

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

JULY 14, 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, David Baxendale

Also Present: Dena Marger and Galen Robinson (BCTV)

Review and approve minutes of previous meeting:

On a motion from Terry and a second from David, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2021 meeting.

Review and approve bills for payment:

On a motion from Maria and a second from Terry, the Board voted 5-0 to approve for payment 2A, AP2, PR 2P, and Recreation Board 1.

Recognition of visitors and public comment

There were no visitors.

Road Foreman's Report

- The caution sign will be installed at the covered bridge path down to the river.
- Lee has finished putting gravel along the new pavement on East West Road.
- The rain has halted grading, but they will be getting back to that.
- The Selectboard received a letter expressing concern about road closures, and passed on reassurance that there are no scheduled closures to East West Road.
- The Selectboard was asked to look into the issue of traffic control and speeding along Route 5 between Schoolhouse Road and Kampfires. The issue is speeding and particularly among larger trucks and trailers leading to accidents for cars turning to enter Walker Farm. A speed monitor was installed last Thursday by VTrans heading Southbound. They would like one going Northbound as well, and request speed monitoring from the Sheriff's department, especially among trucks. Terry will pass the concern about the large trucks on to the sheriff's department and will look into DMV involvement to address the issue with the trucks. Zeke will speak to VTrans about the speed limit.

Correspondence for Information

There was no discussion.

Correspondence– For Discussion and/or Action

- Community Center DRB application

On a motion from Maria and a second from Terry, the board voted 5-0 to sign and submit the Community Center DRB application for the construction of the non-residential accessory structure.

- DVFiber update

They signed a contract with a provider that will extend higher speed service to underserved areas. Completion date will be 2024.

A grant was received for Comcast to provide service on Camp Arden Road.

- Center for Research on Vermont Survey

The Selectboard received a request from the Center for Research on Vermont at UVM to complete a survey on municipalities. It is completely optional. David will fill out the survey.

New Business

- Proposed Animal Control Ordinance (update/feedback if any)

The ordinance has been posted, with no comments. At the next meeting the Selectboard will start planning the next steps.

- Insurance Options Update

The town offers health coverage to 5 people now. We pay 100% premium and cover the deductible. The annual cost per employee is \$8,600. This is about 25% of their salary and the rate will rise in September. There are a lot of plans available for individuals and small groups. The plans are discounted for small groups by about 23%. Our present plan is a good selection, the standard MVP Vermont Silver #4. We do not provide coverage for families. We looked at how we compared to other towns, and a number of towns do provide family coverage and dental and vision, usually with a copay for families. The Additional premium is significant for a family plan (e.g. the premium would increase from \$6,900 to \$19,000). This would be the equivalent of adding \$75,000 to the budget for health care cost, which is 35% of the payroll cost. With 50% cost sharing, it would be less. Dental and vision plans are available through VLCT. These can be provided at a modest cost.

Zeke suggested talking with the town employees about these options. Working out a proposal may involve a pre meeting work session to assess the options.

- Dummerston Community End-Of-Summer Party

Terry attended the most recent planning meeting of the end of summer party at the Dummerston School. The party will be Sunday, September 12, 3-6pm, fun, green, safe, party

with barbeque music and games. They want to get the word out. To volunteer, get in touch with Catie G. Berg, Akara Draper, Pam McFadden, etc. Get in touch with Dummerston Cares.

- Discuss & possibly set the FY 2022 Municipal Tax Rate

We don't have enough information, so we may need to have a special meeting when the treasurer gets the information.

- Discuss Town Office bat guano issue & possible new quote from ServPro

There is an issue in the town office building and attic. Voters approved a budget at Town Meeting that included a line item for the bat clean up. Unfortunately, that amount isn't going to be enough for the clean up and addition of insulation. ServPro will give a revised quote.

Unfinished Business

There was none.

There being no other business to come before the Board, On a motion by Maria and second from David, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:28.

Approved

Zeke Goodband, Chair

Terry Chapman, Vice Chair

Submitted by Dena Marger, Selectboard Assistant