

Preston Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

Thursday June 10, 2021

Preston Town Hall

7:00 pm

BoS Present: Sandra Allyn-Gauthier, Jerry Grabarek, Ken Zachem

Call to Order

1st Selectwoman Sandra Allyn-Gauthier called the meeting to order at 7:00

Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by K. Zachem and seconded by J. Grabarek to approve the May 27, 2021

Regular Meeting minutes.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Correspondence

None

Reports

None

Appointments and Resignations

None

New Business

1st Selectwoman Sandra Allyn-Gauthier reported that Board of Finance and Town Meeting approvals had been received to replace two DPW trucks, as part of the current capital program, using a State Department of Administrative Services (DAS) purchasing contract according to our existing Bid Ordinance.

A motion was made by K. Zachem and seconded by J. Grabarek to approve a bid waiver for the purchase of two DPW replacement trucks using a State DAS contract.

All in favor. Motion carries.

A motion was made by J. Grabarek and seconded by K. Zachem J. Grabarek to authorize the purchase of two DPW replacement trucks using a State DAS contract.

All in favor. Motion carries

1st Selectwoman Sandra Allyn-Gauthier summarized the budget related actions taken by the Town Meeting on June 3, 2021 at the Preston Plains Middle School. The two spending resolutions, General Government and the Board of Education, were moved on to a town-wide referendum on June 16, 2021 without changes and that an “Everbridge” reminder message will be sent beforehand on Sunday June 13, 2021.

1st Selectwoman Sandra Allyn-Gauthier reported that as of June 2, 2021, 56% of Preston residents have been reported as having received their first COVID-19 vaccination shot and that 50% have received two shots.

1st Selectwoman Sandra Allyn-Gauthier summarized the latest developments concerning federal financial assistance and the American Rescue Plan. Discussion followed. She described the broad uses of the fund and that at present, roads and bridges are excluded from the infrastructure allowances. Cybersecurity is receiving attention as is broadband accessibility above a certain threshold. SCOG is planning to share other area municipal strategies.

A proposal to modify the Employee Handbook by clarifying leave time allowances and PTO (Personal Time Off) was described whereby hours would be translated into days and a 50-day maximum carryover would be adopted. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by K. Zachem and seconded by J. Grabarek to approve changes to the PTO (Personal Time Off) policy effective July 1, 2021.

All in favor. Motion carries

Old Business

None

Tax Refund

None

Public Comment and Questions (per Posted Ordinance)

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by J Grabarek and seconded by K. Zachem to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 pm

All in favor. Motion carries

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Spang, Jr.