BROWNINGTON SELECTBOARD
NOVEMBER 27, 2024 AT 5:00 P.M.
MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Mike Glodgett, Selectman	Bill Davis, Planning Commission
Marilyn Martinez, Selectman	Jane Greenwood, Planning Commission
Cheryl Galipeau, Clerk/Treasurer	Larry Chase, Lister (arrived at 6:00 pm)

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mike called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

2) ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Under New Business: MERP Grant

3) APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mike made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2024 Selectboard Meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

4) SPECIAL BUSINESS/ REQUESTS FROM CITIZENS

a) Bid opening- 2010 International Truck: None received

Marilyn made a motion the bid gets readvertised and extended for another month. The motion was seconded and carried. Take out: minimum bid of $2,000 from notice.

5) REPORTS/ REQUESTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS/ BOARDS

a) Bill Davis- Planning Commission MERP (Municipal Energy Resilience Program)

Bill Davis stated that the town was awarded $270,474.48 for energy updates to the town clerk's office & the town garage. He stated the grant needs to be signed by December 16th in order to accept the grant. It was stated that the town does not have to put any money towards it, there is no match for funding. He said the company that did the assessment of each building found quite a few things that needed to be upgraded. One of the things is the insulation in the attic of the office is an R10 and an R60 would be ideal. Other upgrades include, heatpump, heat and solar panels were put in as part of the grant. He stated that they did not include a charging station. All the upgrades will be a savings of about $10,000 to the town in energy each year.

Bill asked the Selectboard to sign the grant and Bill will forward the paperwork to Cheryl for the board. He stated that the Planning Commission agreed to help out with the grant. The grant goes through 2027 and it will be a while before they get bids and contractors etc.

Bill stated, they also got a mini grant of $4,000.00 which the energy committee part of the planning commission. They are hoping to do an energy workshop for Brownington residents on how they can get energy efficiencies for their homes.

Bill also mentioned it would be nice to have contact names and numbers of members on the website. Cheryl stated that she updated the names/ numbers but didn't have time to manage the website. Bill said that Bev Davis is willing to help manage it.

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Jane Greenwood stated they want to change the Village Center designation from Evansville to Brownington Center. Evansville didn't have the right criteria and was denied. The center would have a better chance of getting the designation.

After discussion, Mike made a motion to sign the MERP grant. The motion was seconded and carried. Bill will email the papers to Cheryl for the board.

b) Delinquent Tax Collector- Tax Sale- 2023 Tax List submitted to Attorney

Cheryl reported that she sent the 2023 delinquent tax list to Kristen Shamis of Monaghan Safar in Burlington. The board received and reviewed copies of the letters that were sent to each taxpayer by the attorney. The attorney allows 3 days for the property owners to enter payment agreements then after that they can move forward with title work.

c) Cheryl- request to attend NEMRC End of Year/ Payroll Seminar on Thursday Dec 12th

Mike made a motion to authorize Cheryl to attend the seminar on December 12th. The motion was seconded and carried.

Cheryl stated that Jeannette will cover the office that day.

6) TREASURER'S REPORT

a) Property Taxes & 2024 Delinquent Tax List

Cheryl submitted the 2024 Delinquent Tax List for the boards review. Cheryl stated there is about $90,000 outstanding which is similar to last year's amount. She stated that a few have already paid since the 15th.

b) Budget Status Report

Cheryl submitted the budget report to the board for review. Mike made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as unaudited. The motion was seconded and carried.

In discussion, Cheryl stated that she noticed some posting errors through the year that will need to be corrected. She pointed out some examples to the board.

She stated that she will make a list of what they are and then get them posted correctly before the end of the year.

Other discussion, it was asked how much longer we are paying on the grader and loader for. Cheryl will have that payment information at the next meeting. Cheryl will look at the insurance amounts as the general side went way over and the highway side was way under. Cheryl stated she will look at how the VLCT insurance amounts were split. Also, the pager company overcharged the town and we will be getting money back. This was a good catch by Geoff to notice this on the budget.

Cheryl stated that the property tax revenue is showing more than the amount that should be collected even with the delinquent amounts owed, which doesn't make sense. This will need to be looked into further. She stated she moved the amounts to "due to school" and "highway".

c) Checking/ Sweep Balance

Cheryl reported the checking/ sweep account is at $355,233.54 after tonight bills.

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7) ROAD FOREMAN REPORT

a) Security System at the shop

Geoff was not present to give the Road report.

Marilyn stated that Geoff told her that they were having repairs done to to the security system at the shop and while they were doing repairs, they said that it is not being monitored by anybody. So Roundhill Fence & Security provided a quote in the amount of $1,319.92. Mike stated that they need to check into whether the town office is also not being monitored. In discussion it was agreed to get another bid. Mike stated he will contact the Town of Barton and Orleans to see who they contract with.

Mike stated that Geoff has been doing really good working on getting more grants. Other mentions were the manlift is done, they bought harnesses. Geoff wants electric chainsaws for each of the trucks. The cost is about $300. Each.

They often times they have to cut trees up from in the roadway.

8) OLD BUSINESS OR UPDATES

a) FEMA-DR4810VT

Mike stated they met with FEMA on whiting Lane for a site inspection. They are going to give them extra money to ditching up further. They are going to help on Chilafoux Rd and they will take $5,000 from one project to add to the other.

Marilyn stated they met to verify all the information as the paperwork was being submitted and what was being covered. The meeting was postponed due to the weather. The meeting is rescheduled for next Tuesday at 1:00 pm

b) North Country Hospital support letter

Marilyn submitted the letter she drafted to send to the governor & representatives in support of North Country Hospital. She stated the letter should be sent for the first of December.

9) NEW BUSINESS

a) Hunt Hill Rd- street light out.

Mike stated he left a message for John Morley and he hasn't heard back but will try calling him again.

10) MAIL

a) County Meeting – Warning

Notice of the Orleans County Meeting was received. The meeting is on Monday, December 16th at 8:00 am for presentation of the proposed budget.

b) Resignation of Carl Meyer- Village of Orleans Board of Director- email.

The board received and reviewed the resignation email from the Village of Orleans Board of Directors for Carl Meyer. In it it states that Rebecca Lanoue would be interested in getting on the Board of Director's once she moves to Brownington. Mike made a motion to accept the resignation letter. The motion was seconded and carried.

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11) SELECTBOARD ORDERS/ Warrant for Bills and Payroll

Cheryl submitted the bills for payment. A motion was made to approve the bills, the motion was seconded and carried. The grand total being $1,396,201.25 and check #12228 to check #12265.
Cheryl submitted the payroll for approval. Mike made a motion to approve the payroll warrants. The motion was seconded and carried. Check #12230 to #12235
Check #12238 to #12241 were approved.

12) NEXT MEETING DATES

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 8:00 am
Reschedule regular board meeting of Wednesday, December 25th?
It was decided to reschedule the meeting to Monday, December 23rd at 5:00 pm

Mike stated they need to start thinking about a picture for the town report cover and setting a budget meeting date.

13) ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn, the motion was seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Submitted by:

_____
Board Clerk

Approved by:
____Not Present_____
Bill Falconer, Chairman

_____
Mike Glodgett

_____
Marilyn Martinez

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