

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2023

This meeting was called to order by Zeke Goodband at 6:00 pm at the Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members present: Zeke Goodband, Maria Glabach, Lewis White, Alex Wilson, Todd Davidson
Members absent:

Also present: Gail Sorenson, Paul Normandeau, Ruth Hoffman, Laurie Frechette, Charlotte Neer-Annis, Peter Kelleher-BCTV

Minutes:

On a motion by Lewis and second from Alex the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from November 29, 2023 & December 6, 2023.

Warrants:

On a motion by Lewis and second from Alex the Board voted 5-0 to approve the payment of warrants 12 & 12P.

ARPA Funding: None

Public Comments:

Charlotte read a statement expressing her opinion that the Board reconsider the proposed Lister wage increase in the budget.

Paul asked who was responsible for Town Report dedications. After a brief discussion, it determined the Selectboard makes the decision not the Auditors.

Road Foreman's Report: No report

Correspondence for Information:

Gail asked what the appeal to environmental court would do to the property owner's building. The Board believes the owner can proceed with any work except building the house.

Correspondence for Discussion and/or Action:

Update regarding Salmon Brook erosion, Emergency Watershed Protection Program: No update from the property owners. Lewis asked about the Town's property in Slab Hollow. Todd will look into it.

The Town of Roxbury has reached out to Selectboards to complete a survey regarding increasing their board from three to five members. Zeke will respond that we do not have much information to offer.

The Treasurer let the Board know that starting in July 2024 there will be a new employer VT Child Care Contribution Tax. This has been added to the proposed general fund budget.

The Board has received several emails regarding proposed budget increases.

New Business:

ARPA Updates & Discussion: There is a little over \$200,000 not allocated. However the Board has earmarked it for the Park Laughton Road Structure and the Covered Bridge decking installation.

Charlotte reported that the FEMA requests from this summer's damage has been submitted.

Todd will write the Views article which is due January 9th.

On a motion by Alex and second from Todd the Board voted 5-0 to approve the request from Jess Diamondstone to use the Common on 12/21, 3pm-7pm.

Paul asked who on the Board was running for election at Town Meeting. There will be three open seats on the Selectboard. Zeke and Lewis will not be running and Todd stated he would be running.

Unfinished Business: None

On a motion by Lewis and second from Maria the Board voted 5-0 to recess the meeting and start the budget work session at 6:25 pm. BCTV will remain to film.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board discussed the proposed Highway overtime wages and reduced the total budgeted from 720 hours to 400 hours.

The Capital budget allocation was reduced from \$230,000 to \$185,000.

The Highway Structures Fund was reduced from \$125,000 to \$25,000.

The Board discussed wages and changed the Lister and some of the Highway crew rates.

Paul and the Board talked about diesel fuel and whether the Town was shopping for the best price per gallon.

Maria will update worksheets with the changes.

On a motion by Maria and second from Lewis the Board voted 5-0 to reconvene the meeting.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Lewis made the motion and second from Maria, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Approved

Zeke Goodband, Chair

Lewis White, Vice-Chair

Submitted by Maria Glabach, Clerk