

Select Board Sidelines

May 26, 2021

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in the Sidelines are the individual thoughts of the Select Board member.

Submitted by Bill Lombardi

Your Select Board had a full agenda for the Select Board meeting held on May 18. Highlights included:

- 1.) Voting on the approval of the Local School Districts budget to put it on the ballot referendum. Basically, it is level funded with a small decrease. My interpretation is that this is due to stimulus/covid funds.
- 2.) Acceptance of bids for work on Coggins Hill, Sidelinger, & Townsend Roads. The plan is to have these roads paved this season.
- 3.) We talked about the Speeding issue on town roads. The use of signs to curb speeding and enforcement were discussed. Conclusion was to have citizens call the Knox County Sherriff's non-emergency number (594-0429) to report the date, time, & place of speeders. Call regularly to report a specific vehicle or time that a speeding incident occurs. Don't be bashful, keep calling.
- 4.) We had the most "fun" discussing the Thompson Community Center. The first topic was the condition of the driveway, which is a hazard. My opinion is that the Town ought not be spending paving money at the TCC. It was decided that if someone for the TCC goes to the Public Works Dept. cold patch will be provided.

This led to the discussion regarding the Town's "Committee for the Future of the TCC" and the inability to garner clear and precise information from the Director or Board of the TCC. It was decided that the Town's Attorney would send a letter to the TCC in an effort to open the lines of communication between the Town and the TCC. Hopefully, a dialogue can be created so that there will be an improvement for both the TCC and the Town.

It was further noted that there will be a walk-through of the building to hopefully access needed updates/repairs to this town asset. Additionally, it was expressed that Penquis remains interested in the building.

- 5.) The Select Board voted to spend \$5,000 from stimulus money (not the Town budget) to work with LCI/ Tidewater to develop a broadband plan. Hopefully, the committee's meeting notes will be posted on the Town's website soon so that interested parties can obtain more information.

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- 6.) It was stated that the Local Food Ordinance Committee would be scheduling a meeting soon.
- 7.) Aging in Place will be having an age 55+ “Take Away” hamburger & hot dog luncheon on June 24. RSVP to the Town Office by June 10.
- 8.) Absentee ballots are available for the June 8 election by calling the Town Office. The Town Office will be closed on election day.