

1 **Selectboard**
2 **March 16, 2020**
3 **MONTHLY MEETING**

4 *All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.*
5 *Meetings may be videotaped; recordings are held by Green Mountain Access Television. GMATV info: PO Box 581, Hyde*
6 *Park, 05655; info@greenmountainaccess.tv or 802-851-1592*

7 **Members Present:** Susan Bartlett, Chair; Roger Audet; Roland Boivin; Brian Shackett, and Roger
8 Barry (by phone)

9 **Members Absent:** None

10 **Others Present:** Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Town Clerk Kim Moulton; Town Health
11 Officer Keith Ulrich; Road Foreman Mark French; Paul Nesky, Sterling View MHP;
12 Emergency Management Director Brad Carriere; Mr. Jones, 40 Fitch Hill Road;
13 Attendees on Phone Call: Rep. Dan Noyes, Senator Richard Westman, Ryan
14 Nolan, Finance Director Alyson Cusson, Carol Fano, Melanie Rodjenski; GMATV
15 did videotape this meeting (Livestream/YouTube).

16 Susan opened the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

17 1) **Welcome** – No changes to the agenda and no public comment.

18 2) **Organizational Meeting** –

19 a) Roland nominated Susan as Chair, seconded by Brian, no objection, so voted.

20 b) Roland nominated Roger Barry as Vice-Chair, seconded by Brian, no objection, so voted.

21 c) **Liaison Roles** by Department:

22 Highway – Brian with Roger Barry support on specific projects to be determined

23 Cemetery – Brian

24 Fire and FAST – Roland

25 NEMS and LCSD – Roger Audet

26 Administration – Susan

27 Library and Recreation – Roger Barry

28 d) Motion by Brian to approve the following:

29 Regular Meetings: 3rd Monday at 6:00 p.m.

30 Rules of Procedure – Readopted 2012 Rules

31 Official Newspaper for Legal Notices – News & Citizen

32 Slate of Officers for 2020 (Board and Committees)

33 Seconded by Roger Barry, So voted.

34 3) **Report and Update on COVID-19** – Town Clerk Kim Moulton reported that the town clerk's office
35 will close 03/17/2020 and move to calls and emails with scheduled visits, if no other options are
36 available to meet a request. Town office closure will follow the school closure which currently will
37 continue to April 6th. Kim recommended the Board consider waiving dog license late fees and fax
38 fess, to reduce the need for residents to come into the office during the Order. The staff will take all
39 reasonable precautions to limit close contact with the public and between staff for the period of the
40 emergency. Discussion on recommended guidance for no contact, protective gear, status of Copley
41 Hospital with negative pressure rooms and curbside testing beginning, Sterling View Mobile Home
42 Park has a residents' group working on implementing guidelines, Meals on Wheels services, 211 calls
43 for residents in need, and starting local emergency managers' phone conferences.

- 1 4) **40 Fitch Hill Road – Local Board of Health** - Town Health Officer Keith Ulrich sent a Notice of Intent
2 to issue a Health Order to Glenn and Linda Jones regarding a failed septic system. Glenn appeared at
3 this meeting to explain he thinks he found a plumbing problem that can be fixed that contributed to
4 the overflow. The Board asked about regular system maintenance and Glenn report that there had
5 been none for several years. Since the notice was delivered, the wastewater flow onto the neighbor’s
6 parcel has abated but the Board felt the risk was still present and remediation measures were
7 required. Motion by Brian to issue a modified health order requiring pumping of the septic tank this
8 spring and then an inspection by a septic designer. Seconded by Roger A. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against,
9 motion passed. Roland abstained as his parcel adjoins the Jones parcel. (return as Selectboard)
- 10 5) **Summer 2020 Highway Work Plan** – Town Road Foreman Mark French was present to review
11 priorities for the summer work plan on town highways, noting that ditching was a priority. Roland
12 asked about hiring a contractor to work with the highway crew for a month. The Board agreed to
13 continue discussions on March 30 for an update on COVID impacts, highway priorities and work on
14 the highway garage.
- 15 6) **5659 VT100 Tax Sale** – The mobile home that the town purchased at tax sale is still occupied and
16 now that the town has the tax collector deed, the tenant would need be removed to allow for resale
17 since they are not paying any taxes or utilities for the property. Motion by Roland to issue a notice
18 to vacate as drafted by the town attorney. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion
19 passed.
- 20 7) **Fireworks Policy** – Discussion to follow up on prior meetings on large fireworks displays following a
21 large event at the high school in the Summer of 2019 that negatively impacted a nearby farm.
22 Options for a policy include allowing one large commercial “public display” event per year while still
23 allowing consumer grade displays. Chief Webster will approve all requests under the current
24 procedures as long as the fire risk is low. Ron explained that the Board could decide to make no
25 changes, add buffer distances between display areas and farms, or prohibit public displays. Roland
26 would like to come up with a plan that doesn’t prohibit displays. The Board asked for a policy to be
27 drafted for review April 20th.
- 28 8) **LCS D Grant** – Susan reported that between meetings a letter of support was needed by the Sheriff’s
29 Department as they prepared to submit a grant for a full-time deputy that would specialize in drug
30 interdiction and mental health response to the opioids epidemic in the County. Motion by Roger A.
31 to authorize Susan to sign and send a letter of support for the Sheriff’s grant application. Seconded
32 by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 33 9) **Fire Services** – Ron provided data on current fire service costs for Hyde Park and Eden. The Board
34 discussed what the sustainable level of fire service is, how to increase volunteers, would stipends
35 help, what are the hours reported by current firefighters, and how can the town best take care of
36 volunteer firefighters. Can existing equipment and future needs be optimized by sharing equipment
37 and updating mutual aid agreements? Susan suggested that a long-term plan, like the one being
38 discussed for police services, should be developed, including ambulance services. Roger A. asked for
39 an equipment list from the Town Fire Department like the one prepared by North Hyde Park/Eden
40 FD, Inc. Carol Fano stated that a strong mutual aid system is important. Fire Chief Savage noted that
41 he is working with the area fire chiefs on a written mutual aid agreement. Brian noted that writing
42 agreements down will clarify accountability and help planning for fire service needs. Ron will work
43 with Brad C. on the equipment list. Brad C. noted that NEMS is using “painter suits” when the are
44 responding and PPE needs are being met or will be met soon.
- 45

- 1 10) **Sterling View MHP Loan Repayment** – Ron reported that the annual \$8,000 loan proceed for Hyde
2 Park has been split between highway equipment purchases and economic development reserve
3 funds. Motion by Roger A. to transfer \$4,000 to the Economic Development Reserve Fund and \$4,000
4 to the Highway Capital Reserve Fund. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion
5 passed.
- 6 11) **VT Arts Council Grant** – Ron reported that since the last meeting a grant application was due to
7 the Vermont Arts Council for design funds to develop ideas for enhancements to the Lamoille Valley
8 Rail Trail that would improve the connection between Main Street and the LVRT. The grant will
9 provide funds for the selection a local artist to come up with drawings for art and design elements
10 at trail connection points to the Village Center. Motion by Roger A. to approve the recently submitted
11 grant application for up to \$5,000 to hire a local artist. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0
12 against, motion passed.
- 13 12) **Liquor License** – Motion by Roger A. to approve the annual liquor licenses for the Hyde Park VFW
14 and Fork & Gavel. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 15 13) **Minutes:** Motion by Roger A. to approve the February 18, 2020 minutes, as written. Seconded by
16 Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 17 14) **Review Town Orders** – Motion by Roger A. to approve the town orders. Seconded by Roland.
18 Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 19 15) **Other Business & Notices**
- 20 • Dog licenses: Motion by Roland to waive the late fee for dog licenses until May 1. Seconded
21 by Roger A. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 22 • Town Office Fax fees: Motion by Roger A. to waive fax fees for as long as the town clerk feels
23 that waiver is needed. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 24 16) **Possible Executive Session:** Discuss town personnel matters, attorney-client matter and real estate
25 purchase or lease options under 1 VSA 313, a, 1-2-3. Motion by Roger to move into executive
26 session to discuss personnel and real estate matters. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0
27 against, motion passed. Motion by Roger A. to approve the hiring of Julie Rohleder at \$20.00 to
28 assist the Board of Listers and assist the Town Administrator with land record research as needed.
29 Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 30 17) **Adjourn** – Motion by Roger to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. No objection, so adjourned.