Town of Isle La Motte

Select Board Meeting

December 6, 2021

5:00 pm @Isle La Motte School

Present : Rusty Spaulding, Selby Turner, Paul Zera, Mary LaBrecque, Sarah Noble, Peter Brozowyy, Debbie Spaulding, Cathy Tudhope, Sylvia Jensen, Chet Bromley, Carol Bohannon, Joyce Tuck, and Mike Donoghue

Meeting called to order by Chair Rusty Spaulding at 5:00 pm.

1. Additions to Agenda : None
2. Executive Session : Select Board entered Executive Session at 5:01 pm. Select Boad returned from Executive Session at 5:05 pm. The mediation hearing on the lawsuit against the town (Civettii accident) did not result in an agreement.

3. Approve minutes of meeting of 11/3: motion made by R. Spaulding to approve, second by S. Turner. All in favor. C. Tudhope commented that she felt that more information concerning the septic systems for the Town lots should have been included in the minutes.

4. Warrants for payroll & payables :

Payroll 11/09/21 $1811.03 Ratification of Paul Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

Payroll11/23/21 $1563.18 Ratification of Paul Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor

Payroll12/07/21 $ 2268.91 Motion to approve by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

Payable 11/17/21 $498448.73, $457,490.00 was to the State Education Fund. Ratification of Rusty Spauldings signature. Motion to ratify by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

Payable 12/6/21 $24,242.74 Ratification of Rusty Spauldings signature. Motion to approve by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

EFT 11/17/21 $386.29 Ratification of Rusty Spauldings signature. Motion to ratify by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

EFT12/6/21 $855.34 Motion to approve by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

5. First Pass on Budget: Income from Delinquent Tax Commissions and Municipal Fees collected were more than budgeted. Land Record expenses have been more this year to due to increase in sales. S. Jensen inquired as to when the town will have the capability of searching Land Records online. S. Noble replied that it is a process which will be started in the coming year. Electrical expenses are also up for the year. Grand Isle Court Diversion appropriation was up 400%, but town had to pay a past due amount for previous years appropriations. Spending for Recreation Park maintenance was down for the year, there was no fund raising of note during the past year. Chair Spaulding commented that they had cut the budget from last year. There was discussion whether the town would support an appropriation for the Rec Park. S. Noble will reach out to Ruth Casey.

Winter Roads : Snowplowing is up 50%, salt and sand expense has been minimal but it is very early in the season. Paving is completed for season, there is $10,000 in budget and only $400 was spent. The town will need to come up with $17,000 to match a grant next year. Tree and Brush removal was also down for the year. It will be mid January before all December expenses are received.

Computer/IT expenses : Up $500 from $900.

Lister wages : Listers will be submitting a request.

Lister Training : Most is provided free and there are grants available for travel expenses. There is a new lister computer system coming online in 2022, so there will be additional training required.

 6. Road Commissioner Report : No major snow storms yet, and not much salt and sand has been used. Signs for the snow plow contract have been ordered and been shipped. There will be separate signs stating that “vehicles will be towed at owners expense” per Sheriff’s department. C. Tudhope inquired what would happen if someone parked in the turnaround and there was no snow. The signs are dated 01 Nov-01 May, so parking in turnaround will be illegal between those dates. More discussion about different scenarios about the signs and weather conditions. If people are violating the sign and the sheriff is called, they have the right to tow.

 7. Cleaning leaves and snow removal for sidewalks (at new town office/school) : R. Spaulding indicated that he and his daughter will take care of leaves. Keith Bonneville had taken care of the sidewalks in the past. C. Tudhope noted that there are numerous doors to the building and they all must be cleared. Select Board will reach out to CIUUSD and to Keith to see who will do the sidewalks.

8. Review and sign Audit Contract: Audit contract is for $7,500, no change from last year. Motion to approve by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

9. Update public records request fee schedule: R. Spaulding indicated that upon further review, the town should change it’s fee schedule back to $0.10/copy and $0.33 per minute after 30 minutes. Motion by S. Turner to accept, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

 10. Errors and Omissions: Lister Chair M. LaBrecque requested that 2 taxpayers properties be removed from the Grand List : L. DeForge and A. Yandow. Both campers were removed from Sunset Rock last year. The taxes were abated during the previously held abatement meeting. Motion to remove these properties from the Grand List made by S. Turner, seconded by P. Zera. All in favor .

11: Hazard Mitigation Grant : Municipalities with approved plans are eligible to apply for FEMA and VMA mitigation grant opportunities. Grant allows towns to hire a consultant to update their plan. This grant would pay for $11,150 of the cost to update. If a new plan is required, the cost to the town would be $3787.50 , and the total cost would be $15,150. Chair Spaulding stated that there is no plan for Isle La Motte. S. Jensen and C. Tudhope indicated that they thought there was a plan. R. Spaulding replied that they have filled out the paper work to qualify for the grant. S. Turner replied that if there is grant money involved the town should not attempt to write a Hazard Mitigation grant themselves. Motion to approve made by S. Turner, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

12. NWCUD survey update : North West Communications Union District : The NWCUD sent out a survey. Chair Spaulding filled out survey and sent it in.

13. Other Business : Selby Turner shared that throughout dealing with the law suit and general highway maintenance issues, that the lawyers recommend that the Road Commissioner not be a member of the Select Board. He therefore has tendered his resignation effective at the end of the 06 Dec 2021 meeting, however will remain as Road Commissioner. R. Spaulding indicated that a request for interested parties to apply for the position. A new appointment will be made at the January Select Board meeting. S. Jensen inquired as to why not wait until elections in March. R. Spaulding replied that he believes the law requires that if there is interest, an appointment must be made. R. Spaulding made a motion to accept S. Turners resignation. P. Zera seconded. All in favor

C. Bromley shared that he will not be running for School Board in 2022. He indicated that he does not feel that he is in step with the other Board members.

14. Adjourn : Motion to adjourn at 6:00 pm by S. Turner. Seconded by P. Zera. All in favor

Respectfully Submitted

Mary LaBrecque

Select board Clerk

Town of Isle La Motte

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Rustam Spaulding

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Selby Turner

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Paul Zera