

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2024

This meeting was called to order by Todd Davidson, Chair, at 6:00 pm at the Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont & on Zoom.

Members present: Maria Glabach, Alex Wilson, Todd Davidson, Tom Nolan, Paul Adler

Members present on Zoom:

Members absent:

Also present: Lee Chamberlin-Road Foreman, Chris Brown-Treasurer, Laurie Frechette-Town Clerk, Debbie Forrett, Wendy Harrison-State Senator, Brian Guerino-BCTV.

Also Present on Zoom:

Minutes:

On a motion by Alex and second from Todd the Board voted 4-0 with Paul abstaining to approve the minutes from May 29, 2024.

On a motion by Alex and second from Todd the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from June 12, 2024.

Warrants:

On a motion by Alex and second from Paul the Board voted 5-0 to approve the payment of warrants 26, 26P & Cemetery Fund #4. Maria questioned several items. The payment from ARPA was for the Covered Bridge decking project. Lee was aware that culverts and contract services will be over budget for FY24. Chris will void the check to the Humane Society as the budgeted amount was estimated and not the actual contract price.

ARPA Funding:

On a motion by Todd and second from Alex the Board voted 5-0 to authorize \$400.00 from ARPA funds for additional BCTV hybrid meeting costs for FY2025.

Public Comments:

State Senator Wendy Harrison received a request from a constituent to put a port-a-potty at the recreation area on Route 30. She asked the Board to consider this. The Board will consider it at the next meeting on July 10th. She mentioned that the State will be taking over river corridor activities. She is also looking into different ways to fund storm water utility. Such as culverts and maintenance.

Road Foreman's Report:

West Village – ROW/Town road #61 update:

July 10, 2024 5:00 pm site visit, 5:30 pm Public Hearing at the Community Center. Regular meeting will follow the public hearing at 6:00 pm at the Community Center.

Lee will mark the end of the Town road.

Todd reviewed the class 4 road procedures. No maintenance is done on class 4 roads. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain brush and trees. Other residents must get property owner permission to cut trees or brush.

The Covered Bridge will be closed the last few days of July and the first few days in August. The bridge decking is being replaced.

The Road Crew has been working on the grant in aid stone ditches. Paving is almost complete. They will wait a month to complete the shoulders. Lights have been purchased for the garage. The Town cleaned up trash dumped on Quarry Road.

Correspondence for Information:

Paul attended the Regional Policing meeting. This is still in the early stages of planning and must go through the State. The cost will still be based on population.

Paul also attended the Animal Control meeting, which will be going through the same process as the Regional Policing.

Correspondence for Discussion and/or Action:

Todd reviewed the new open meeting law requirements which will take effect July 1st. Todd will talk with Kevin Ryan regarding website posting. Todd will create a checklist for Town boards and committees.

DRB June 18th hearing review statement: (minutes taken by Laurie Frechette)

At 6:35PM, Maria recused herself from the meeting and left the room. Todd moved to post the following statement on the Town's website and at the Town Office: *"The Dummerston Selectboard would like to reiterate the need for civility and respect at all advisory and non-advisory meetings and proceedings. This applies to the time before, during, and after any meeting. All town employees, elected officials, town volunteers, and citizens of Dummerston must feel safe while engaged in their public duties, with no fear of verbal or physical threat or ad hominem accusations. Meetings will be led and controlled throughout by the Chair of applicable town board, committee, or commission. The business of the town and our democratic processes cannot function without basic respect and civility among all town residents."* Alex seconded the motion.

Deb Forrett spoke of her feeling that the discourse at the recent DRB hearing was civil and the need to be able to offer differing opinions. Todd responded to her comments. The above statement is directed toward the Chairs conducting the meetings. Alex spoke

of his concern about a physical threat being directed toward a town employee. Todd reiterated that DRB hearings are to discuss the issues/facts at hand; not personal attributes.

The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote. Maria rejoined the meeting at 6:45PM.

The Board reviewed the ADA Compliance for Covered Bridge steps statement. Full ADA compliance is not feasible. Signage removes Town from needing to be fully compliant. Todd will forward this statement on to the resident that inquired about it.

Todd ordered the necessary recording equipment as required for Non-Advisory meetings effective 7/1/2024.

New Business:

Meeting statement moved up in the agenda to correspondence for discussion.

On a motion by Todd and second from Maria the Board voted 5-0 to sign-off on the Town employee/officials wage changes effective 7/1/2024.

On a motion by Maria and second from Paul the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Todd to approve invoices received by 6/28/24 for payment in FY 2024.

On a motion by Maria and second from Alex the Board voted 5-0 to recess the meeting and convene as the Liquor Control Board at 6:52 pm.

On a motion by Maria and second from Todd the Board voted 5-0 to approve the liquor catering requests from Scott Farm for events on 9/1, 9/14 & 9/27.

On a motion by Maria and second from Tom the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn as the Liquor Control Board and reconvene the meeting at 6:54 pm.

Unfinished Business:

Investing Farmland Protection Fund Monies – Treasurer, Chris Brown

Chris and the Board discussed investing Farmland Fund money. Chris did an extensive amount of research into this. No decision was made.

Update regarding Salmon Brook erosion, Emergency Watershed Protection Program – RFP for design has been issued and responses are due by July 10th. They will be opened and awarded at the July 10th meeting.

The Board will have a special meeting on Tuesday, July 2nd at 2:00 pm to set the municipal tax rate.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Maria made the motion and second from Tom, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Approved

Todd Davidson, Chair

Alex Wilson, Vice-Chair

Submitted by Maria Glabach, Clerk