

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2015

This meeting was called to order by Zeke Goodband at 6:08pm at the Town Offices in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members present: Joe Cook, Steve Glabach, Zeke Goodband, Gurudharm Khalsa, Jerelyn Wilson

Also present: Charlotte Annis, Lee Chamberlin, Mike Faher from *Brattleboro Reformer*, Chuck Fish, Laurie Frechette, Doug Hamilton, Pam McFadden, Rich Melanson from BCTV, Jean Newell, Gail Sorenson, Muriel Taylor

On a motion by Joe and second from Jerelyn, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from June 10th.

On a motion by Steve and second from Joe, the Board voted 5-0 to ratify the payment of Warrant 25A, and to approve the payment of Warrants 26, 26P, Recreation Board #12, and Cemetery Fund #5.

The Board recognized Chuck Fish, Gail Sorenson and Muriel Taylor from the Historical Society. Chuck reported on the recent meeting with Ken Cox from the VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. One of the requirements for the Act 250 permit for the Historical Society's building addition is have a 6-foot undisturbed buffer on either side of the stream in front of the building, along with an additional 15-foot "meadow-type" buffer which may be mowed annually in the fall. The boundaries need to be marked with boulders or large pieces of granite. As the Historical Society building is on the same parcel of land as the Town Office, these restrictions will also be required in front of the Town Office building.

Steve made a motion to authorize Zeke to write a letter to Mr. Cox agreeing to these conditions. Gurudharm seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke asked that the minutes reflect that it has been over a year since the Selectboard has gone into an Executive Session.

Listers Charlotte Annis, Doug Hamilton and Jean Newell, along with Town Clerk Pam McFadden and Town Treasurer Laurie Frechette, joined the Board at the table to discuss whether or not the Town will charge a penalty this year to residents who filed their Homestead Declaration (HS-122) tax form after April 15th. After a brief discussion, Steve moved to waive the penalty for the 2015 tax year. Jerelyn seconded the motion; it passed 5-0. The Board also agreed to send a letter to the Tax Dept. requesting that they follow up with taxpayers who habitually do not file this form, thus paying lower taxes than they should be paying.

Road Foreman, Lee Chamberlin presented his report. The project on Quarry Road is going well. The Board reviewed the bid specifications for a new York rake. On a motion by Steve and second from Gurudharm, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the bid specs. The roadside mowing has started.

Lee spoke to the Board about revising the requirements/guidelines for a Curb Cut Permit. He will bring a draft to a future meeting.

Joe spoke about the recent Emergency Management meeting in Burlington. There will be a two-day drill that will include Dummerston, on July 29 & 30, 2016.

Steve requested that discussion on Road Standards and Overweight Permits be placed on the agenda in the near future.

Correspondence for Information included: letter from VLCT re: FY16 invoice; 6/4 letter from VT ANR re: failed wastewater system replacement at 191 Leonard Rd.; info from VT AOT re: 2016 Municipal Park & Ride grant program; letter of apology from Anne Montgomery re: driveway construction at 814 East-West Rd.; Treasurer's report.

The Board reviewed continuing email correspondence regarding traffic/speeding/surveillance on East-West Road. Steve expressed his opinion that Dummerston Center gets its fair share of coverage and he would like to see the outlying areas of town being patrolled as well. Sheriff Clark will be at the July 8th meeting; this topic will be on the agenda.

The Board received an invitation to an Emergency Planning Zone Transition meeting in Jamaica on August 13th. Zeke, Steve and Jerelyn hope to attend.

On a motion from Joe and second from Jerelyn, the Board voted 5-0 to approve a request from the School Nurse for \$1670 from the Miller Fund to pay for five Dummerston children to attend summer camp.

The Board reviewed a request from Mary Ellen Copeland to have a meeting of all Town Committees, Boards and Commissions to update one another on their current projects. No decision was made at this time.

Zeke reported that the site visit to the proposed solar project location on Stickney Brook Road was cancelled because the property owner has declined to sign a contract with the solar company.

A decision on the FY 2016 contract with the Sheriff's Department was tabled until the July 8th meeting.

Jerelyn reported that she and Gurudharm are continuing to work on the Personnel Policy.

Steve moved to sign the FY 2016 contract with the Windham County Humane Society and to change the Town's impoundment fees to \$30 per day. Joe seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

The Board received the proposed Zoning Bylaw changes from the Planning Commission. Discussion on these changes will probably be added to the July 22nd meeting agenda.

Steve moved to authorize Zeke to approve last-minute invoice payments for FY 2015; with the warrants to be ratified at the July 8th meeting. Jerelyn seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

The Board will meet at 5pm on Thursday, July 2nd to set the 2015 municipal tax rate.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.

Approved

Zeke Goodband, Chair

Gurudharm Khalsa, Clerk

Submitted by: Laurie Frechette, Selectboard Assistant