

## UNAPPROVED

### Selectboard Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2017

This meeting was called to order by Zeke Goodband at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Offices in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members present: Zeke Goodband, Jerelyn Wilson, Hugh Worden, and Joe Cook.

Not present: Steve Glabach.

Also present: Rich Melanson BCTV, Michelle Cherrier, and Gail Sorenson.

Zeke added correspondence received from Jody Normandeau concerning Town Meeting and from Sam Farwell concerning hiring a clerk for the Planning Commission to Correspondence for Information.

On a motion by Jerelyn and seconded by Hugh, the Selectboard voted 4-0 to approve the meeting minutes of June 7<sup>th</sup>.

On a motion by Hugh and seconded by Jerelyn, the Selectboard voted 4-0 to approve the payment of Warrants 26, 26P, Rec Selectboard #11, Conservation Commission #8, and Capital Fund #5.

Michelle Cherrier explained plans to remove the recycling bins that are adjacent to the town garage after June 30<sup>th</sup>. Residents may subsequently use private trash haulers to recycle, or take their recyclables to the Windham Solid Waste Management District facility on Ferry Road in Brattleboro. Annual permits costing \$36 will be required to recycle at that facility after July 1<sup>st</sup>. One day permits costing \$10 may also be used to recycle at the facility. Residents who recycle at the facility must stop at the gatehouse. Hugh expressed concerns with possible traffic congestion. The facility will be open from 8:30 until 3:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 8:30 until noon on Saturdays. Special containers are not required for recyclables by private trash haulers, however they ask that recyclables not be left in plastic bags. Whereas recyclables needed to be separated before July 1<sup>st</sup>, that will not be the case after that date, as the facility is converting to "single stream." It was the consensus of the selectboard to have Laurie Frechette send a letter to town residents advising them of these changes. Lee Chamberlin suggested that the Town consider contracting with private trash haulers to collect trash and recyclables for residents, and will be exploring that option.

Under the Road Foreman's Report, Lee reported that parts of town had received 2½ - 5 inches of rain on June 19<sup>th</sup>, resulting in many blocked culverts and road washouts and considerable damage. Marc Pickering of the Vermont Agency of Transportation estimated it will cost \$28,000 to repair that damage. Under a state formula the Town qualifies to have the State of Vermont pay for 90% of that amount, which includes the cost of private contractors, gravel and other materials, and labor provided by town employees. Zeke read a letter addressed to Marc Pickering requesting state assistance to help to pay for that damage, which would otherwise be a hardship for the Town. Following a motion by Joe that was seconded by Jerelyn, the selectboard unanimously agreed to have Zeke send that letter. Dawn Hubbard, our emergency management director, was involved for three hours during the storm. Hugh suggested that Dawn's contact information be disseminated to town residents.

Under Correspondence for Discussion and/or Action, following a motion by Hugh that was seconded by Joe, the selectboard voted unanimously to approve the municipal impact questionnaire.

Under new business, following a motion by Jerelyn that was seconded by Joe, the selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Judy Fink to serve the remaining term of Deb Ayer on the Conservation Commission. That term will expire in 2020.

Following a motion by Joe that was seconded by Hugh, the selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Windham County Humane Society contract for the next fiscal year. The amount of that contract was unchanged from the current year. Residents may now take stray animals to the Humane Society without involving our animal control officers.

The selectboard discussed whether to assess penalties for late HS-122 filers. The concern expressed was that penalties could discourage compliance with state law, which requires all residents to file those tax forms. Following a motion by Joe that was seconded by Jerelyn, the selectboard voted unanimously to not assess penalties for late HS-122 filers for the next year.

Joe presented materials that he had compiled for the investment of the Miller Fund. The Miller Fund is now invested in a sweep account with a balance of \$100,802.38. That fund is now yielding .18%. During the current fiscal year the Miller Fund earned \$133.84. The selectboard has authorized disbursements totaling \$1,300 this year. Last year the Miller Fund earned \$156.16, and we disbursed \$2,129.49. Joe suggested we meet with the school nurse in an effort to determine how we can best assist needy children in our town, and develop a sustainable budget for disbursements from the Miller Fund. Joe suggested investing \$70,000 in the Miller Fund in the Vanguard 500 Index Admiral Fund, and \$30,000 in the Vanguard Intermediate-Term Bond Index Admiral Fund. The selectboard took no action on the matter. Zeke suggested that we look into investing the Miller Fund in the Vermont Community Loan Fund.

Hugh discussed meeting with a cross-section of townspeople in an effort to increase participation at Town Meeting. He recently submitted a letter outlining his thoughts on increasing participation in our public processes to the Views of Dummerston.

There being no other business to come before the Selectboard, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02.

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Approved

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Zeke Goodband, Chair

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Joe Cook, Clerk

Submitted by: Joe Cook, Clerk