

STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 16, 2021
8:00 a.m.
ZOOM MEETING - TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Roxanne McCaffrey, Chuck Cardillo, Patrick White and Mike Canales

Call to Order:

Roxanne called the meeting to order.

Chief Garofoli began with Fire Department updates. Chief reviewed his annual call numbers and said that he has seen an increase in calls so far this year; possibly due to our increases in second homeowner population. Coming into fall and winter, he reminded home owners to have their chimneys cleaned and change out the batteries in smoke detectors.

Next, Chief Fennelly gave Police Department updates. Chief said that the Josh Billings will be coming up this weekend which may cause road closures and traffic. There will not be any after race events at Tanglewood this year. Chief said that RAD classes have not been offered during COVID but he hopes to host one in Stockbridge soon. Chief added that with COVID restrictions the Harvest Festival, Coaching weekend and Main Street at Christmas events have all been cancelled. The Halloween parade status is still undecided. The department has a full-time roster position open with three candidates and one still in the academy. He will be conducting interviews soon. Chief discussed changes in the bridge program for Reserve officers. Added requirements now increase the time for a Reserve Officer to move ahead. Reserve Officers as a position may go away and be replaced by full time officers. Chief also noted that his department as well as the Fire Department took part in the 9-11 parade over the weekend.

Next on the agenda was Laura Dubester with Green Communities updates. Laura said that in 2015 Stockbridge was designated as a Green Community and with an energy reduction plan have gone through the Town buildings to make them more efficient. They are anticipating a street light grant this fall. To date they have brought in about \$225,000 in grants and are saving about 13% on energy bills. Most recently they have been looking at street lighting and the conversion to LED bulbs; Stockbridge has about 200 plus street lights with about half being incandescent. If Stockbridge takes over the maintenance of its street lights, the Town would save about \$30,000 – 40,000 per year; with less than a two-year payback. The annual DOER report will be submitted and everyone is working to get it all together.

Hugh Page, Highway Superintendent, next gave an update on road paving. He said that they have added three roads: Larrywaug, North Church and Shamrock, to the existing list. Chapter 9 allotments have been reviewed and hope to have DOT approval and go out to bid for spring paving. Previously identified roads for paving are Vine, 183 North and Indian Hill. Mike said that the Larrywaug bridge is still on for substantial completion with the road open by the end of November. Roxanne questioned if work on the beach parking lot would begin soon and Hugh said that he is hoping to have it started this fall depending on how quickly winter comes in.

Hugh next gave harvester updates. He said that the second harvester is in the water and they will hopefully have Mark Viola out this morning to get the weeds cut for the Josh. The other harvester has been sent out to be worked on and ready for next season.

Roxanne asked Mike if he would comment on a the recently identified grant. Mike mentioned a small-town grant through the Smithsonian and Stockbridge would be an ideal candidate to apply for one of the six available to Massachusetts communities. 750 square feet of indoor space is required and the Town Hall gym could be an option to host the Museum on Main Street which is programing about changes in rural America.

Roxanne made a motion to enter into Executive Session per MGL Ch 30A, sec 21(a)(2) to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel, Town Administrator and will not return to open session. Chuck seconded. Vote: Aye Chuck, Aye Patrick, Aye Roxanne.