

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 22, 2015

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

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

Not present: Steve Glabach

Also present: Charlotte Annis, Lee Chamberlin, Jason Cooper, Debbie & Peter Doubleday, Chad Farnum, Marty Forrett, Laurie Frechette, Catherine Gruver, Ian Kiehle from BCTV, Michael Kohout, Rick Looman, Melvin Mayo, Ines McGillion, Malcolm Moore, Sigrid Pickering, Kathleen White, Alex Wilson

As the first item of business, Zeke added two items under "Correspondence for Information".

On a motion by Joe and second from Jerelyn, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from July 8th.

On a motion by Joe and second from Gurudharm, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the payment of Warrants 2, 2P, Capital Plan Fund #1, and Cemetery Fund #2.

The Board recognized Alex Wilson, Jason Cooper, Malcolm Moore and Kathleen White from the Friends of the West River Trail (FOWRT). Alex gave an update on their activities along the southern part of the trail, which begins near the Marina Restaurant in Brattleboro and runs to the former Presby-Leland Quarry in West Dummerston. This trail is for non-motorized traffic only. They have hired Eric Morse as a surveyor, and Paul Gilles and Jim Maxwell as attorneys. They are working with the Nature Conservancy on improving access to swimming areas on the West River.

Residents/property owners (Sigrid Pickering, Michael Kohout & Melvin Mayo) expressed their concerns regarding this project and the actual ownership of the properties/right-of-ways. Sigrid asked for a traffic count to be conducted on Rice Farm Road (Zeke agreed) and to have the Sheriff's Dept. enforce the 25 mph speed limit.

Zeke thanked the FOWRT members and the neighbors for coming to the meeting. He reminded them that the Selectboard has no jurisdiction over the matter; they are here to listen and to give them an opportunity to air their concerns.

The Board recognized Fire Chief, Rick Looman and Asst. Fire Chief, Marty Forrett who made an official announcement of the Fire Dept.'s plan to build a new fire station to replace the one located in Dummerston Center. The Dept. will be fundraising but will also be requesting Town funding at Town Meeting. Jerelyn encouraged them to publicize their plans in the *Views of Dummerston* so that voters/townpeople will be aware of the upcoming project.

Zoning Administrator, Charlotte Annis joined the Board at the table for an initial review of the proposed zoning bylaw changes. She recommended that the Board include a change proposed by Ines McGillion, Catherine Dianich Gruver and Richard Virkstis in a letter to the Board, dated 6/24/15. Joe moved to change the wording regarding the three settlement areas in Town to "three distinct settlement districts - named individually". Gurudharm seconded the motion; it passed 4-0.

The Board voted 4-0 to hold a public hearing on the proposed zoning bylaw changes on Wednesday, September 2nd at 7pm at the Town Office. The motion was made by Joe and seconded by Gurudharm.

The Board recognized Chad Farnum, who took the Board to task for enclosing a flyer from the Windham-Windsor Housing Trust with the recently mailed property tax bills. On the flyer was an advertisement for the H.E.A.T. squad, which he feels is free advertising for a non-Dummerston taxpaying entity. When asked by Zeke who made the decision to include the flyer, Laurie explained that she (as Treasurer) and Pam McFadden (as Town Clerk) have made the same decision for the past 3-4 years. They felt that the Windham-Windham Foundation's information on low-interest loans for home improvements was beneficial for taxpayers to be aware of. She apologized to Chad and assured him the information will not be included with next year's property tax bills. She also offered to write a public apology in an upcoming issues of the *Views*.

Road Foreman, Lee Chamberlin joined the Board at the table. On his recommendation, the Board voted 4-0 to award the bid for a new front-loaded York Rake to Brown Enterprises for \$3900. The motion was made by Gurudharm and seconded by Joe.

Lee reported that the Quarry Road project is complete and the road was reopened on Tuesday, July 21st. The new dump truck cab and chassis have been delivered. The body will be installed in late October.

The Board will conduct a road tour on Wednesday, August 26th at 5pm, leaving from the Town Office.

Lee mentioned changing the end of Fisch Road from Class 4 to Class 3, as the Town is already doing the upkeep. By changing it to a Class 3, the Town will be eligible for State compensation.

Gurudharm moved to approve Curb Cut permits for Janet Crosby on Park Laughton Road and Larry Gould on Rice Farm Road. Jerelyn seconded the motion; it passed 4-0.

Correspondence for Information included: Wastewater System & Potable Water Supply permit for Alex & Jerelyn Wilson's proposed subdivision at 251 Leonard Road; Wastewater System & Potable Water Supply permit for Raymond & Eileen O'Connor's failed septic system at 191 Leonard Road; info from Soveren Solar re: planned 150kw community solar system at 744 Stickney Brook Road.

On a motion by Zeke and second from Jerelyn, the Board voted 4-0 to appoint Laurie as the contact person for the Windham Regional Commission's municipal shared services listserv.

The Board reviewed a letter from Melvin Mayo, expressing his concerns about possible conflicts of interest for a few Board members with the West River Trail project. Joe commented that he doesn't believe that any Board members have a conflict of interest with this topic. Zeke will respond to Mr. Mayo's letter.

The Board will hold a work session on the Personnel Policy at 5:30pm on August 19th, prior to their regular meeting.

On a motion by Joe and second from Jerelyn, the Board voted 4-0 to sign a Certificate of Change in the 2015 Grand List.

Prior to the Board's regular meeting at 6pm on August 5th, the Prospect Hill Trustees will meet from 5-5:45pm. At 5:45pm, the Board will conduct an interview with a candidate for the Planning Commission.

Under Other Business, Zeke mentioned that the Town and the Historical Society are in search of granite stones to mark the boundaries of the new riparian buffers in front of the Town Office and Historical Society building.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.

Approved

Zeke Goodband, Chair

Gurudharm Khalsa, Clerk

Submitted by: Laurie Frechette, Selectboard Assistant