

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2020

This meeting was called to order by Zeke Goodband at 6:04 pm via Zoom online conferencing in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members present: Zeke Goodband, Maria Glabach, Jerelyn Wilson, Terry Chapman, David Baxendale

Members absent: none

Also present: Lee Chamberlin, Jessica Nelson, & Rich Melanson-BCTV.

Minutes:

On a motion by Terry and second from David the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from July 29, 2020.

Warrants:

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 5-0 to approve the payment of warrants 4 & 4P.

Public Comments: None

Road Foreman's Report:

The Road Crew has been working on the following:

- Mowed Roadsides
- Cleaned Culverts
- Made Sand
- Worked on Mower
- Made Cut Outs & Hauled Gravel
- Cleaned Up from Storm
- Grading

Terry opened the following Flail mower bids:

Pinnacleview Equipment	\$15,580.00
United Ag & Turf	\$15,950.00

On a motion by David and second from Terry the Board voted 5-0 to purchase a flail mower from Pinnacleview Equipment for \$15,580.00. To be paid from Capital Fund.

David spoke regarding an upcoming grant available for ash tree management. Lee will look into this grant. David will forward information to Lee.

Correspondence for Information:

Terry has ordered masks through the “Masks on VT” program and they will be distributed through the Town Office.

Jerelyn asked about the barrels placed along Route 30. Some Board members have received complaints from residents. The Board feels that the barrels are making the Williamsville Rd swimming hole less convenient for visitors. This has shifted people parking further south and possibly frequenting other swimming holes in the West River farther south. VT State Police and the Sheriff were present over the past weekend. The Board will continue to monitor the situation.

Correspondence for Discussion and/or Action:

The Board received an email from Eesha Williams regarding problems he was encountering with the Lydia Taft Library and suggested purchasing a library card either from Brattleboro or Putney Library for any resident that wants one. After briefly discussing, the Board felt that he should contact the Library Trustees with his concerns.

New Business:

Reappraisal Update: The Board continues to be concerned about the process being fair and equitable with exterior inspections only. Zeke is waiting to hear back from the Lister’s District Advisor. Jerelyn received the following information from Nathan Stoddard, NEMRC Assessor:

“Last year when Jerimiah started (pre COVID) he performed;

43 inspections

20 exterior only. (not sure how many of these may have denials)

23 Interior/exterior inspection. 53%

Since we started back up (during COVID)

162 inspections

96 exterior only. 11 were denials in some form.

66 interior by way of a conversation/Interview with someone at the time of initial inspection.

41% (9 of these I have changed to interior from conversations during follow up from there phone calls into the town. I have 12 more on the list currently to follow up with. So if I was to get in touch with those 12 today that would be 78 interiors or 48%.

Again we are having lengthy conversations with folks to really get a good feel for what the main drivers in interior quality and condition are like Ed highlighted in his presentation. So much so that it is slowing my efficiency in how many I am getting to in a day. BUT not so much to delay the reappraisal.”

Zeke will contact NEMRC regarding possibly pausing the reappraisal and review in 6-12 months. Jerelyn will contact the Town Listers.

On a motion by Jerelyn and second from Terry the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Doug Morton to the Energy Committee to finish a term until March 2022. Zeke will let him know.

Maria will send out budget request to town committees with an expected return by 10/7. The Board will not set up meetings with each committee this year unless needed.

Maria suggested that budget meetings should be in person. The Community Center is available and has a large enough area for social distancing. The first organizational work session will be 9/2 at 7:00 pm at the Community Center.

Terry signed and sent in the US Census Bureau Final Boundary Validation Forms.

The Board received a current account status from the Treasurer – no discussion took place.

The Conservation Commission Chair Christine Geopp and David met at the Covered Bridge to look at the stone steps and found them to be in disrepair and a hazard. The Board is concerned about liability as they are on Town owned property.

Jerelyn suggests to close the swimming area

David is opposed to closing the area

Terry suggests to remove the steps & install “enter at your own risk” signage

Maria is in favor of removing the steps as soon as possible & putting up signage

Zeke – The Board is ultimately responsible.

David will contact VLCT for an opinion on Town liability and Jerelyn will call the Conservation Commission.

On a motion by Jerelyn and second from Terry the Board voted 5-0 to recess the meeting and convene as the Liquor Control Board at 7:13 pm.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 4-0 with Zeke abstaining to approve the 2nd Class liquor license request from the Scott Farm for the Farm Market. Terry will sign and leave at the Town Office. She will let the Board know if everyone’s signature is required.

On a motion by Jerelyn and second from David the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn as the Liquor Control Board and reconvene the regular meeting at 7:16 pm.

Unfinished Business: None

There being no other business to come before the Board, Maria made the motion and second from David, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Approved

Zeke Goodband, Chair

Terry Chapman, Vice Chair

Submitted by Maria Glabach, Selectboard Assistant