

TOWN OF WHEELOCK
SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING, WHEELOCK TOWN HALL
Minutes, Draft for Distribution, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, 6pm

Present: Selectboard: Mike Richardson, Jason Bora, Ann Lawless (chair). Visitors: Patti Baker, Wendy Bora, Bill and Teresa Stimson, Kerry Smith

At 6:00pm chair Ann called the meeting to order. There were no changes to the agenda.

Sean had provided warranty information for the International. Various options, for either 60 months or 84 months, totaling \$14,378 or \$20,014 respectively.

Mike made a motion to consider voting to buy the International truck from Allegiance. Jason seconded.

Discussion: Mike stated our current 09 truck is in limp mode, with alerts and warning lights going off. Northern Gas looked at it recently and it threw some different codes from at our garage and they do not have the diagnostics to identify what's wrong. This morning Sean started driving it to Clark's in Jericho but only got as far as Sheffield Square before warning lights came on. Mike believes they made plans to tow it to Clark's. It may be there already or still in Wheelock.

Wendy asked if we are limited by the article voted at town meeting to purchase a truck for \$240,262.00, subject to trade-in and other sources of funds, to be financed, not to exceed 5 years. Ann replied that on Saturday 4/6 Garrett Baxter, senior attorney who lives in Sheffield, was asked a question about this at the transfer station. When Garret realized Jim was no longer on the selectboard he said he could no longer provide advice, and Garrett immediately notified Ann via email. She stated that on Monday 4/8 she spoke with Garrett concerning the funds and methods for purchasing a new truck: the town equipment reserve fund, which can be used at the discretion of the selectboard, if for the purpose for which the fund was created. She noted the selectboard was not required to ask the voters for permission to borrow for up to 5 years, but the past board put the article on the town meeting warning anyway to be transparent with the voters, and it passed. She also noted \$40,000 towards the truck purchase was included as a line item in the budget that the voters approved. Garrett concurred our plans are OK.

Mike said diagnosing the 09 truck problem must happen before we can establish its trade in value, and/or whether we should sell it privately instead of trading it in. It has low mileage (10,000 to 15,000 per year), and a decent body. Clark's will quote repair costs.

Kerry noted that towns have moved away from purchasing Internationals; there must be a reason, and asked why we are not getting quotes on a double frame. Mike said double frames are no longer offered because of corrosion between the frames.

Motion failed, vote was unanimous.

Next steps: Jason will do more research, calling and visiting other towns. Mike will call regarding availability of the 6 wheeler Freightliner. With repair quote, we can act on this at the next meeting 4/16.

Adjourned 6:51pm

Respectfully submitted, Ann Lawless

SELECTBOARD

JASON BORA

ANN LAWLESS

MIKE RICHARDSON