

Town of Isle La Motte
Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2024

Attendance: John Yartz, Peter Brzozowy - Chair, Mary-Catherine Graziano, Cary Sandvig, Joe Deller, Pat Treckman, Rustam Spalding, Deborah Spaulding and Debra Langlois. By Zoom: Erin Gilligan, Charlie Andrews, and one other guest who did not identify themselves by name.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peter Brzozowy at 6:00pm.

Additions to the Agenda :

- Rusty Spaulding had a question about a grant for \$60,000 that the town has to use. Rusty was asking about money with the grant being used for heating and air for the Town Clerk's Office. Mary-Catherine Graziano spoke to the question that the town was not given the grant money in hand. The grant was issued for extra support for the under-resourced town such as we are and that she is working with the NRCP on uses for the funds.

Contracts/Grants/Bids :

- Roadside Mowing - award contract: Three bids for mowing were sent to the Selectboard. Two different priced bids were from John Yartz. The other bid was from Summit Contracting and Property Limited located in Lyndonville VT. John Yartz was awarded the bid for (3) year contract at a cost of \$30,000.00 over the term of the bid. The Summit bid was for (1) year at \$18,700.20. There was talk about tailoring the verbiage of the bids sent out for later times. Nate Smith from VT Electric VEC came to Isle La Motte and met with John Yartz to look at five locations around town where tree debris was left from the tree trimming where roadside mowing would take place.
- Records Digitization - bid review, possible award: There was a very in depth discussion about digitization. Cary Sandvig was leading this discussion due to the meetings and contact with Mark Kirk from Cott Systems. Digitization is coming! There are about 6,000 pages to be scanned, and the Selectboard would like to see this work completed now before the other towns start as there is a long back up and waiting list. It will ultimately be mandated by the state. Cott Systems will scan our records back (40) years. The scanning of records back further than that will mean the taking of fragile paper records offsite for a more intense scanning. The Selectboard stated that those records older than (40) years records were staying onsite and the need may not even arise for scanning older records; if so the records would need to remain in the building. There will be training and teaching of the process of records scanning, and the equipment will be housed in the Town Clerk's Office. New records will be scanned along with the older records. The availability of records uploaded to a cloud will save time for the researchers and the clerks.

Bandwidth was discussed and Cary was told by Mark from Cott Systems that it should be a bit more robust, but he current bandwidth will work, though at a bit slower pace. Global Net was discussed, but reaching out to them hasn't been useful. Fiber optic was discussed; Alburgh has it installed, the expansion of fiber is moving through the county and Isle La Motte would be next on the list. Safety and back-up was discussed. Cott Systems will provide scanning, indexing, and back-up. The system is constantly watching for glitches and updating constantly. A ransom attack was discussed and Cott Systems stated that the recovery time would be a week or so. The Selectboard as a whole were in the discussions. Pat Treckman reached out to other towns about the system from Cott and the feedback was good to all of Pat's questions. Pricing: Cott Systems' proposal is a three (3) year contract that can be terminated if the system doesn't provide what we need it to do for our town. The three year contract is \$60,000.00. Payments made monthly of \$300.00. There was ARPA money set aside for this project. Mary-Catherine Graziano made the motion to move forward with a contract with Cott Systems, Cary Sandvig seconded, all in favor, yes.

Other Business :

- Justice of the Peace: There is a need for more Justice of the Peace officers to bring the total number equal to the number of Selectboard Members. The three current Justice of the Peace are required to submit a petition to appear on the November ballot to continue next term as all three seats are up for re-election for a new two-year term to begin in February 2025. Pat Treckman will circulate a job description. Mary-Catherine will be reviewing dates. The information will be posted on the website when dates are confirmed.

Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned by Chair Peter Brzozowy at 6:55pm. Pat Treckman made the motion to adjourn, Mary-Catherine Graziano seconded, all in favor, yes.

Respectively,
Debra Langlois

Peter Brzozowy _____

Mary-Catherine Graziano _____

Cary Sandvig _____

Joe Deller _____

Pat Treckman _____