

Town of Orange Selectboard Meeting
March 25, 2020-5:00pm
Electronically via Zoom

Board Members Present: Emily Ruff, Selectboard Chair, Eric Holmgren, Selectboard Member and Sue Perreault, Selectboard Member

Others Present: John Barnes, Road Foreman, Lee Youngman, Treasurer

Call to order:

Ms. Ruff called the meeting to order at 4:37pm

Agenda Revision:

None

Public Comment/Guest Appearances

None.

New Business

Ms. Ruff thanked Mr. Barnes and Ms. Youngman for preparing and presenting alternative, used backhoe bids and cash flow numbers. Ms. Youngman indicated that if the board approves purchase of the 2015 John Deere 410L instead of the 2021 John Deere 310SL Backhoe, for which a new equipment purchase loan was included in the budget approved by the Select Board at their January 21st meeting, the town's total savings over the 5 year financing period would be \$5870. She also stated that year to date, the town has already spent \$3734.84 of a \$15,000 equipment repair budget, and that repairing the twister wrist the town already owns would cost an additional \$5000 leaving \$6266 for equipment repairs, and the town owning a 6 year old backhoe with twice the hours and no warranty.

Mr. Holmgren voiced concerns that the town was trading in the existing backhoe for too little money and that we would lose money on it. Mr. Barnes stated that that we spent less than the used backhoe currently under consideration when we bought it and that the sales rep from John Deere told him that municipalities were given more favorable prices than the general public. Mr. Holmgren said that he would prefer to see the town repair the existing backhoe and twister wrist and not take on additional debt until the two trucks currently financed are paid off.

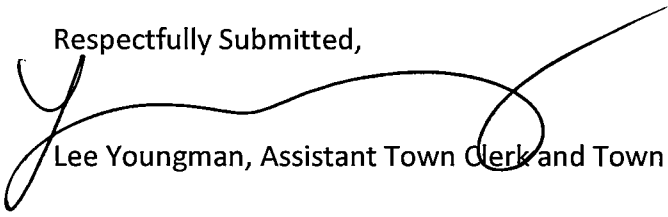
Ms. Ruff indicated her understanding that this meeting was called to discuss and decide whether the town would purchase and finance a new backhoe or a used one, and that repairing the existing backhoe was not on the table, given that the Select Board had approved a budget that included buying a new backhoe and financing it over 5 years and that the tax payers voted to approve that budget in March.

The board discussed the pros and cons of all three proposals. Ms. Perreault made a motion to approve the purchase of the new backhoe. Ms. Ruff seconded. Ms. Perreault and Ms. Ruff voted to approve the motion. Mr. Holmgren voted to deny the motion. The motion carried.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Ms. Ruff and seconded by Ms. Perreault, the meeting adjourned at 4:54pm

Respectfully Submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Youngman', written over the printed name.

Lee Youngman, Assistant Town Clerk and Town Treasurer