

TOWN OF RANDOLPH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, April 22, 2014
5:00 p.m.

BOS PRESENT:

Robert Henderson, Jr.
Edward F. Gorham
Mark E. Roberts

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lynn R. Mealey, Town Clerk
Janet Richards, Treasurer/Tax Collector

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. This meeting was called for the purpose of dealing with the mowing contract and contractor and was not a regularly scheduled meeting.

Corliss' contract stated that he was owed \$2,250.00 on April 1st but he said that \$2250.00 was not enough to finish up his contract. Mark said that the Board talked to him about this and he came up with a new contract which was \$23,400 to go through November. The Board did **not** accept that and drew up a new possible contract for \$14,000.00 (\$2,250 of which would be for this fiscal year) and the remaining \$11,750.00 from July 1st through November 15th. They also changed the height of the grass from 4 inches to 6 inches. Corliss said that he could not do it this year for the remaining money nor for the next season for the \$11,750.00 and Mark asked him how he had planned to do it if we had paid him the \$2,250.00 on April 1st and said that he was not sure how that would have happened.

He stated that he would clean up the cemeteries for the \$2,250.00 but that would not include any mowing. There is only \$2250.00 left in the budget.

Mark stated that the Board had options. They can accept Corliss' offer which is not beneficial to the Town, Option 2 – put the whole contract from now through November 15th out to bid again. The final option is to contact the contractors who bid on the job last time and ask if they are interested in taking over the job knowing that the \$2250 will have to carry them through June 30th. They will contact the next low bidder and go down the line and see if one of those contractors will be willing to take over the contract.

Bob will contact Jason Corliss and inform him of the Board's decision. How to terminate the existing contract was discussed. The contract has specific terms to cover this.

There were 11 bidders on the mowing contract. Mark will look these over. The next lowest bidders are as follows: Kevin Ashline at \$12,877, Littlefield & Sons at \$14,476 and Jed Chapman at \$15,000. Mark will make contact. They will be asked if they will honor their original bid prices with the \$2,250 being part of it.

Mark Roberts made a motion to go through last year's bidders from next lowest and offer the contracts and conditions to them in order. Ed Gorham seconded the motion. **VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Bob stated that when the town bought the land on Kinderhook Street, it was thought that the town was finally going to do something about the fire station. Bob doesn't feel that regionalization needs to be investigated again. He feels that the residents voted to buy the land for this purchase and wanted a new fire station. He also feels that the committee should be the ones to go out and get the information about this and they should not ask Mark to do it. Bob feels that they should put out the RFQ's and not wait. Mark suggested that they discuss putting out the RFQ's at a future meeting when more people might attend and weigh in on the building of a new firestation vs. regionalization.

Sonny James came into the meeting and informed the Board that he has completed the instructions of what to do at the pump station and his duties. This is at the pump station now.

Bob asked Sonny if they picked up brush this weekend in the cemeteries and Sonny said that he and Art did. Bob mentioned checking with Safety Works about chainsaw training.

Putting equipment out to bid was discussed again. A list is written and it will be discussed at the next meeting when to put this out to bid. Bob wondered about the sewer rodding machine and whether or not it is needed. If we keep the equipment, there will have to be certifications accomplished in "confined space". Bob said the DOL will come down to the town to do the training, but the town has to have a "sniffer".

Janet Richards entered into the meeting. She clarified Sonny James' time sheet for the Board at the new rate which is \$288.08 so that it equals \$230 post tax but he also has extra taken out each week.

Janet presented the Board members with a memo she had written to them. She was asking for a raise comparable to another employee who received a significant raise recently. She feels it was not fair for one employee to get such a sizeable raise and that the other employees of the Town may be upset with this. Mark figured this request from Janet to be a 10.4% raise. The original budget for the office included a \$1 per hour raise for all three office employees. This would change that to \$1.88 per hour.

Bob stated that he wants the employees of the Town to feel that they can come to the Board with any issues or requests. Mark stated that he abstained on the vote regarding the other employee because he knew it may cause issues.

The wastewater bills are set to go up in rates with the June billing because of the increased costs of paying Gardiner Wastewater Treatment Plant. This account is where some of this money for raises would come from.

Several options were discussed. Janet said that they Board should think about the payscale for every employee of the town and not single out any employee.

Janet said that she did not expect an immediate answer so the Board will talk more about this before responding. She told the Board that the Budget Committee was trying to schedule a meeting for two weeks from tonight. They will deal with this at the next meeting.

Janet asked what the Board if she should void the check for \$2250.00 made out to Corliss Lawncare. They advised her to void the check.

Bob Henderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed Gorham seconded the motion. **VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Mealey, Town Clerk