

**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024, 5:30 P.M.**

In person: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Karen Larsen, R. D. Eno, Skip Bothfeld, Betty Ritter, Sid Griggs, Frank Kampf, Marie Acchione, Lori Augustyniak, Mark Christenson, Ben Vitale and son, Irv Robbins; Via zoom: Dean Deasy, Kriss Schmitt, Alisson Hogan

1. 5:30 p.m.: Meet at Elm Street Cemetery to discuss parking alternatives – The SB met at the Elm Street Cemetery to discuss parking which will be addressed under Public Comment.
2. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. RD Flood Resiliency Task
3. Approve Agenda - a motion was made by Fred with a second by Karen. Mike asked of there and additions: Discuss Elm Street parking, Fred and Mike will be getting back regarding the Ambulance. RD would like to add Flood Resiliency Task Force, Parking at the Pavilion under Other Business and we will be interviewing the applicants for the Treasurer’s position. Motion carried with the additions.
4. Approval of Minutes from May 21, 2024 Selectboard Meeting – a motion was made by RD with a second by Fred. 4c – wanted to add that Jenn Miner is resigning from DRB, 5 inclusion week – strike by donation, and affirm inclusive reason, Karen did review and update website to add inclusion; item 12 – with heavy rains – ANR pulling debris out as needed. Motion carried with changes.
5. Public Comment – Mark Christenson – proposal on a mural for the north side of the new temporary fire station – if you are interested in doing a little research such as cost, grants, and ideas. Suggestions: Something historic, dairy farming, and view others that around Vermont. Karen –looked at Murals in Jeffersonville, however, may have to pause on it for a year even though it was an innovative idea. Trees will be planted that will block the view and trees block the back. It also will void the warranty and the town does not own the building yet, FEMA owns it. If at that point that we purchase the building it would be brought up again. Mark – felt that the trees are great.

Lori – this is an extension of the 5:30 meeting. Would like to have a Policy for cancellation for thunderstorm, etc. when it should be postponed and cancelled. Mike suggested that we look at some policies concerning this. Notify Emergency Manager town clerk, and anyone else? It will be necessary to walk up and down the streets to let people know.

We will need to start making plans to put in two small driveways – entrance and exit on Elm Street property. We will also work with Dana on his programs. Parking is key for people coming into Town and a parking map will help show people where to park.

Marie Achionne – she would like to address again the sewer pipe is connected at the Church – we feel it was improperly installed, do not see how the Church can be responsible. Fred stated that professionals installed it 27 years ago. The inspector must have looked at it and approved it. RD – stated that he agrees with you, but the Board made the decision. Marie – the Church would be responsible every time it has to get fixed. We have plastic pipe where the black pipe was installed and should last. Karen suggested that we investigate a grant for Children in the amount of \$50,000 and perhaps Karen and Marie could work on this together.

6. Lawnmowing Discussion and Approval for 2024-2025 season – Karen did state that there will be no mowing around the PSB this year as construction is taking up the space where lawn will be. Betty went over the bids: DR Property from Hardwick - \$12,000/year Kyle Chapin will have 2 people with 9 years of experience

in the Essex area (he has never worked for towns) at \$1,845 a week. Northern New England Property Maintenance \$3,850 for the year. Lawnmowing was awarded to DR Property. Betty will go over the areas to be mowed and will have Sid show him other places that are particular to this year.

7. Water and Wastewater – We are still working on solutions for the wastewater plant. The study is nearly done and will be circulated when we receive the 90% draft.
8. Town Clerks Office
 - a. Orders – they have been approved.
 - b. Washington Country Sheriff's Contract – it is the same as last year. A motion was made by Fred with a second RD. Motion carried.
 - c. There were concerns about speeding: it seems that every spring the speeding is worse during the spring months. It is generally the Cabot trucks, whey, independent haulers that are going 60-70 mph. There are more kids in the village, and it still goes on in our back roads. It was suggested that we have the sheriff be at South Walden Road (by the fire department) one-half hour before shift change (2:30) and put up a flashing sign on South Walden Road and at 215 South. We should also try the evening shift around 10:30. Betty will check with the sheriff's department about patrolling at particular times.
 - d. Other business – Betty has had a few calls regarding neighbors on Elm Street are concerned about loud noise since the FD was demolished. We are trying to devise ways to keep the noise down and will see what we can do about planting trees as FEMA removed the trees from the contract.
9. Other Business – Karen wanted to know if we are pursuing an ordinance on noise and could we do something reducing the amplification around 10. Could we make a decision at our next meeting? RD will check on the DRB ruling at Onion Rivier Campground. If we do anything it should be a townwide area without addressing one specific property. We understand that Jerry Jam is now offering a pre-party on Thursday. The Conditional Use Permit was done in 2017 with some stipulations as far as noise levels at certain times.

Rd - Flood resiliency task force – Steve and Mike and Ben Matthews – two big debris pileups – leave in place or move. Ben Matthews advised that we be very aware of what they look like now and after a rain. This needs to be monitored as some debris may be useful.

What about parking at the Pavilion? As of right now it is useless. People want to use the pavilion but cannot. Dean said that there will be 15 spots for parking after the 4th of July.

Tim and Jennifer Gochey decided to not renew the contract for the ball field. We have until July 31, 2024 to move the structures. Fred will talk with Wendell Carlson about using his field. RD was wondering about getting volunteers to clean up the field and see if we could rent it for another year. We would like them to come to the next meeting.
10. Executive Session: A motion was made for RD with a second by Skip, motion carried. We went into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m. and came out of Executive Session at 9:19 p.m. No decisions were made when we came out of Executive Session.
11. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Karen, motion carried, and we adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Clerk/Treasurer