

## UNAPPROVED

### SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 28, 2022

The Board met with Fire Chief, Rick Looman at 5:30 pm to discuss Capital Plan request.

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

**Members present:** Zeke Goodband, Maria Glabach, Terry Chapman

**Members absent:** Rebecca Lotka, David Baxendale

**Also present:** Gail Sorenson, Chuck Fish, Jean Newell, Michael Silberman, Peter Kelleher-BCTV

#### **Minutes:**

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to approve the minutes from December 14, 2022 and December 21, 2022.

#### **Warrants:**

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to approve the payment of warrants 13, 13P, & Reappraisal Fund #1.

The warrant includes ARPA payable to Evening Star Grange for \$12,000.00 for interior painting.

#### **ARPA Funding:**

The Board spoke with Chuck Fish and Gail Sorenson regarding the request from the Historical Society to replace an exterior door.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to approve the request to replace a door at the Historical Society for \$2,710.00 with possible supplemental for a lockset.

The Board received two estimates for building inspection of the Community Center.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to accept the estimate of \$1,350.00 from Michael Becker/Green River Property to conduct a building inspection of the Community Center. Zeke will let him know.

Gail Sorenson asked if there was a master list for ARPA requests and expenditures. Terry and Maria will update the spreadsheet and it should be available the end of next week.

#### **Public Comments:**

Listers, Jean Newell and Michael Silberman talked with the Board regarding the tax assessment appeal by Great River Hydro. The Town Attorney has been working on a settlement and it will need the Selectboard's approval and signature. The Listers have been working with their District Supervisor and the State Appraiser. It is the recommendation of the Listers and the Town Attorney to accept the settlement offer.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to accept the terms of the settlement with Great River Hydro as recommended by the Town Attorney and Listers.

**Road Foreman's Report:**

FEMA update: None

No significant damage from the weekend storm. Lee was impressed how well Camp Arden Road held up. There are no major equipment breakdowns. The crew will start cutting trees.

There is a small leak in the highway garage boiler. It will get through the winter and can be dealt with in the spring. Lee estimated replacement could be \$15,000.00. ARPA funds could be used to cover the cost.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to sign the VT Municipal Roads General Permit renewal.

The Board received a future paving plan from Lee. They will discuss with Lee at a future meeting.

**Correspondence for Information:** No discussion

**Correspondence for Discussion and/or Action:**

The Board received an offer to donate a larger tree for the Town Common. It was the consensus of the Board to leave the current tree which was previously donated. Zeke will let all parties know.

At the 2022 Town Meeting the voters approved a non-binding resolution to encourage the Sheriff's Department to work on their Fair and Impartial Policing Policy. The Board received a letter from Sheriff Mark Anderson, asking the three towns which approved this resolution to partially cover the fees to facilitate this meeting.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to authorize payment of \$500.00 to the Windham County Sheriff's Office towards expenses to facilitate the meeting regarding Fair and Impartial Policing Policy. Terry will let him know.

**New Business:**

ARPA Updates & Discussion: An additional \$122.00 was received.

BDCC/SeVEDS requested a letter of support for the Southern VT Economic Development project.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to send a letter of support. Zeke will write a shorter version than the sample letter sent by BDCC/SeVEDS.

Ashley Pinger, Animal Control Officer with the Sheriff Department circulated a draft unlicensed dog letter for use by the Town. Laurie has reviewed it and is good with the draft letter.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to use the unlicensed dog letter as proposed by the Sheriff's Department. Terry will let Ashley and Laurie know.

On a motion by Terry and second from Maria the Board voted 3-0 to sign the parking agreement to allow Northeast Paving use of the land north of the covered bridge parking lot during the Route 30 construction project from March to October 2023.

The Conservation Commission has been working on the Covered Bridge step project. David attended a preliminary planning meeting and thought it was progressing. Terry will pass the plans on to PACIF to review.

**Unfinished Business:**

Decision regarding the Great River Hydro was moved to Public Comments (see above).

There being no other business to come before the Board, Maria made the motion and second from Terry, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

**BUDGET WORK SESSION FOLLOWING MEETING**

The Board discussed the Capital Plan. The line item for fire department air tanks was removed after a discussion with Fire Chief Rick Looman.

Wording of the warning article for the proposed fire truck purchase as discussed.

The few updated numbers in the General Fund Budget and Revenue sheets were discussed.

The Board is waiting on the County Tax number.

Farmland Protection budget request was briefly discussed and no changes made to their original recommendation.

The work session adjourned at 7:15 pm

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Approved

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Zeke Goodband, Chair

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Terry Chapman, Vice-Chair

Submitted by Maria Glabach, Clerk