

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Those present: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, R. D. Eno, Ian Ackermann, Skip Bothfeld, Betty Ritter, Michelle Leclerc, Dean Deasy, Silas Robbins, Stephanie Burt, Frank Kampf, Steve Hogan, Gregg Burt; via zoom Amy Hornblas, Karlyn Schmitt, Brittany Butler, Jeanne Johnson, Jenn Miner, Gary Gulka, Roland Payne, Ellen Cairns

1. Call meeting to order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:02 pm. Mike asked that everyone silence their phone, raise hand to speak, and item 15 is for announcing a new program or an important date. If it needs to be voted on, it will be put on a future agenda.
 2. Approve Agenda -a motion was made by RD, seconded by Fred. We will switch item 10 (constable discussion) with item 5 when Gregg comes in (CCIF). Motion carried.
 3. Approve Minutes from March 8, 2022 – A motion by RD, seconded by Skip, motion carried.
 4. Public Comment – Stephanie wanted to discuss putting in a pump bike track by the Pavilion. Silas Robbins explained a bit about it. We will add this to the agenda for April 5.
 5. Constable Discussion – Steve stated that we did not approve the second constable at the last meeting and would like to appoint Andy Achilles as the second constable. Mike motioned that we appoint him as second constable with a second by Skip. Mike asked if there was any discussion. After much discussion, it was suggested that we have Andy come to the next meeting. Mike withdrew his motion. Steve said that he is requesting that we budget more money – he suggests \$25.00/hour for constable and animal officer plus mileage and would like to have a jacket with his title and name which is around \$65.00 along with a picture id card with our unit number. He is checking into the unit number. He is also requesting a portable radio to communicate with the State Police which would cost around \$950.00. It was suggested that we could use ARPA money for some of this. A motion was made by RD to change the constable rate to \$25/hour from \$25 for each call with a second by Fred, motion carried with Mike abstaining. Ruth wanted to talk about something similar for the health officer to be paid a fee.
 6. Emergency Management Update – there has been a decrease with indoor masking going away. Mike asked how she would like to report in the future. It was suggested that she report once a month unless something occurs that needs to be discussed. She is revising the LEMP – that will need to be in by the end of April. We will schedule a time for this at the April 19 meeting. Mike thought once a month unless something comes up. The SB thanked Jenn for keeping everyone informed and for all of work she has done on this.
 7. Rec Committee – re ARPA Funding. They are asking for \$13,625 which would supply all the extra costs of port a potties, basketball and soccer shirts for K-6th players, a pump track, solar panels for concerts and movies. It was suggested that this be done on a quarterly basis. Fred motioned that we allocate \$13,625 of the ARPA money to be spread out over 4 seasons with a second from R.D., motion carried. Mike wanted to know if Twinfield will be sharing any costs as their children will also participate in this. She stated they have very good fund raising and they are in discussion regarding this. Brett and Stephanie are welcome to come to the next meeting to discuss anything further.
 8. Trails Committee – Appointment of committee member instead of chair – The have 6 members and one resignation. They interviewed Monique Gerbex and felt she would be a good match for the committee. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip, motion carried.
 9. Conservation Committee – Planting of trees on the Common. Roland the tree warden stated that the two trees that are on the green planted by the Roland, Sr. and the trees have died. They are looking to replace the two trees in the same place. They have a pretty good root system that need to be dug up, and would like to get replacement trees. They would need a small excavator and fresh soil, along with some mulch for around \$500.00. Mike wanted to know what kind of trees. They have not decided at this time. He thought of a Kentucky Coffee or perhaps a Cherry Tree because they do not get too big. They need to take the plaque down that went to the old Elm Tree. He will take out the old Elm Tree that is dying. He will get back to us on the amount.
- Ash Borer – final a draft to present – needs to look at the SB and RC and RF. Send to Betty and they will review. He will come in the first meeting in May.

10. CCIF – discussion with Greg Burt and Appointment of member. A motion was made by Mike with a second by RD to have Jack Daniels as the new member, motion carried. They are looking at better ways to utilize the fund. Mike asked if he could come back at a later meeting to discuss in depth the proposed CCIF plan. He agreed to this perhaps in May.
11. ARPA Funding –
 - a. Betty stated we are in need to upgrade the Network and computers and consulting for Town Clerk's Office, Zoning, and Lister's Office, along with the purchase of Owl for Zoom calls. They would need an additional \$6,000 for accomplish this. A motion was made by Mike with a second by Fred that we allocated \$6,000 from the ARPA funds to finish this much needed process, motion carried. Dean is also working with Rural Solutions for the fire department.
 - b. RD is part of CV Fiber – one of the leaders in the state for broadband. If we make a contribution, of \$50,000 the Vermont Community Broadband will match this amount to make it \$100,000, and this money will be spent only in Cabot, and we decided how this is to be spent. They are doing pole inventories underway with network design comes next. This means the rates will be much more reasonable. We can decide how to use the money. If we decided to allocate money we send a letter of commitment. RD moved that we commit \$50,000 of the ARPA money to CV Fiber with a second from Fred, motion carried. Gregg wanted to know if they have better connection how much would it cost to the consumer. RD thought it would be around \$70.00.
12. Water/Wastewater
 - a. Other Business - Betty stated that Marcy signed the form for the Wastewater Collector Pump and I discussed this with Jim today and he will make sure this is ordered and taken care of.
13. Highway
 - a. Other business
 1. The road crew are working on the roads.
 2. Aprons – will be for the next fiscal year.
 3. Houston Hill must be done by July 1.
 4. Rusty's truck, we keep working on it.
 5. Aldo's truck seems to be having trouble with the alternator.
 6. Ian asked about checking into the private powerline that was brought down during plowing. Fred said we need to check with the insurance company. Betty is looking for the paperwork. Ian stated that he will contact the owner to get all the information to submit to the insurance.
14. Town Clerk's Office
 - a. Orders – they have been signed.
 - b. Report on Tax Sale -March 15 – it was the biggest turnout we had and all the properties were purchased by individuals.
 - c. Liquor License Approval – Cabot General Store – A motion was made by Mike with a second by Ian to 2nd class license for Cabot Village Store and Tobacco license, motion carried. A motion was made by Mike with a second by Ian to approve Harry's Hardware 1st class and outside consumption, motion carried.
 - d. Willey Building Rental – Betty would like to open the Willey Building for rental again. The SB agreed.
 - e. Other business – RD wanted an update on the Spencer property. It is being boarded up and not allowing entrance. Once she is in compliance with the emergency health order, we can see what the next steps are. Susan did want to demolish the building as the cost of renovations would be prohibitive. The health office may be able to step in and get the state involved.
15. Other Business
 - a. Cabot Creamery – utilizing more of the water and wastewater into system. We will invite Jim and Aaron to the meeting in April.
 - b. Ruth wanted to know if Fred is attending the CCA meetings and reporting back. She also heard that the CCA working with FD for a new building. Does anyone know anything about this? No one seemed to know.
16. Adjourn – A motion was made by Mike to adjourn with a second by Ian, motioned carried. We adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer