

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 6:15 p.m.
In person at the Willey Building or via Zoom

Those present in person: Mike Hogan, RD Eno, Skip Bothfeld, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter, Kris Schmidt, Dana Glazier, Rory Thibault, et al. Roland Payne, Shannon Smith, Joseph Smith, Will Ameden; via zone: Ian Ackermann, Ruth Goodrich, Eric from Lajeunesse Construction, Stephen Hogan, Ben Ackermann, Alisson Hogan, Nate Peyman, Dan Dunham, Ellen Cairns, Heather Burark, R B Johnson.

1. Call Meeting to order: The meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:02 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda – a motion was made by RD with a second by Skip, motion carried.
3. Approve Minutes from SB Minutes from November 15, 2022: A motion was made by RD with a second by Skip, to accept the minutes as printed. Motion carried. November 17 Special Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Skip Bothfeld with a second by RD, motion carried. November 21 Health Board Minutes: A motion was made by RD with a second by Skip, motion carried. November 28 Budget Meeting: A motion was made by Skip with a second by Mike, motion carried. It was noted that RD abstained from this approval as he was unable to attend this meeting.
4. Public Comment
 - a. Kris Schmidt – Trails Committee – awarding \$80,000 to towns regarding Lamoille Valley Rail Trails which Cabot is included.
 - b. RD wanted to mention the status of Old Center Road 2.8 miles from Danville to Old Center Road. It is a Class 4 roads and remain so and we do not have it on this agenda. Kris – there are some signs and a fallen tree need to be addressed, RD did not know this and took note of this.
5. Cabot – children from the Cabot School gave a presentation about a natural playground. It was clarified that it was going to be a presentation from the HS Students, it is a presentation from the lower grades. They passed out pictures of the playground. They then said that they started planning in March, 2022. RD wanted to know if it will be accessible throughout the summer months. Mike wanted to know about other playgrounds such as the one they are proposing. There are some in NY, California, and in Woodstock, VT. This is a student idea in its entirety from project place learning. The last playground was served by 2 generations, but it did run its course. We are getting more families with young children. They are addressing alternative sources for funding. The price would be \$100,000 but can be reduced by in-kind services and volunteer help. Rory has a request of \$30,000.00 from ARPA funds. Cabot School now has 170 students, and the need is there. Relief money was not used as we could not use it for infrastructure. RD – what kind of other funding are you pursuing. There is a Go Fund Me and have received \$1,800 in just 2 days. Mike stated we received \$430,000 from ARPA and spending it throughout the town and have spent it on many things such as the library, CV Fiber, IT equipment, Pavilion, Water and Wastewater, Recycle Center, Willey Building. We have \$17,000 left. Shannon Smith stated that it is also for the school, but with community. Mike said that we could not make a decision right now but will discuss this further. Everyone thanked the children for the wonderful presentation.
6. Ambulance – regarding ARPA funds – the monitor is failing, and is a very expensive piece of equipment. We have a used piece of equipment from the hospital and now need to replace it. The place where they can purchase it is willing to put in 3- year contract, and the cost is \$11,000/year. We may be able to use some of our appropriation, or ARPA funds. Skip wanted to know about refurbishing it. Chris said they have tried. Mike said we would have to discuss this.
7. Trails – Chainsaw Training – have a grant that is not finalized yet. We do have slots filled. Will Ameden is sponsoring it and have to know by October 10. The classes will be 12-16, 12-17. It will cost \$1,600 but pay for it in advance from our Grant that will be finalized shortly or pay for it in advance of our FY 23-24 budget. We are hoping to have it done by the 12th. Betty stated that grants usually do not allow you to purchase or spend grant money until the grant is approved. Dana Glazer said that we can do this. Will needs the cash by the 10th. RD moved that we advance \$1,600 for the Chainsaw Training on the understanding that the Town will be reimbursed when you have the grant money, subject to written confirmation that it can be reimbursed with a second by Skip, motion carried. Game of Logging will give certification to all who attend.
8. Roland Payne – Trees on the Common – There was discussion of an honorary tree to honor his father. There is a post that we can attach to the post. He suggested a Chestnut Tree, but some would like to have a tree that can be decorated at Christmas. This will be at no cost to the town, as a group will plant the tree, buy the plaque, etc. Stand is still there for the plaque. He has about 10-12 chestnut trees to plant. The SB felt that Roland can make the choices.

9. Opening of Bids – Demolition of 2466 Main Street – we received 5 bids. Dean did reach out that it was advertised, and Mike read the requirements that were listed. Dean stated that Lajeunesse and Blue Mountain Trucking did a walk through. West Environmental did dip the oil tank, possibly of 50-60 gallons of hazard materials that needed to be removed. West Environmental and came with Lajeunesse. Each one was concerned about the underground tank. RD wanted to know about the garage, and they did check this out also. Eric from Lajeunesse discussed that we could possibly do samples. Everyone that bid was concerned about the unknown and put a clause stating subject to change re: asbestos and dirty soil. Asbestos would take about a week and would cost around \$1,500. Lajeunesse price was removing the tank, including sample but did not include abatement. All bidders are very close in price. Ben Ackermann said that if there is no asbestos (which he allowed \$7,500 his bid would be dropped down.) Steve Hogan stated that would be my 6th demo for the year and included the asbestos abatement in his cost. Lyndonville Garage, had 18 40-yard dumpsters, and sorted through all the recyclable, several mobile homes, small houses and farms. RD agreed about the unknown. Can we drill through the cement and test it. The Town owns the building, and we can do it. What would it cost – Ben said that you are asking us to do this. Do we put out for bids for test drill and asbestos. Ben has a handful of numbers and check this out and felt the bids were all very close. Dean – talked with Erie Lajeunesse. It would be cheaper for the town to clear out the cement and go down into the pit. Ian – why don't we tear the house down, test the soil and rebid for the dirty soil and have everything removed. One to demolish the house and hazardous remediation. The soil could be dirty and we don't know how much this would cost. After the oil tank is taken out – test the soil in slab. Then if there was some his price would be for the dirty soil. Two pieces – tear down the building, and then test the dirt – if it comes out toxic. Connor Contracting is following this to make sure it is done properly – free of charge. Asbestos – is included. Ben – any dumpster shows up you have to have asbestos clearing. Eric – best interest to do the \$1,500 for contracting – better price. State will have to be there to determine the soil. Cheaper to have the contractor do it all. Testing is included. Town is responsible for the permits. Tuesday we will go in Executive Session. Nate Peyman – as neighbor – concern for their health – air quality matter becomes when they are trying to go to certified organic gardening.
10. Water/Wastewater – there was nothing at this time.
11. Highway
 - a. Ian – report on reclassification of roads - did visits yesterday. Actual hearing next Tuesday, October 13..
 - b. Plowing of Recycle and Wastewater – text from John plowing it. Big concern about plowing, he would go the plowing for the Recycle building and wastewater for \$75 each time. The road crew will open the gates and plow through it. If we get a big storm and the road crew can't get to it, we will pay John.
12. Town Clerk's Office
 - a. Orders signed.
 - b. Health Insurance – we discussed health insurance. After much discussion, a motion to made that we go with Blue Cross Blue Shield, Silver Reflective Preferred by Mike with a second by RD. Motion carried.
 - c. Other business - there was no other business, just a reminder that our meeting will be next Tuesday, December 13, after our budge meeting and Reclassification Hearing.
13. Other Business – there was no other business.
14. Adjourn - a motion was made by RD with a second by Skip, motion carried and we adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer