

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

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 to approve the agenda by Fred with Skip motion with parking and storage shed moving #10 to #5
3. Approve Minutes from the Regular SB Meeting and Hearing on April 18, 2023, and the Hearing. A motion was made by RD with a second by Fred, motion carried.
4. Public Comment – No public comment
5. Update on Town Website – Seth gave a review of the proposed website, along with a preview of the new website. It was suggested not to launch the business website at the beginning and to continue collecting the data as Phase 2. Next step is Tuesday or Wednesday, and everyone is welcome to attend.
6. Paul Stecker – signage in Town – gave an overview of what his farm consists of. Because of the location of his farm, which is at the end of the road, he would like to put signs up on Menard Road, Route 2 (at Danville); and the Village. Informational signs approved by the State. Regarding the signs for 215 State Transportation could not assist with these. This is also on the agenda for signs further down on the agenda, and we combined the two together. Sandy Ponds also has a business consisting of a campground, pottery, flowers, massage off Danville Hill. She would like to see about signage in the center of Town. Vermont Art Council has a grant of \$15,000, for signage along with a new type of bulletin board on the Cabot Store. It would take about a year, but in the meantime, we could do a mock-up and Neighborhood In Action will be applying for the grant, and there would be no responsibility for the Town. There is no match to the grant. What about management and stewardship? Could form a committee to maintain the projects. There is plenty of room for trucks to unload, and a safe place for pedestrians to cross or view the signs. Who will have a decision for a business to add and the final product? Sandy stated that if they have a business, they could have a sign. Jenn – does this come under the grant policy? It would not (private enterprise). A suggestion was that it would be good to see some other signs from Towns and how they advertise local businesses. Paul would be satisfied with this type of sign. A walk-thru would be good to see the location. We will walk-thru prior to the next SB meeting on May 16 at 5:30 p.m.
7. Cemetery Commissioner – Investing money – Melvin – talked with Key Bank, investing public funds is a little difficult. He also visited Community, NCFCU, Edward Jones, and stopped at Union Bank. Not positive feedback from North Country or Community. Edward Jones – interest in 5.1%. Union Bank we received \$2,068 in a year. If we invest in funds outside of Union Bank, we can increase the dividend return. We could work on cleaning up dangerous trees, polishing the stones, etc. Edward Jones is not FDIC covered. The Cemetery Commission does not have any legal standing outside of the municipality. Karen: does the state statute allow investment in anything other than FDIC institutions? We believe they do. We need to have Edward Jones send a letter to us asking why we cannot make an investment with them and then have our attorney review this.
8. DRB Discussion and Decision – In order to increase the board, it needs to be warned and voted on by the Town. Alternate members can only serve if another member is not able to participate. Does the Board approve the members that we have now and if not are there any recommendations. Listing of names: Jeanne Johnson and Jenn Miner 1 year; Larry Gochey and Steve Hogan for 3 years; Sue Carpenter; Brad and Amy 2 years. In March of 24 Jeanne and Jenn will be up for renewal or if they choose to step down. It is unprecedented to remove members. Jeanne wanted to know what is the issue that the SB has. They are appointed by the SB just like Boards. Karen stated that on April 18 someone spoke against the Selectboard regarding the DRB on Front Porch Forum. The question was raised: Is the process working that we use now. New people may be appointed to the Board next year if someone steps down. It would be good to have a meeting with DRB and SB. Jeanne would want to encourage new members – and there should be a balance with new members and for those that have served a long time. There is a large learning curve and Jenn stated they had almost a 100% turnover in PC and how difficult it has been. Fred moved that we approve the board as it is now with a second by Karen, with RD abstaining. Motion carried.
9. Approval of Emergency Management Planning – for the record RD was ready to approve it last meeting and thank Mike stopping the Board to sign the Plan. It has been updated but we need to put in the new phone number for the FD. Dean did not have it available, and we need to correct the numbering on the final page. There is financial impact 12.5% and now drop to 7.5%. It is a living working document. Ruth Goodrich is in 2<sup>nd</sup> in command for this type of emergency, and next March approve an alternate to work with Jenn. If we apply to match grant, gives a mark for the 12.5%, which it is now lowered to 7.5% A motion was made by RD to approve the EMP with a second by Skip. Motin carried.

10. Road Sign at Entrance of Danville Hill (where pump and flowers are) – Refer to #6.
11. Approve contract with VT Appraisal Co. for statistical reappraisal – Vermont Appraisal \$27,500 for a data quality study and then a statistical reappraisal. 1<sup>st</sup> payment would be due July 1 and will begin on July 1. Jeanne wanted to thank the SB for being proactive in this decision to begin the process. Jeanne would like to invite our representative to a meeting after the session is over. RD moved that we approve the contract with Vermont Appraisal second by Mike. Motion carried.
12. Water/Wastewater –
  - a. H2O Innovations was tardy on several invoices from last year and the year before, but they have now been paid.
13. Highway
  - a. Sid will be here next week to go over what the highway crew is doing.
  - b. We will be putting an Ad in paper for Rusty's job.
  - c. We would like to write something acknowledging him for all his work and years of service to the Town along with a card and gift card.
  - d. The Truck we have for sale needs more repairs. We have a offer of \$7,500 and should take it instead of repairing.
14. Town Clerk's Office
  - a. Orders - approved
  - b. Approval of Credit Cards with Community National Bank moving from M&T. the breakdown would be: General Fund \$10,000, FD \$5,000, Library \$5,000, Highway \$10,000, Water \$10,000, and Wastewater \$10,000, this a total of \$50,000. Fred moved that we approve this with a second by RD, motion carried.
  - c. Other business: The Cabot Café needs approval for their 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> liquor licenses. A motion was made by Mike with a second by RD, motion carried.
15. Other Business –
  - a. RD rewrote the traffic ordinance and passed it out. At our next meeting we should repeal the old Ordinance and adopt the new one.
  - b. Storage in barn – CV Fiber would like to tour the barn on the 10<sup>th</sup> and RD would like to visit it prior to that date to see if there would be storage available for CV Fiber.
16. Adjourn – A motion was made by Fred with a second by Ski, motion carried, and we adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Ritter, Clerk/Treasurer