

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021, 6:00 p.m. - via Zoom

Those present: Mike Hogan, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter; via zoom: Fred Ducharme, Matt Nally, Ian Ackermann, Jim Wolentyz, Aldo Nunn, Terry Nunn, Gary Gulka, Karlyn Schmidt, Paul and Beth Wade, Sandy Ponds, Sid and Kelly Griggs, Dan Dunham, Jennifer Gochey, Peg Hough, Gregg Burt, Steve Cox, Jenn Miner, Lori Augustyaniak, Frank Kampf, Jeanne Johnson, Kathleen Hoyne, Bobby Searles, Seth O'Brien, Brittany Butler, Ruth Goodrich

1. Call meeting to order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:00.
2. Approve Agenda – A motion was made by Fred with a second by Matt. There are four select board members present with one absent. Motion carried.
3. Approve Minutes from Minutes from March 9, 2021 meeting – a motion was made by Fred with a second by Ian, Matt recused himself as he was not there for the first portion of the meeting. Motion carried by roll call.
4. Public Comment –
 - a. Jim Wolentyz gave an update on the EV Charger Station. He has reached the fundraising that he asked for: \$1,000.00. Regarding the electrician Fred and Ruth suggested that we talk with Aaron Celley. Jim stated that he is looking for volunteer electricians. Ruth was curious about liability issues.
 - b. Terry Nunn – She is still getting phone calls for the fire department not sure what to do. She has contacted Consolidated and they are of no help. Mike said he would check into this for her and see if this could be resolved.
5. Emergency Management Update –
 - a. Jenn stated the numbers are looking better. About 25% in the age group have been vaccinated. Governor is looking at the end of April or May to be a changing factor. Still reminding to be cautious.
 - b. Kathleen sent a note regarding an outdoor gathering on Tuesdays for younger children. Jenn said they are encouraging outdoors with small numbers, socially distanced, and masked and to double check every now and then so we had no complaints if people are watching. Mike suggested that we could do one or two weeks to see if there are any problems that need to be addressed. We cannot take a vote on this since was not warned and make a decision on our next meeting. Matt defers to EM. Kathleen just wanted to reassure that they will follow procedures and would register in advance. Put up flags where families can stand.
6. CCA – three things I wanted to discuss.
 - a. Fourth of July committee will start discussing what kind of alternatives they can come up with for the 4th.
 - b. The next project working landscape network they have written a few articles on working food directory. They have stepped up with a plan for food directory to see what local goods will be available. Possibly an on-line pay. Then later with all the other businesses in Vermont. Possibly grant funding. Deadline is June 1. Mike wanted to know about grant money from the State. Lori said there is not at this time but anticipate there will be.
 - c. The other project is the building across from the Willey Building. The building needs to be demolished as it is in such bad shape. After much discussion they came up with an idea about creating a small park. Could have a pavilion, terraced areas for performance by the river and will be handicap accessible. Mike wanted to know about timeframe. Lori, there is some money coming down from federal for outdoor recreation facilities. We will put the drawing on our website. Ruth thought you could create a nature trail and educational venue for the students. Possible a farmer's market. She will keep us posted.
7. Water/Wastewater
 - a. Other Business – there was no other business.
8. Green-Up Day – A motion was made to have John to Green Up Day. A motion was made by Fred and a second by Ian. Motion carried by roll call.
9. NEKWM Representative – Ben Davis is no longer wishing to be the rep. and NEKWM advised we do not need an alternate. John did check with Paul from NEKWM that there would be no conflict in having John become the rep. A motion was made by Matt with a second by Fred. Motion carried by roll call.
10. Highway
 - a. Decision regarding cameras for garage. Mike wanted to know if Ian and himself could work on this. The Select Board agreed to this.
 - b. Road Commissioner Position Discussion – Mike read an overview of why we need a Road Commissioner before there were any comments. Ian stating that the yearly check can be done by the SB, log books, maintenance and the future needs of the road, and he would be willing to help with this, we could subcontract mowing and not

have so much maintenance for equipment. He does not feel that we need a Road Commissioner and the Select Board could do the grants. We could save some money for possibly a new truck. Fred if we get the right person this would help free up more time, but he is not sure of his stand, he is in the listening stage. Matt said that it would save some money for contracting out for mowing and sidewalks. Can we justify the money for this position? Ian – should we be spending money on the advertisement. Mike thinks we need to write down the areas that need work. It is something to think about it. Comments from people: Sid – when Karen got done she said she worked 5-10 hours a week. He would be interested in helping out with the grant process and he could learn the computer part. Ruth – There can be a fair amount of paperwork. Dividing of duties has been difficult over this pass year. Aldo and Terri said that Michelle is fine with doing this. Steve wanted know about the one applicant that Ruth mentioned. There was one while she was on the Board. Ian said we have to put some numbers together to see what we can save by sub-contracting for sidewalks and mowing as opposed to having a road commissioner. Matt wanted to know about how much time Michelle spends. She stated that it's is not too much. Aldo gets it ready for her. Matt wanted to know if it would help or hinder her efficiency. She said she would have to train someone for this. Mike stated that most of the problems we have had for communication and following through. We need to be better with this. Jennifer Gochey would be a great idea to expand the road crew. Terry – they would call back on calls when they are available if they are on the road. Ruth stated that we have had a year and a half working out problems. It is always good to have their eyes on the job. Mike, we will put this discussion on hold and try to come up with some ideas. Our next meeting in April will be on the 13th and the 20th because of the school vote.

- c. Other business – Mike asked Aldo give an update on the truck. Rusty was plowing and the front plow dug into the soft spot and that the truck came down upon the plow. The truck is in fairly decent shape. The plow came off and things need to be replaced. That plow and frame was purchased from Fairfield and they are now in NH. This truck is up next for replacement in 2023. Rusty is fine. A claim has been put in to our insurance company. Aldo will get pictures to Betty to send to the insurance company. The truck can just be driven. Aldo believes it is worth to replace the plow frame.

Dave's truck – he is working on it. It is a slow tedious project. Still no estimate on price.

11. Town Clerk's Office

- a. Orders – Mike signed the orders and Betty asked others to come in tomorrow and sign the orders.
- b. Other business – Betty will send around a sheet for people to sign up for the School vote on April 6.

12. Other Business – Mike wanted to remind everyone to think about the Road Commissioner position.

13. Adjourn – Fred Ian – Motion carried. We adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully,

Betty Ritter, Cabot Town Clerk/Treasurer