

## UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 16, 2021

This meeting was called to order by Zeke Goodband at 7:00 pm at the Dummerston Community Center in Dummerston, VT.

**Members Present:** Zeke Goodband, Maria Glabach, Terry Chapman, Rebecca Lotka  
**Members absent:** David Baxendale

**Also Present:** Paul Normandeau, Dena Marger, Jean Momaney, Rick Davis, Ann Davis, and Galen Robinson (BCTV)

### **Minutes:**

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria, the board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from June 2, 2021

### **Warrants:**

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria, the board voted 4-0 to approve the payment of warrants 26, 26P, Reappraisal #8, and Conservation #4.

On a motion by Maria and second from Rebecca, the board voted 4-0 to appoint Terry to sign the warrants in the morning on June 30th.

### **Public Comments:**

Paul Normandeau suggested that the board consider continuing to conduct hybrid meetings both in person and via Zoom.

### **Road Foreman's Report:**

Road Foreman Lee was not present at the meeting. Regarding the issue of invasive knotweed, The Agency of Natural resources got back on best practices regarding invasives control, and a summary (as well as the full document) was given to the highway department. The Conservation commission will follow up on this issue.

Concern was expressed that the town mowing is continuing to spread the knotweed, although it was pointed out that this issue is addressed in the best practices document described above.

Regarding the issue of the Covered Bridge Steps, it was noted that access from the parking lot down to the river has eroded and the gravel has washed out. The board has

received email correspondence expressing concern about safety. Lee has added fresh gravel, and thinks water is coming from the roadway over the bridge. They made a catch basin, to try to prevent more erosion. Terry will ask Lee to write stronger language for the caution sign, as recommended by the town attorney.

Next Tuesday, the road foreman expects they will start milling and then paving roads, and there are some hazard trees on Camp Arden Road that will be taken down. As it is toward the end of the fiscal year, he is expecting a surplus of about \$16,000, after the paving. Lee is wondering about purchasing a new compactor, at a price of \$2500. The board does not have issues with the purchase of a compactor. He has discretion over his budget, and the board has no objections.

Review and sign a Municipal Grants in Aid Program for the Better Back Roads Program  
The Municipal Grants in Aid Program provides funding for things like the Better Back Roads Program.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the Municipal Grants in Aid Program.

### **Correspondence For Information:**

The board received correspondence about the Open Meeting Law now that the Emergency Order has been lifted. Terry suggests that we let the other boards and commissions know that the Open Meeting Law is now back in effect, and that boards are no longer permitted to have meetings via Zoom only. The options moving forward are an open meeting or a hybrid meeting. Someone must be physically present at the meeting location. Dena will send out that notification to the other boards and commissions.

### **New Business:**

- Review and Sign Zoning Permit Application for Community Center Wagon Building

On a motion by Maria and second from Terry, the board voted 4-0 to approve the zoning permit application for the community center wagon building.

- ARPA Funding Update

The first payment may come in in July for \$91,288, and another in the Spring. Terry will work with Charlotte through the portal.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria to authorize Dummerston Town Treasurer Charlotte Annis to accept the ARPA money and be the authorized representative to request funds, the board voted 4-0 in favor.

- Views of Dummerston Summer Issue Submission Due 6/22

Rebecca will write something, and will discuss the Animal Control Ordinance, and that we are back to meeting in person.

- Request from Zoning Administrator to Continue Working Remotely

Roger requests to continue working remotely, and has sent a letter, and he feels he can do his job via phone and email, and will still attend meetings. He was going to be coming into the office on Wednesdays, once a week. He's been flexible and responsive and available. Board agrees that he is efficient and conscientious. Board agrees that this is acceptable and Zeke will notify him of this.

- BCTV re: In Person Meetings

BCTV can help with hybrid meetings (zoom and in-person). It would require a larger monitor to do this, and would require someone to monitor the Zoom meeting, in terms of letting people into the online meeting. Question of whether there is a space in the Town Office for a larger monitor. And, at least one board member would have to be physically present. It was pointed out that we don't have the equipment budgeted. Suggestion to see how it's working in other communities, and also to see what kind of community feedback we get.

- Proposed Animal Nuisance Ordinance Update

Terry and Rebecca have been revising/rewriting the Animal Nuisance Ordinance, and they have a draft prepared. Rebecca checked in with Garret Baxter at VLCT. It's now more detailed and comprehensive than the previous ordinance, and addressed loopholes that previously existed. We need to review the process to adopt a new ordinance with VLCT. Rebecca will email them about this. The present ordinance is on the website in the file cabinet. Rebecca will ask Laurie about posting the draft of the new ordinance on the website.

Suggestion to add "domestic animals and domestic pets" to #9 title.

- Internal Financial Controls Checklist

On a motion by Terry and second from Rebecca, the board voted 4-0 to approve the internal Financial Controls Checklist for Municipalities, for Cities and Towns.

**Unfinished Business:** None

There being no other business to come before the Board, On a motion by Maria and second from Terry, the board adjourned the meeting at 7:45.

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Approved

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Zeke Goodband, Chair

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Terry Chapman, Vice Chair

Submitted by Dena Marger, Selectboard Assistant