

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
Jacobs Road Municipal Center
Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Called to Order at 3:00 p.m. With Robyn Provost-Carlson, Elissa Viarengo, Will Emmet and Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator.

Highway Department: Steve Thane, Acting Superintendent, Kyle Jarvis, Jason Lively

Others in Attendance: See attendance sheet.

Interview with Candidate for Highway Superintendent: Brian Crowningshield was present to meet with the Board for a second-round interview. In response to questions about his motivation in applying, Brian responded that he prefers to be engaged in ‘hands on’ work and also prefers the outdoors. He is aware that he will need instruction about filing reports/requests at the beginning but is eager to learn. He also shared that he owns some large equipment himself but wants to do more involved projects with large equipment.

Robyn explained that the Board and Highway Department have been working in cooperation between towns as it gets increasingly difficult for any one town in the area to own everything they need. Brian responded that he had no problem with that approach and is willing to work in cooperation with all towns, as necessary.

Brian has limited supervisory experience although, as a self-employed contractor, he must engage subcontractors and direct them according to when their services are needed. He also affirmed that he knew he would be supervising a crew that knew more about road work than he did and had no problem with consulting them and listening to their ideas.

It was explained that on a regular basis the superintendent would be required to meet with the Board at their evening meetings. Regular reports will need to be submitted to the Board that detail the various work projects that have been done and the approximate length of time that was spent on each project or task. Steve reported that he has estimated about one-third of the 40-hour week is spent in the office on phone calls, email, and processing invoices and other paperwork. The Board also explained that, since Heath was a small town with few employees, the crew may be requested to help with other work such as moving furniture.

After the interview ended and Brian had left the room, Jason recalled that when Brian was the summer employee, he was an industrious worker and pleasant to work with.

The Select Board agreed that they would review the relative documents and today’s interview and call a meeting on September 18th, at 4:30 p.m. to further evaluate Brian’s credentials and responses during the two interviews. It is hoped that a decision will be made about whether to make an offer of employment to him.

Highway Department: The Highway Department explained that they would like to purchase a wing plow for the truck (#2) that was purchased last year. There had been a plan to make the purchase immediately following the truck purchase, however, it was not completed at that time. The wing plow would mean clearing the roads in one round trip instead of two passes. ***On a motion by Elissa Viarengo and seconded by Will Emmet, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve spending \$21,650.00 out of the ARPA fund for the purchase and installation of a wing plow for truck #2.***

The crew also reported that to purchase and outfit the smaller dump truck with an 8-foot plow, the cost would be \$2,700.00. Doing this work would make another plow truck available. Because of the smaller size, a driver would not be required to hold a CDL.

4:11 p.m. On a motion by Will Emmet and seconded by Elissa Viarengo, the Select Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Hilma A. Sumner
Town Coordinator