

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

Those present: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Ian Ackermann, R. D. Eno, Skip Bothfeld, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter, Frank Kampf, Richard and Jenny Gilbert, Jennifer Gochey, Larry Gochey, Aldo and Teri Nunn, Richard Young and _Ewa Senkowska; via zoom: Chris Schmitt, Roland Payne, Jr., Jeanne Johnson, Richard Scheiber, Ruth Goodrich, Beth Wade, Brittany Butler, Dana Glazier, Kathleen Hoyne

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 RD Eno, with a second by Fred. Fred would like to add a discussion on the parking lot under item 14. Motion carried with the addition.
3. Approve Minutes from Minutes from May 3, 2022 – a motion as made by RD Eno, with a second by Skip. R. D. would like to amend the minutes of May 3 to read: Strike R. D. abstained from the minutes to substitute “R.D. abstained from voting on the minutes on the Common. On Item 10 strike “adverse condition, and substitute “adverse possession; and strike sentence beginning “R.D. would like to have. . .” and substitute “R.D. moved to endorse the location of the bandstand on the Common, but added that, if the select board is not ready to make a decision, he would move to table the motion, assuming it is seconded; strike the word “void”, substitute “have an impact on”; strike the phrase “group of personal people” and substitute “group of private citizens, not the Town”; add at end of item “Motion to table passed. He also noted that the corrected Minutes of April 5 should appear on the town website of record.
4. Public Comment – There was no public comment.
5. Dog Ordinance Discussion – Especially Section 4, D – Noise – Frank Kampf brought this up at the last meeting and advised him that we were going to discuss it at this meeting. Mike then proceeded to read the section from the Dog Ordinance. Mike then wanted to know what exactly what Frank wanted. Frank wanted what the Boards interpretation of this ordinance. Mike stated that dogs do bark continuously at times, and he has had neighbor’s dogs bark continuously, and he would close the window and put on the fan. The definitions were in there for a guidance. Is there a better way of saying or enforcing this? We believe it is meant to have neighbors work the situation out. RD wanted to know if this Ordinance superseded the previous Ordinance. Mike stated that it did. RD feels what Frank is saying what constitutes a nuisance, and he would not like to litigate this. He doesn’t see any way of making it clearer. If we need to amend an ordinance, there is a process of amending an ordinance. Mike will take another look at it. RD suggested that if there is a complaint under 4d, the person bringing the complaint should bring in a recording of the problem.
6. Lease for Baseball Field – Discussion/Decision – Baseball lease – The board had a couple of questions regarding Article 4 and wanted to know the reasoning behind the increase. Jen stated that it is necessary to carry insurance on the property. Article 7 subsection – trimming around twice, road bottom of the bank that reaches the field – change to once a month for the mowing around the circumference of the field. A motion to approve the agreement was made by Fred with a second by R. D. Motion carried. Jen will come in the next couple of days to sign the agreement.
7. Recreational Trail Grant – Discussion/Approval – Chris Schmitt stated that Gary has nothing to submit. We will put in on the agenda for the June 7 meeting.
8. Planning Commission Discussion – Jenn asked that this be deferred until the June meeting 7.
9. Ash Borer Discussion and Approval – discussing this for a couple of meetings and before we make a decision Ian wanted to discuss with the road crew before we approve it. Ian believed that it doesn’t feel it is necessary to cut every ash on the road, and some of the trees would be beyond the ability of the road crew without necessary training and equipment and that it would take all 3 of the road crew to do this. Fred feels that it is a lot to put on the road crew. Ruth Goodrich said that the road crew does do a great job on the roads, but their expertise is not in cutting large trees and could be dangerous. Roland Payne stated that anything large we would contract this out. Mike felt that trees that are ready to fall onto the power lines would be dangerous for the road crew and the power companies should be handling this. R. D. did mention that the power companies have been up and down his road cutting some of these ash trees. Mike stated that we have nothing budgeted until for the upcoming fiscal year, but could put something in the following fiscal year (2023-24). In the meantime, perhaps we can use come of the ARPA money to take care of some of this. RD wanted to know if we are under an obligation to take down these ashes. Roland stated that we are obligated to keep the roads free. Roland did not count the trees for power line right of ways. RD said that some of the big trees can cause power outages. He is suggesting that our plan should be

updated regarding what the power companies are taken down. Roland said this was done in February and it would be best to do it at the end of the summer. Mike asked if there will be any money from the state. Roland stated there is no money coming from the state. There is a seminar in Montpelier on the 24th if anyone is interested in going. Fred – it still does not speak about how to take the trees down. He feels that we need to let the contractors take down the bigger ones. He feels that the road crew can take the smaller ones down. Skip – we should be proactive to take them out or keep an eye on them. Fred suggested that we don't take down trees by the power lines or other ones that they feel would be too large. Mike said that perhaps we could use some of the ARPA money. RD asked what was the date to have this done by? Roland said there was no date, it will be a continual thing. Mike, do we approve or keep tweaking, or try to keep taking trees down. RD how many roads would have no power lines. Roland said he never checked this because we still need to maintain the roads. Fred stated that when the power companies take down trees, there are still trees on the other side of the road which they do not touch, and these could be a hazard. Roland stated that anyone properly certified – tree service or utility crew can take down the larger ones. Fred – Roland has done a lot of work on this this and we should go ahead and approve and not relook at the plan. RD moved that we approve the ASH Borer Plan with a second by Fred. Larry commented about how the Elm trees were taken down years ago. Roland stated that we cannot compare the Elm trees to the Ash trees and he is not looking to take all the Ash trees down. They are leaving trees under 16". The forest management people told Richard Hourihan they are not taking 6-8" trees down. The motion was carried after this discussion.

10. Discussion on land donated out back from Cabot Commons – table to next week. This is a small stretch that belongs to Cabot Commons.
11. Water/Wastewater
 - a. Other Business – We have not heard back from the hydrologist yet. We will check on this.
 - b. The wastewater collector has been installed at the Martin location.
12. Highway
 - a. VTrans Annual Financial Plan & Town Road and Bridge Standards Signoff needs to be signed.
 - b. Other business:
 1. Ian and Aldo said the grading is doing very well. They have finished Lovely Road.
 2. Rusty's truck is still not repaired and McLeods does not know when it will be.
 3. They are waiting on chloride. Aldo stated that we normally go through 12,000 gallons.
 4. They are doing some ditching and changing culverts with the one on Urban Road done. Fred wanted to know why the state is using metal over plastic for the culverts.
 5. Aldo had a question for the board – lights in the garage are going. They have replaced 5 or 6 and three more out. He has asked the Selectric to write up a replacement cost for all of them including one over the workbench. It will cost around \$4,200 to replace the lights. Ruth stated that we could possibly receive a rebate with Vermont efficiency. Aldo stated that this rebate is included in the cost.
 6. Blower for culverts will be around \$9,800 and will be included in the VLTT grant to see how much we will receive.
 7. Ian meeting regarding the aprons on several roads tomorrow at 11. Mike will go with him.
 8. Betty asked about taking the signs down for Willey Building Parking only. Ian will take care of this Wednesday.
13. Town Clerk's Office
 - a. Orders – they have been signed.
 - b. Other business:
 1. We have the deed going back to the Delouise family to sign by the SB from a tax sale
 2. The Outside Consumption Permit for the Den at Harry's Hardware was amended, and Betty approved it.
14. Other Business:
 - a. Fred would like to have a porta potty in the WB parking lot as there is not public restroom after the Willey Building is closed. We would like it from May through October. A motion was made by RD with a second by Ian. Motion Carried. RD will check on prices.
 - b. RD stated that the CCA is contributing \$500 to Amanda Legare for flowers around the village and would like to know if the Town would contribute \$500. Betty stated that last year Amanda did not want to do this and we have Cabot Greenhouse do the window boxes and they are doing them again this year. RD will check into this with Amanda and CCA.
15. Adjourn- A motion was made by Fred with a second by Ian, motion carried. We adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer