

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Those attending in person: Mike Hogan, John Cookson, Ruth Goodrich, Betty Ritter, Michelle Leclerc; via zoom: Fred Ducharme, Karen Larsen, Karlyn Schmidt, Jeanne Johnson, Aldo Nunn, Andy Gilbert, Frank Kampf, Jenn Miner, Matt Nally, Will Amenden, Ian Ackerman, Terri Nunn, Dan Dunham, Heather Buark, Jim Wolynetz

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Fred Ducharme
2. Approve Agenda – Mike moved that we approve the agenda with a second by John. Motion carried.
3. Approve Minutes from Minutes from January 5 Cabot Digester Presentation, January 5 SB Meeting, January 11 Special SB Meeting, and January 11, Dog Hearing a motion was made by Mike with a second by Matt. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment – Karen Larsen – She wanted to reiterate what a tremendous job the highway crew is doing. She has never been stranded in her home and is able to travel to St. Johnsbury and Montpelier daily without any problems with the Cabot roads.
5. Emergency Management Update – Over the Martin Luther King weekend we went over 10,000 cases for the State of Vermont, there were 8 new cases and over 140 during the last 10 days. She has posted information about vaccination for people over 75. Registration is on the health department website that you can register for the shot along with Covid updates. Matt had a question – Are we holding at 14 confirmed cases since the beginning of Covid-19. Today marks the anniversary of the first Covid in Vermont. Fred stated that South Dakota has over 1,700 deaths and we are doing a good job to protect the public. She believes we are doing the right thing. They are starting to open up for the first responders to receive the vaccination. Mike had a final question – are you still working with the school? She has had conversations with them and they do feel they are meeting their own needs. It is very encouraging.
6. Trails Committee – Appointment of new member would like to appoint Chuck Talbert. Ruth moved that we appoint Chuck Talbert to the Trails Committee. Motion carried.
7. Town Meeting
 - a. Town Meeting Warning Approval – Mike he has been working with Betty and Michelle and making changes to the articles. We currently have 16 articles on the warning. Article 11 – selling the Masonic Lodge. On our inventory from last year we had it at \$262,264.00. Need to look at all the articles that have come in. Discuss tonight – Article 10 amount – the loan amount and interest subsidy, Article 16 – Service Appropriations – we approved what they requested and included in the Article 12 (general fund). Doesn't make sense to sell it unless we have the voters want to sell the property. Do we need a new municipal building? It does depend on what the Town wants to do. Put it up to the voters. Fred thinks we need to listen to the voters. Matt do we move forward with a new fire station and find out from the voters. Do we want a new FD or location. Mike offered a compromise – it is a good idea for the voters to be involved. FD has not even involved in this decision. I want the voters at a later date. He thinks it is too sudden to do this – a rush judgment. Ideas from Ruth and John are invaluable. We could do it on other property, two other are consideration. John felt that we have been discussing this for two years and nothing has been done. We keep tabling items. Ruth felt that we do this sensibly, and John is correct. People are wanting to have their voice heard. John moved that we put an article if the Town would like us to move forward to have a new Municipal Services. Shall the Town consider a new
Matt – it is a difficult task – the voters need to tell us what we do. Need to have transparency. For some reason they have taken out the calls they went on for 2-3 years. A letter of Skip. Matt – hate to put a question out there to move forward. Doesn't make sense to get rid of the property until we know what the Town residents want. We need to do due diligence. The school is not going to have a vote until April 6 and have it on the school. Comments – Ian Ackerman – is the FD building too small we need to find a new place. If we sell it we need to have it appraised.
Karen Larsen – no public information, can't have vote if we don't know – have to have more information to the public. Needs to be don't thoughtfully and carefully with the Fire Department. Map out public information and how we are going to pay for it. If we can do it in April fine, but not tonight. Jim said Matt is correct. Aldo need more information. John stated – what does the public want type of information, how many calls, Ruth have tried to keep people informed, State said we are on hold because of Covid. Ruth – just to build on – what we do need more information. The working group gave some ideas. Trying to fit the big equipment into a small building. Would like to have the numbers – how many are going out, what are the needs, do they have active recruitment going on. Jenn – her concern with the whole situation. Dean Deasy – I have talked to Skip – need to correct what Ruth – trying to put together. Dean – Reports for 2020. It will come out soon. Mike - It would be good to have the FD on April 6. We can call a special Town Meeting anytime. Terry Nunn – waiting for the FD information, we shouldn't have to wait for a response; Dan – seems like the location is good. Defer to article on until Friday,

January 22, 10:00 a.m. Ruth would like to have something information from the fire department and to have answers and good communications. The FD has done a lot of information on this. Maybe we could move forward.

There are no other articles –

b. Other Items – starting to comb through it. Brittany has offered to help.

8. Water/Wastewater

- a. Other Business – nothing new
- b. John wanted to know about the digging. Have

9. Highway

- a. Sale of Grader Shed Information – Mike is working on this. He will do the warranty deed with an unbillable site and sell as grader shed and “as is”
- b. Sidewalk, dry hydrants and snow clearance – Applicants no applications. Is there another way. Still pursue it. This will be a call in – who are they calling.
- c. Other Business – John did call on Friday regarding the snowstorm on this weekend. Worked out great. Appreciate it. Jennifer Gochey – we are hiring. Could we bid this out? John – it all started out with the skid steer. We did not put in the budget to hire someone to do this when we have our own equipment. Would like to fulfill the need with the equipment we have. We should consider hire a Road Commissioner. Need to hire someone that can do all of it. Ruth – we did budget the money, and we also have the equipment to use. We have budgeted to hire another person. Aldo – What about the FD coming out of their budget and other areas should not come out of the highway. We could put it under the Village at a later date.

10. Town Clerk’s Office

- a. Orders
- b. Other Business

11. Other Business

12. Adjourn Mike Ruth – 7:23 p.m.