

**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
NOVEMBER 26, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Vice-Chairman), John G. Brown, Jr. (Clerk), Jessica M. Rushing (Selectman), Daniel W. Trabucco (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Manager), Edward Angley, Jennifer Matthias, Preston Landers, Patty Cuozzi, Stephen Curley, Brooke Young, Sabrina Chilcott (Assistant Town Manager), and others.

**NOT PRESENT:** Willard J. Boulter, Jr. (Chairman)

At 7:30 pm Mr. Boyle opened the meeting.

**7:30 HILL BOG UPDATE: VALLEY STREET**

Mr. Angley was present representing Ms. Matthias; he advised that her plan, when she lost her husband, was to save the family farm despite shouldering the costs of housing and raising her young family. In an effort to do so, she formed partnerships for tree chipping with Phillips Landscaping and gravel with P.A. Landers while the bog renovations are being performed. Mr. Angley advised that the solar company didn't perform and that potential project is not coming to fruition; he concluded by stating that Ms. Matthias continues to renovate the bogs, is transferring her Ocean State Class A Certificates from the leased bogs in Kingston to this bog in an effort to save the land. Mr. Trabucco inquired as to the truck appearances and asked for an update to that issue. Mr. Angley stated there is no change and confirmed that the truck appearances will continue until the restoration is complete. Mr. Landers stated that it will be two years for the bogs restoration to be complete. Mr. Angley advised that the wood projects performed by Phillips is an allowed use under c.61A agricultural uses, and there is an additional but minor composting operation there as well. Mr. Landers advised that the project outline has been established, the edges have been sloped in and they are now cutting across 1500' and are approximately a third of the way done. Mr. Trabucco asked if wood is brought to the location and Ms. Matthias responded in the affirmative; wood cut by Phillips Tress Service is transported for cutting, shipping and composting from local sources. Neighbor Patty Cuozzi of 271 Valley Street was present to state that there is a lot of truck traffic and the trucks are very large. Ms. Cuozzi asked for neighbors to be able to view the work permits related to the project and a list of contractors licensed to work on the project. Mr. Boyle asked the Town Manager to look into the situation.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REQUEST FOR VOTE: PILOT IMPLEMENTATION OF PAPERLESS MATERIALS PROGRAM BY SELECTMEN**

Mr. Thorne stated that he has been asked by some members of the board for tablets for use at meetings and elsewhere; Mr. Trabucco stated he has his own device if he felt it necessary but stated he does not. Ms. Rushing stated that she feels a town email address is the appropriate way to communicate with residents and others to do town business and having access through a town device was the recommendation of the IT contractor. Mr. Brown concurred stating that the Board wastes a large volume of paper and grant opportunities exist to fund the project. Ms. Rushing stated that the town is modernizing many older systems and further modernization opportunities exists, and paperless materials is a next step.

**CONSIDER A VOTE TO RENEW ELIGIBLE CLASS I, CLASS II, TAXI AND PRECIOUS METALS LICENSES FOR 2020**

Mr. Brown moved to approve the renewal of the list of 2020 Class I, Class II, Taxi and Precious Metals licenses as listed on the public agenda, subject to the approval of the Building Inspector and Treasurer. Ms. Rushing seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2019**

Ms. Rushing moved to approve the minutes of November 19, 2019 as written; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Thorne advised that the Herring Run Park project is nearing completion and he anticipates that the handicap access railing on the bridges and cosmetic work to remove debris will be complete by the end of the month.

## **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Trabucco wanted to inform the public that there is a public forum next Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Community Center to discuss the future of the Community Center building.

At 9:30 pm, Mr. Boyle read the upcoming issues. Mr. Trabucco moved to adjourn; Ms. Rushing seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

### **MATERIALS & EXHIBITS**

Informational Materials 2010 to Present RE: Matthias Hill Bog Restoration with Minutes (BOS/TM Office)  
Draft Minutes of November 19, 2019