

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Those attending in person: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter, Frank Kampf, Jenn Miner, Lynn Maxfield, Richard LaSalle, Dana and Sue Robinson ; via zoom: Matt Nally, Ian Ackermann, Jenn Miner, Karlyn Schmitt, Ian Ackermann, Matt Nally, Bobby Searles, Dan Dunham, Gwen Hallsmith, Carrie Randolph, Jeanne Johnson, R.D Eno, Amy Hornblas, Greg Burt

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:00 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda – a motion was made by Fred with a second by Matt. Motion carried.
3. Approve Minutes from Budget Meeting, October 25 Budget Meeting, November 15 Budget Meeting, November 29 Budget Meeting, and SB Minutes from November 16, 2021. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Ian with Matt abstaining as he was not at the meetings. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment – Gwen Hallsmith – wanted to go on record that her and her husband will be checking for the 12th night Cabot Protocol. Carrie Randolph is asking about how to carry out protocols. There was no comment on this. Anything else we will get a legal opinion. It is important to keep policy – vaccination does not actually mean you are not carrying covid. We don't want to put policy out that can't be carried out. Dana Robinson – it is a private event that is open to the public and they can set their own policies. Susan – if there is a birthday party – does the government have the authority as to who they can invite? Alison Despathy–there is an exemption and this is discriminating.
5. Emergency Management Update – There is an uptick in cases in Cabot. We have 44 people and that is cumulative since February of 2020. People are doing everything in a cautious manner. New case count is Washington County – 22 new cases. On vaccinations 9,277. 95 deaths of fully vaccinated people. Science is not conclusive. Everyone across the nation is dealing with this.
6. Discussion on Legislation Passed (S1) authorizing face coverings-Mike would like to comment on the legislation. It is a piece of legislation that the Governor sent it to the legislation and they adopted that Town could adopt a rule. We would review it every 30 days. This will sunset on April 30. We are not required to pass anything tonight. We are talking about mask coverings. We are not getting into anything legal. There were many comments for the mask coverage. They can be listened to on the cabotvt.us website. We have another SB meeting to give another chance for next week. IF you want to write something, send it to the Town Clerk or SB. Mike thanked everyone for coming.
7. Errors and Omissions – Jeanne stated that the current use file is frozen and she couldn't enter into system until property valuation and review until after the tax bills were sent out. There was no change to these tax bills. The final one was three parcels were merged into one. A motion was made by Mike with a second by Fred. Motion carried.
8. ARPA Funding – Office Equipment/Recycle –
 - a. Mike was speaking with ARPA money on the office equipment. Recycling Center – what we want to spend. There was some theft and people dropping off garbage. Large boulders. We need to look at the whole for the recycle center.
 - b. We are able to purchase a new copier for the Town Clerk's office. Mike motioned that we approve the ARPA money of not more than \$3,000 for a new copy machine in the Town Clerk's Office with a second by Fred. Motion carried.
 - c. Planning Commission – working on doing regulations to consider about \$2,500 for a match to apply for a grant of 10% - we were wondering if we could use ARPA funds to utilize to help with Brittany's hours as ZA if needed to bring to voters in a more timely fashion if needed. They will present parking policy 2022 for this year.
9. Water/Wastewater Other Business – working on the budget There was a Class action suits for communities that have water system. Jim from H2O advised this was something to do with a federal employee and does not involve our system.

10. Highway

- a. Ian – Update from Highway – Rusty’s truck is up and running. Roads are fine.
- b. Mack Mountain Hydraulic Study – Doug Newton had some suggestions and talk about it next week. Will review with Aldo. Doug Newton does a good job. Do you want Doug to call in – not at this time.
- c. Open bids for snow removal - \$9,000 for the season, \$200 a time Mike is going to recuse because his grandson bid on this project. Matt wants to make sure what is expected what, when, and where. We need a plow rather than just a snow blower. At this time Ian will contact the person that bid (we received only one).
- d. Other business – plowing trails – Karlyn wanted to know if the Town will plow parking lots for the trails. There was some discussion regarding this as the trails are on private property. It seems that the Town Crew is primarily responsible for the roads and trails should be taken care of voluntarily. Simple – it is possible if it is icy and he slides off the road, he is looking for 2-3 hours to get pulled. Small parking lots could be plowed with town truck but it is their responsibility to get the roads plowed. The SB feels this should be taken care of voluntarily. Possibly figure out to raise some money and have it farmed out. Matt concerned about liability and if it is not maintained that there could be a liability. Matt does not feel he is in favor and Fred is not. We can’t afford to lose a truck. Defer to another time.
- e. Budget Meeting will be next Monday. December 13 at 5:00 p.m.

11. Town Clerk’s Office

- a. Orders – they have been signed and Matt will come in and sign on Wednesday since he was via zoom.
- b. Application for Special Event at Holiday Market-St. Johnsbury Distillery A motion by Mike to approve with a second by Fred. Motion carried.
- c. Mortgage Discharge from CCIF to CCA – need to sign. We have received the payoff.
- d. Other business – Washington County will have their county budget meeting if any SB would like to attend.

12. Other Business – Richard Scheiber - The Public meeting minutes of 11-16 numbers 11a and 11c are there any emails that led up to discussion between Cabot and Agrimark. What is a pre-treatment fund? He does not want to have his taxes increases. Nothing has been decided. What is the condition of the wastewater plant? Who is going to pay for engineering studies? Mike will send him what he has by first class mail.

13. Adjourn – A motion was mad by Fred with a second by Mike. Motion carried. We adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer