

## **SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 6:00 P.M.**

Those attending in person: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter, Frank Kampf, Dean Deasy, Aldo Nunn, Terry Nunn

Via zoom: Ian Ackermann, R.D. Eno, Jenn Miner, Matt Nally, Ben Davis, Amy Hornblas, Lisa Olson

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:00p.m.
2. Approve Agenda – Fred, Ian second Motion carried.
3. Approve Minutes from SB Minutes from January 24 and 26, 2022 (Health Board Orders) and February 1, 2022. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Ian. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment – Jenn spoke regarding the renewal for the Town Plan. They advised her they need a letter in advance of asking to accept the proposed amendment. She wanted to know if it the SB would like to draft a letter or she would be glad to do it. Mike suggested that her and Mike discuss this and draft a letter.
5. Emergency Management Update – 158 cases, 12 in Washington County. Only 2 more confirmed cases in Cabot. There was a pop-up vaccine clinic in Cabot on Saturday 12 and 6 people came. They were all local families. Terry wanted to make sure that Cabot Creamery does know. Jenn did notify the Creamery and sent flyers to Sue. Terry suggested that she give the pamphlets to her and she will circulate them.
6. Common Road – School Bus loading and unloading – we discussed this last meeting and they were going to call in to discuss this. Aldo knows that when they do put the sign up on the bus, there is a backup. Ian talked with the principal and they are considering changing the place where they drop the kids off where they use to so it won't have the back up of cars and parents picking up their children a problem. It was suggested that we have the principal come to the next meeting. Ian will take care of asking her to come.
7. Elections – updates – The ballots have been mailed and we will conduct the polls like we did in 2021. Ballots are coming in daily.
8. Update on Order for Spencer Property – update – Betty has been in contact with Susan Spencer and she is doing the best she can to make sure the property is secured. I will keep in close contact with her and make sure this is done.
9. ARPA Funds
  - a. Willey Building Needs and Repairs – Brad Alexander – deferred due to waiting for estimates.
  - b. Fire Department Request for various needs – gear dryer to dry their gear, takes a long time to dry if they are hung, hose washer – remove carcinogens, and other glass and gravel embedded, the dryer can also dry the hose. We would like to buy new hose as the hose we have has some that leaks, the repair of building generator –building with small leak in the radiator. Has to be refilled every week. Mike had a couple of questions – why didn't we hear about this in the regular budget cycle in the last couple of years. Do you know of any other grants pay for this, and what is the priority of these items? Dean said he has not heard of any grants but will always being checking this out. If he would prioritize the hose is the priority and then the gear dryer. Matt, thank the chief for bringing these up. It does cost a lot of money – concerned amount of room where he would put it. Do any of the local volunteer departments have these items that could be shared. Dean spoke that they have a large wooden cabinet to shrink down – to make space. He is trying to free up some floor space and he would have room to put the dryer. Dean is not aware of any local fire departments having this equipment. The closest one is Barnet. If we built another fire station the size would be the same. Terry wanted to know what other towns are doing. Other towns are doing it by hand. Marshfield has a hose hanger. When the gear is hung to dry, it takes a very long time. If we had another call right off and the gear is not dry, that creates a problem. The gear is supposed to last ten years. Mike would like to encourage Dean to come to every budget meeting. Dean stated that he is planning to do this. He wanted to defer to the next meeting which will have the new board. If we do approve this, we would like to allocate the money to set it aside. We should be able to decide in the second meeting in March which is March 22. Fred wanted to know where the contaminated water goes. It goes in a catch basin then collected in a barrel.
  - c. Broad Band – R.D.Eno – Vermont community authority is offering a matching grant to the Community District that we belong to. They will match the funds dollar for dollar and needs to be used in Cabot. It would expand the timeframe. Mike wanted to know the speeds. R.D. said 100 up and down. If CVFiber gets this

dropping line for each place would cost about \$500 and would advance the timeline for better wifi for Cabot residents.. Fairpoint Communications drops their service all the time. Better wifi is essential for economic development in Cabot. It would be approximately \$70 for a monthly service. He is now paying \$50 now and the service is poor. Mike stated that Spectrum is very fast. RD said fiber optic is the fastest. Would like to have more information at the next meeting.

10. Water/Wastewater

- a. Wastewater Pump Controller Agreement – Martin for Elm Street, she will be responsible and then would do the work. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Matt. Motion carried.
- b. Update on FEMA Grant of 2019 – We have received some more money for administrative fees which we will deposit in the Wastewater account.
- c. Other Business – engineering review is going on by Dufrense.

11. Highway

- a. Ian – update – he will go look at the gate at the Recycle Center on Wednesday – Ian thought we can get rid of the gates and use security camera. Mike state that the gates are important for security for the Recycle and Wastewater plant. It was suggested that we use a triangle gates at a cost of \$2,500 on both the upper and lower entrances. Lower could be one gate.
- b. Mack Mountain Culvert – grant up to \$200,000. We do not know what the match would be. We do need to have a new engineering firm and suggested Wolfe Engineering out of Montpelier. We will contact them tomorrow to see if they would be willing to help with various projects.
- c. Porter Road Update – the big FEMA grant is closed, but we now have a grant for \$7,650 for the planting of the trees. We need to have Hebert Construction do this by this spring.
- d. Other business – Municipal Road General Permit (ANR) – the State wants 15% of the segments to be finished by December, 2022. Ian said that he talked with Allan May said that as long as we are trying to take care of it. However, we do have to follow through on the State highway plan that was sent to us.
- e. Ben Davis – He wanted to discuss cars coming down the Cabot Plains. Cars often go right off the intersection onto 215 – there is no stop sign and they will be going into traffic at 55mph. This is very dangerous. Put a big stop sign could be a solution. There is a stop sign on both sides of the road. It is gone. It would be clearer to have a bigger stop sign across the road in his yard. Aldo did talk to a state trooper regarding putting a stop sign across the road but technically this cannot happen.

12. Town Clerk's Office

- a. Orders – they have been signed. Matt will come in tomorrow to sign.
- b. Agreement-Use of Town Property-Cameras – the Town is purchasing a couple of digital cameras for the use of the Health Officer and the Town Clerk's office. We drew up a policy regarding the use of the camera and storage of the pictures. Matt has suggested that we keep a log of who took the picture, what it was, and for what reason if it is ever to be used for litigation. Dean does take picture of fires or accidents. Some of these are confidential. They are taken for insurance purposes. What does this do to these pictures as they are taken on Town I pad. Mike suggested that the Fire Department may have to have the FD their own policy. As of right not the chiefs are the only one to have access to them. We will work on the agreement.
- c. Other business - there was no other business.

13. Other Business – There was no other business.

14. Adjourn – A motion was made by Fred with a second by Matt. We adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Ritter  
Town Clerk/Treasurer