

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

August 11, 2010

This meeting was called to order at 7:00pm at the Dummerston Community Center in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members Present: Chair Andrew MacFarland, Tom Bodett, Greg Brown, Wayne Emery, and Zeke Goodband

Also Present: Cliff Allard, John Anderson, Charlotte Annis, Dana Aquadro, Janet Avery, Bill Banta, Roni Byrne, Ginny Carter, Paul, Rebecca & Theresa Chapman, Brenda Davis, Casey Donovan, Lester Dunklee, Sam Farwell, Jared Flynn, Deb Forrett, Chris Garofolo from the *Brattleboro Reformer*, Maria & Steve Glabach, Matthew Hoffman, Nelson Jillson, Barbara & Tom Johnson, Pam McFadden, Gladys Miller, Steve Mindel, Jean Momaney, Jean & Harold Newell, Paul Normandeau, Herb Rest, Regina Rockefeller, Bill & Mary Lou Schmidt, Tom Simeon, Claudia Teachman-Blocher, Beverly Tier, Roger Turner, Winnie Vogt, Bobbie & Chet Wendell, Mark Whitaker, Lewis White, Cindy Wilcox, Tom Zopf, & Laurie Frechette

On a motion from Zeke and second by Greg, the Board voted 3-0 (with 2 abstentions) to approve the meeting minutes from July 28 and the payment of Warrants 3 & 3P.

Andrew explained the procedures for the Selectboard's deliberations on the Town Plan. Comments were to be accepted on the procedure but not on the content of the draft plan.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 15, add a Rural/Commercial District (section f) under land use districts to the Route 5 and 30 corridors as described in the 2004 Town Plan. Use the pink section (Rural/Commercial) of the current zoning map, with the exception of the Sweet Tree Farm, for definition of the corridors. On page 16, section g, delete the word Overlay in the title of Commercial/Light Industrial. On page 19, add an Action Step to adopt a Rural/Commercial District for the Route 5 and 30 corridors. Tom seconded the motion.

Greg offered a friendly amendment to the motion, which stated the following: The "Future Land Use" map in the draft 2010 Town Plan shall be redrawn to retain the Rural Commercial" and "Commercial/Industrial" designations as set forth in the 2004 Dummerston Town Plan, for parcels contiguous to RT 5 and RT 30, actively used for commercial purposes as of August 1, 2010. Where necessary, the language in the 2010 Plan draft text shall be amended to describe such parcels, and shall include material from the 2004 Dummerston Town Plan describing "Rural Commercial" and "Commercial/Industrial" land policies and intended uses. The Selectboard intends this amendment to be a temporary adjustment to the 2010 Town Plan to be in place until the Selectboard agrees to recommendations for land use designations resulting from a land use/land suitability study of the entire RT 5 and RT 30 corridors.

Zeke did not accept the friendly amendment; it was seconded by Tom and a lively discussion ensued. The amendment was defeated by a 4-1 vote.

The question was called and Zeke's original motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Tom made the following motion: On page 23, near the end of the Dummerston Farmland's section (2nd to last sentence), delete the words "who wholesale their product". Zeke seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Andrew made the following motion: On page 27, Policy 2.1, Action Step b, delete the question mark (?) after Vermont Coverts, Inc. Zeke seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 43, Policy 1.4, add Action Step b: Encourage the VT Fish & Wildlife Department to consider forest regeneration when reviewing herd management policy. Wayne seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 48, Policy 1.4, Action Step a: change the word “strict” to “reasonable”. Tom seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Andrew made the following motion: On page 48, Policy 1.5, delete Action Step a. Wayne seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 55, Policy 1.2, Action Step a: end the sentence after “energy-efficient homes”. Wayne seconded the motion; it passed 4-1.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 56, Policy 1.7, change the wording as follows: “Encourage outdoor lighting that will minimize light pollution. Encourage energy-efficient lighting and fixtures. Encourage the use of timing devices on outdoor lighting.” Wayne seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 61, Policy 1.3, Action Step e: change the wording as follows: “Encourage the safe sharing of roadways by vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. Promote the VT Safe Passing Law and post signs warning of cyclists and pedestrians on popular recreational routes.” Tom seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 61, Policy 1.7, change the wording as follows: “Work with VTrans to enhance safety along Routes 5 and 30 for cyclists and pedestrians.” Wayne seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 64, first paragraph, second sentence, change the words “must be respected” to “should be considered”. Tom seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Zeke made the following motion: On page 64, third paragraph (Energy Efficient Design), second sentence, change the word “must” to “should”. Last sentence in same paragraph; change the words “the potential for the use of wind power” to “other alternative power sources”. Tom seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Greg moved to approve the above amendments, incorporate them into the draft Town Plan and send it to the Planning Commission for review. He also included in his motion to schedule a public hearing on Wednesday, September 22nd at 7pm. Zeke seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. Laurie was asked to reserve the Grange for that meeting if possible.

Jean Momaney briefly spoke to the Board of the Community Center Trustees’ concerns about a new resident of West Street using the Center’s public driveway due to safety issues.

The Board opened and reviewed Request for Proposal bids for the covered bridge abutment project. Bids were received from Stevens & Associates and SVE Associates, both located in Brattleboro. The Technical Proposals were opened first. As both companies met the requirements, Tom moved to open the actual bids. Greg seconded the motion, it passed 5-0. Stevens & Associates’ cost proposal was \$39,550; SVE Associates’ was \$47,050. Wayne moved to award the bid to Stevens & Associates. Tom seconded the motion; it passed 5-0. Tom will contact both companies to advise them of the Board’s decision.

Under Correspondence for Information, Paul Normandeau questioned the Board on the Scott Farm’s Act 250 permit application to sponsor events such as weddings, educational seminars, workshops, etc. at their venue. He expressed his opinion that these activities would bring more traffic to the area and possibly be detrimental to the neighborhood. He urged the Board to file a request for a hearing before the Act 250 board; the Selectboard declined to do so. Zeke recused himself from this discussion.

On a motion by Wayne and second by Greg, the Board voted 5-0 to sign the FY 2011 RERP Grant Agreement for Emergency Management.

The Board reviewed a request from CT River Transit dba The Current for a letter of support showing a positive working relationship between the company and the Town. Zeke moved to grant their request. Tom seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

There was no update on the former Regional Library building.

No action was taken on appointing a voting delegate to the VLCT Annual Business Meeting.

Laurie was asked to contact Shannon Meckle in Newfane to arrange a joint Selectboard meeting in the month of October.

At 9:15pm, Greg moved to recess the Selectboard meeting and immediately convene as the Liquor Commission. Wayne seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

The Liquor Commission reviewed a request from Harvest Moon Catering for a wedding at the Scott Farm on August 21st from 3-11pm. After much discussion about the Scott Farm’s not being approved for these activities by the Development Review Board, Wayne moved to approve this request and to send a letter stating that no liquor permits will be issued for events after December 31, 2010 until the zoning bylaws have been amended. Tom seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 (Zeke recused himself from the vote).

The Liquor Commission meeting ended at 9:42pm and the Selectboard meeting immediately reconvened.

At 9:43pm, Wayne moved to enter Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter. Greg seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. Laurie was excused from the meeting.

At 10:10pm, the Board left Executive Session with no action taken.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:11pm.

Approved

Andrew MacFarland, Chair

Wayne Emery