

Selectmen's Meeting
November 16, 2015
4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the meeting room of Town Hall. Members present were: Margaret E. Serpa and Arthur Smadbeck. Also present was Town Administrator Pamela Dolby.

At 4:00 pm Ms. Serpa opened the meeting and the first item on the agenda which was a posted public hearing for Eversource to run conduit across Mullen Way to 19 Mullen Way. Jessica Elder was present for Eversource. Also present was Stuart Fuller, Highway Superintendent.

Mr. Robert Goulart of 17 Mullen Way stated that it appears that the new box will be on his property on the plan presented.

Ms. Elder stated that it should be on 19 Mullen Way. She offered to have a new plan made.

Mr. Fuller stated that it would be best if the box was on the property and not in the right of way due to the narrowness of the street.

At 4:06 pm Ms. Serpa closed the hearing. Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the conduit based on the receipt of the new plan of having the box on the correct property and out of the right of way. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms Serpa then opened the seconded public hearing for Eversource. This one was to install a new pole and underground conduit to a new subdivision on Mullen Way.

Mr. Tom Teller resident of Mullen Way was opposed to the new telephone pole which would be in front of his property and not far from an existing pole. He didn't see the point.

Ms. Elder replied that the old pole wasn't big enough.

Mr. Teller asked why they couldn't just replace the old pole with a bigger one.

Mr. Fuller added that it would make more sense to replace the existing pole than to add another one to an already narrow street. He suggested continuing the hearing until the following week to discuss the matter with Eversource.

Mr. Michael Kidder, owner of the subdivision, wanted to accommodate Mr. Teller if Eversource could do so.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to continue the hearing to the following meeting, November 30th at 4:00pm. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Serpa then opened the public hearing to set the tax rate. Present was Mr. Alan Gowell.

Mr. Gowell asked the Board to continue to assess all properties at class 1. This would be an informal vote until the actual tax rate is set by the DOR.

There being no public comment, Ms. Serpa closed the hearing. Mr. Smadbeck voted to set all properties at a class of 1. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Smadbeck asked if they had an idea what the tax rate will be.

Mr. Gowell responded that it was anticipated the tax rate would be \$3.62 per \$1,000 which is 4.5%. The total town valuation is \$7.25 billion.

Ms. Serpa then moved on to the next item which was the annual evaluation for Kimberly Kane Town Accountant. Ms. Kane was present.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that Ms. Kane does a great job keeping the town finances straight and being the watchdog.

Ms. Serpa stated that she works well to get departments to understand financial issues.

Ms. Dolby stated that she was a great help.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to give Ms. Kane a favorable review. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Serpa then moved on to the Annual Review for Mr. Stuart Fuller Highway Superintendent and Tree Warden.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that he does a good job. The streets are always clean and the town is fortunate.

Ms. Serpa stated that she sees things in motion when she's out and about. He always addresses her concerns.

Ms. Dolby stated that he is very responsive when she calls him with concerns.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to give Mr. Fuller a favorable review. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Fuller then brought up the utilities in front of the Warren House at 68 North Water Street. There had been a previous meeting discussing how to deal with the underground utilities which were now on private property. Eversource states that they can reconfigure within the existing conduits. Comcast will wait until Spring when the sidewalk is ripped up to be redone. Wastewater will also replace some pieces in the Spring. Verizon can just cut the wires and doesn't need to do anything else.

Ms. Serpa asked if all this work can be done so the sidewalk only needs to be redone once.

Mr. Fuller replied that was the intention of the plan.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the plan. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Dolby asked about repair to Mullen Way.

Mr. Fuller replied that the Water Department had replaced the mains. The intention was to leave dense mix for the winter in case there was a need for repair.

After some discussion it was decided to put a thin layer of pavement on Mullen Way when they did the fall paving projects.

Mr. Fuller then elaborated on the fall paving projects. They would be paving sections of Mayhew Lane, N. Water St., S. Water St., & Summer Street. He also added that he was working with the Procurement Officer on sending out a bid to cut down dead oak trees in town.

Mr. Smadbeck asked about grinding the stumps.

Mr. Fuller responded that the stumps were not included. They would be a separate future project.

The Board thanked Mr. Fuller for the update. They then took the following actions:

To set a Commercial Oyster Season in Sengekontacket to start December 1, 2015 with a limit of 2 level bushels per day Monday through Friday.

Appointed a Town Wharf Restoration Committee: John Magnuson, Richard Barbini, and Steve Ewing.

Cancelled the 11/23 meeting.

Acted on a petition to lower the cost of a yard sale permit by lowering the price from \$25 to \$10. Mr. Smadbeck moved. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Accepted a gift from the Firemen's Association of \$15,000 to go toward the restoration of the Antique Hand Tub.

At 4:37 pm Mr. Smadbeck moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Approved:

Michael J. Donaroma, Chairman

Margaret E. Serpa

Arthur Smadbeck
Board of Selectmen

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Assistant