

SELECT BOARD MEETING AGENDA-MINUTES

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Those present in person: Mike Hogan, Ian Ackermann, RD. Eno, Betty, Ritter, Michelle Leclerc, Linda Savoca, John Cookson, Don Mitchell, Bill Walters, Ruth Goodrich, April Borelli, Larry Gochey, Richard Hourihan, Jenn Miner, Richard Gilbert, Jenn Gilbert, Ken Gokey, Roland Payne, Sandy Ponds, Steve Gregg, Kathleen Besch; via zoom: Skip Bothfeld, Kris Schmitt, Brittany Butler, Kathleen Hoyne, Steve Hogan, Alisson Hogan, Patricia Halloran

1. Call meeting to order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:01 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda – A motion was made by R.D. with a second by Ian. Betty had one correction: the minutes are from July 5, not June 21. Motion was carried with the correction.
3. Approve Minutes from Minutes from correction from July 5, 2022. RD wanted to note that the minutes be clarified to read that Kris Schmitt wondered if Executive Session is an option. RD stated that it is an option, but it is not required. It was on the audio, but was not stated in the written minutes. A motion was made by R. D. Eno with a second by Ian to accept the minutes from July 5 as corrected. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment –
 - a. Sandy Ponds wanted to know what exactly is executive session. Mike explained it is used for personnel issues or there is a provision that you can go into executive session for real estate. Mike stated he would bring the statute to the next meeting.
 - b. Linda Savoca submitted a petition to block any structure to be built on the Common and there will be more signatures coming.
5. Village Center Designation Update –Please note that the conversation was very long. If you wish to hear the entire section please go to Cabotvt.us under Selectboard and select the audio for July 19. The PC had a meeting on Thursday, July 14. Jenn passed around the new VCD. We lost that because we did not follow the process. With the help of Brittany and Blaine from the State of Vermont we have made a new map. It is the same space, and we are also asking the Board to extend it to the Pavilion and the Rec Field. If we develop this area, it would then qualify for grants. We also included Cabot Creamery as it was not in there in the past. The only reason it was not included previously was that it was an industrial plant. Blaine did not seem to think this would be a problem. Jenn would like to have the SB approve the VCD. The PC will then do a public hearing on their August meeting and the SB can do a public hearing on August 16. Mike wanted to know if we could call this a draft map. Jenn saw no problem with this. motion was made by RD to give approval for the map and to go forward with the next steps with a second by Ian. Motion carried.
6. Discussion regarding the Common - As in #5 there is much conversation. If you wish to hear it verbatim, please go to the audio on Cabotvt.us. This discussion will be continued at the August 2 meeting.
7. Cabot Creamery use of municipal water – They would like to increase their water usage from the town – Jim Brimblecombe from H20Innovations is on vacation and we will discuss this at the August 2 meeting.
8. Trails – Approval of Grant – have not heard anything yet, will continue to check each SB meeting.
9. Update on Ash Borer Plan – Roland Payne – Ash tree – RD stated it is a wonderful plan. Has the town been disposed of any? The utility rights of way have been cleared. The plan calls for 72 trees a year. We do not have anything budget, perhaps we can get some training for the road crew, and possibly use some ARPA money for this. Mike wanted to know if most towns are utilizing road crews. Roland – yes. Is it cost effective to send road crews for training? Contractors will be expensive – \$12-\$14,000 per tree. Discuss with road crew. Don – what happens to tree the downed trees. RP – they can be cut and left for the owner (if on their property). If in the right of way, firewood will be open for anyone to take. This disease has already spread. Ruth – excellent opportunity to help people in the community that needs firewood. MH are you aware of wood lots –there is a wood dump Houston hill. Firewood is property of owner – owner gets the wood first choice. MH is the road crew going out of their expertise – went to Tree Warden – is on road crews. Is it possible to have a SB hearing for all roads – one year at a time. 6 roads at a time. Should we put money aside. Ian asked does the road crew have time – because of the recycle center needing repairs. What happens. What is difference between Paul’s property he paid for it himself. Some of it was in part of the right of way.
10. Animal Control Officer Discussion -Betty said she did not get a response back and have put it on FPF with no response as of today. Ruth what are the duties of – explained the duties.

11. Repairs at Recycling Center – John passed out pictures of the side door. This needs to be replaced. It is mandatory by the State of Vermont to have compost and the racoons keep getting in. He can't repair it anymore and it is possible we will start getting rats in. John has seen an indication of rats. The NEKWM does not pick up until Thursday and it is mandatory to have composting available. District said that the roof is leaking where the cardboards are and getting soaked and they will not pick this up. Need to have the whole roof replaced and lighting replaced. He may not take compost this weekend. Because we are in a district that is run by NEKWD they are the ones that we have to abide by. They make money on the recycle and the state is mandating. Building has been neglected for years. Building needs to be taken care. Gates need to be replaced. RD – is there any way to secure the totes for the interim. He will try to put tires on top of the compost bins. A motion was made to set aside \$15,000 from ARPA funds for repair and maintenance by RD with a second by Mike Motion carried.
12. Water/Wastewater
 - a. Other Business – there is nothing at this time.
13. Highway
 - a. Other business
 - b. Approved for PACIF grant – 100% paid. We have a list and will be submitting this to them.
 - c. Ian asked about the salt shed – going to rust through in the next 5 years. Perhaps we can find a grant, Ruth suggested concrete blocks.
 - d. Ruth – have they sharpen the blades or replace them on the mower. Should be sharpened every day.
 - e. There is road fabric by Berminghams and Dana Glazer's house.
 - f. Corner by Bird Man – ditches are pretty wide and made the road smaller – Ian said this could be due to the mowing that it looks smaller.
14. Town Clerk's Office
 - a. Orders - signed
 - b. Outside Consumption Permit – Den -RD moved that we accept this permit with a second by Ian. Motion carried.
 - c. Application for Special Event Permit – Caledonia Spirits – A motion was made by RD with a second by Ian – motion carried.
 - d. Update on Spencer Property – Susan has the apartment building cleaned out except for a few things in the barn. RD wanted to know if the municipality has any interest in Leonard's house – We do not have any interest.
 - e. Tax Rate – There was discussion on this. Tax rate is 2.3532. A motion was made by RD with a second by Ian. Motion carried. Mike would like to chat with Jeanne about the utility rates.
 - f. Twin Valley Senior Center request ARPA funds for their building needs. They are asking each town in the area. At this point we are prepared to do this, possibility a grant.
 - g. Update on electricity at Pavilion and Rec Field. Mike wanted to be sure to have 200 amp where the bandstand might go. The lines will go underground and Ian said that the town crew can dig the ditches for this. We should look into putting electricity on the Common.
 - h. Update on heat pumps – They are in the works – no time frame.
 - i. Credit card increases. Currently we have a credit card of \$5,000 for general use, Library has a card of \$2,500, and the fire department has a card for \$1,000. We would like to have two more credit cards: One for Water and one for Wastewater in the amount of \$5,000 each. Because we use the Town credit card for purchases for water and wastewater it often drains the funds and we are not able to purchase items we need. This would be a total of \$18,500 for all cards. A motion was made by RD with a second by IAN. Motion carried.
 - j. Other business – There was no other business.
15. Other Business - there was no other business.
16. Adjourn – A motion was made by RD with a second by Ian. Motion carried. We adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Betty Ritter, Treasurer/Clerk