

Town of Springfield
Selectman's Hall- 96 Main Street- 3rd Floor
Monday May 23, 2022, 7:00 PM
Public Hearing on USDA Funding Request

DRAFT MINUTES

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair, Kristi Morris, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Selectboard Members: Chair, Kristi Morris, Vice Chair Michael Martin, Everett Hammond, Walter Martone and Crissy Webster were present.

Administration: Town Manager Jeff Mobus, Public Works Director Jeff Strong, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Rick Chambers, Chief Mechanic Donny Turner, SRDC Executive Director Bob Flint, Public Works Administrator Lois Smith, Police Chief Mark Fountain, Library Director Sue Dowdell.

School Board Liaison: Steve Karaffa was not present.

Town Manager Jeff Mobus said that the Town of Springfield had applied for funding from USDA Rural Development. He had recently met with Jon-Michael Muise, Area Manager of Rural Development and learned that the Town of Springfield is eligible to apply for an equipment grant of 35%, up to a maximum of \$50,000, for certain pieces of equipment. One of the requirements for applying for this funding is that the Town must have a public hearing to give citizens an opportunity to become informed about the project and comment.

Mr. Mobus continued that the largest expected equipment purchase this coming budget year is a loader, with an expected net cost of \$290,000. 35% of this purchase price far exceeds the \$50,000 maximum grant. The Town decided to apply for this grant to help with the purchase of the loader as the entire town would benefit from the new loader. Mr. Mobus explained that this funding program could also be accessed for other pieces of municipal equipment such as ambulances and fire trucks. However, the Town isn't planning on replacing any of those pieces of equipment this year.

Mr. Mobus concluded by saying that he had included a copy of the public hearing notice that appeared in the Eagle Times on May 14, 2022, so this public hearing was properly noticed.

Chair Morris asked if any of the Selectboard members had any questions. There were none. Chair Morris asked the public if they had any questions. There were none.

Chair Morris declared the public hearing closed at 7:12 pm.