. Ouellette** My opinion is we deny it, how can we know what is going on with every sewer main in the town of Ludlow, there was no damage to the property. Now if we surcharged into their house and flooded the finished basement, I would think different. But there is no damage to the property we are just being asked to cover a cleaning bill. **Mr. Santos** stated that we still need a motion one way or another. **Mr. Ouellette** motioned to deny the claim.

Mr. Ouellette made a motion to deny the claim seconded by Mr. Soares. Mr. Matias motions to pay it. 3-2 in favor to deny claim

OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Kenny is not present and has left his report for board review.

Some staff receiving emergency generator training at the Westover Pump Station.

Our tree crew is out working with Northern Tree Service to complete tree reports.

We had to go out and plow on January 23rd and salting on January 25th due to accumulation snow and slippery road conditions.

We have also completed equipment repair and maintenance daily, and repairing potholes.

Our safety program is completed by Safety Net Solutions, deficiencies identified in the department letter have been addressed and sent by email. Safety Net Solutions will schedule a site visit to provide training to all employees. Training will be ongoing for new employees.

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Mr. Santos reviewed the budget sheets and stated that there is money in the budget to do that. This would come out from our operations budget. Mr. Santos asked the board if they want to proceed with Rocky Mountain. Mr. Ouellette motioned to approve the \$14,000.00 quote for Rocky Mountain Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Engine replacement, we put out a request for quotes to replace the engine on our 2010 international bucket truck. The replacement engine would be remanufactured 4400 base 7.60 is our Max forced ET the engine will be warrantied for 2 years and one year labor, quotes will be received until 3:00pm Thursday February 2nd. If that is something that we can have the new mechanic look at along with the Tahoe then I will get those quotes.

The resident at 632 Moore Street is having issues, water from the public way is entering her property. We have installed temporary sandbags until some type of berm can be installed in the spring. The resident also stated that trees on left side of her property are dying due to the water and asking the town remove them. They are also requesting the town create a path on the right side of their property to allow water exiting the cross culvert to drain into the backyard.

Mr. Simao made a motion to file the Operations Supervisor Report, seconded by Mr. Ouellette. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board to sign sewer abatement certificate for 53 Parker Lane, the # of people living in the dwelling was incorrect.

Mr. Ouellette made a motion to approve sewer abatement certificate for 53 Parker Lane, seconded by Mr. Goncalves. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Board to sign cemetery abatement certificate for David Ramos on 20 Birch Street.

Mr. Simao made a motion to approve the abatement for David Ramos, seconded by Mr. Ouellette. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on annual bid. Ms. Burelle stated that Lori is posting the annual bid, she will come here on the 22nd and open all the bids together.

Mr. Simao asked, there are some new employees that were hired shouldn't we be reviewing their status. Mr. Santos said yes, I believe Kenny would have taken care of that with the foreman. I haven't received anything negative so I didn't ask, normally we receive feedback if it is negative or if they are not exceeding expectations.

Mr. Simao mentioned Holyoke and West Street, that the road is still freezing up there. There are three barrels of groundwater we had Springfield Water testing the water. We keep salting it up there to avoid any issues.

Mr. Ouellette: Just revisiting the sewer services ownership of the sewer service. Mr. Santos will print out the sewer regulations and the board can review together.

NOTES AND COMMENTS:

The Board signed invoices.

Mr. Santos: I received an email from Mark Strange in regards to a Bylaw that was approved back in October at a town meeting that created a spot in the capital improvement planning committee for the board of public works member. The Attorney General's office approved that bylaw change. Please designate a member of the board of Public Works to serve on the CIPC. Whoever is assigned will need to get sworn in as a CIPC member. The next CIPC meeting will be a joint meeting with the finance committee on February 15th at the Board of Selectman's conference room.

Motion was made by Mr. Simao to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Ouellette. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

NOTES ACCEPTED:

[Signature]

[Signature]

Matia Simao

[Signature]

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