**Bridport Selectboard Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, January 10, 2022**

**Masonic/ Community Hall 6:00 pm**

Selectboard Present: Tim Howlett (Chair), Joan Huestis, Steve Huestis, Bob Sunderland , David Bronson (by phone)

Also Present: Julie Howlett (Town Clerk), Katie King (Treasurer), Dusty Huestis (Road Foreman), Irene Zaccor (Auditor), Bob Coffey (Auditor), David Dodge (LFICD), Judd Markowski (LFICD), Mike Sheets ( Maple Broadband), Rick Scott (Maple Broadband)

**Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Selectboard chair Tim Howlett.

**Public Comment:** David Dodge and Judd Markowski from LFICD gave an overview of their annual financial report and are asking the town for $6000. Mike Sheets and Rick Scott from Maple Broadband gave the Selectboard an updated list of contributions pledged so far and answered questions. Irene Zaccor and Bob Coffey representing the Auditors explained the Town Report will look different this year because of the 18 month budget.

**Secretary’s Report:** Bob made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2021 Selectboard meeting. Steve seconded, motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Bob made a motion to approve bills to be paid in the amount of $133,388.01. Steve seconded, Joan abstained, motion passed.

**DPW Operations & Finance:** The DPW has been busy salting and sanding. They are working on cold weather projects in the garage. Dusty would like to purchase a crack sealer as a joint purchase between Bridport, Panton, Addison, Shoreham, Salisbury, Cornwall and Weybridge.

This would cost the Town $8,000.00 for the initial buy in and then the cost will be averaged out by hourly use for maintenance. This will be discussed in executive session.

**Culvert & Bridge Report:**

Lake Street Culvert: The Town needs to submit paperwork for the reimbursement from the State.

Rattlin Bridge Road: The hydraulic study for the survey has been forwarded to FEMA.

Basin Harbor Road Culvert: The Town is waiting on GPI to give final figures to Jenny Austin and for Jenny to resolve the billing issues with Otter Creek engineering.

Middle Road Bridge: No new information.

Middle Road Culvert: No new information.

**New Business:**

Sign Certificate of Highway Mileage: Joan made a motion to sign the Certificate of Highway Mileage. Bob seconded, motion passed.

Annual Town Meeting: Joan made a motion to have Town meeting by Australian ballot and virtual information meeting as we did last year pending the Governor signing a bill into legislation. Tim seconded, bob and Steve abstained, motion passed.

Auditing: Discussed under public comment.

**Old Business:**

Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom: Dusty spoke with Waitsfield Telecom and they will raise the wires on the poles to 19 feet but will not change the pole pattern. Steve made a motion to sign the right of way agreement. Bob seconded, motion passed.

Delinquent Tax Interest: David presented an article to be used on the ballot to change the date of Interest from December 1 to November 11.

Maple Broadband: Bob made a motion to give Maple Broadband $40,000 of ARPA money.

Steve seconded, motion passed.

Budget: The Selectboard will work on the budget Thursday January 13, 2022 at 6 pm.

Policy & Procedures for Town Clerk’s Office: Steve made a motion to accept the Policy and procedure use of the Town Clerk’s Office. Joan seconded, motion passed.

Policy Work for Substance Abuse: The committee members will schedule a meeting time.

**Other Business**:

Landfill: Julie will ask R & L Rubbish for quotes for Saturday pickup at the landfill.

Free Little Pantry: Julie & Jenna will organize the Free Little Pantry for the town.

Steve made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and budgeting payroll. Joan seconded, motion passed.

**Executive Session:** Entered into Executive Session at 8:25pm. Exited Executive Session at 8:51 pm. No action taken.

**Adjourn**: Joan made a motion to adjourn. Steve seconded, motion passed. Adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,