

Selectboard
June 21, 2021
Hybrid Meeting Minutes

All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes. Meetings may be videotaped and posted on YouTube; GMATV info: PO Box 581, Hyde Park info@greenmountainaccess.tv or 851-1592

Members Present: Susan Bartlett, Chair; Brian Shackett; Dave Gagnier; Chasity Fagnant (6:00 p.m.)

Members Virtual: None

Members Absent: Roland Boivin

Attendees Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Town Fire Chief Brad Carriere

Attendees Virtual: Jim Pease; Ken McPherson; GMATV did record this meeting.

Susan opened the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

1. **Welcome.** IBEW Local 300 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion by Brian to move into executive session to discuss the highway labor agreement. Seconded by Dave. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
2. **Minutes:** Chasity appeared at this point. The 05/17/2021, 06/07/2021, 06/14/2021 were deferred.
3. **LCPC Appointments.** No new additional letters of interest were received after advertising in Front Porch Forum. Motion by Brian to appoint Greg Paus as Municipal Director for 2-years and Richard Pearson as LCPC TAC Representative for 1-year. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
4. **Assignments to FY2022.** The Board discussed four requests from town departments to assign unspent FY2021 funds to FY2022. Fire request to assign \$8,900 of unspent budget funds for the purchase of extrication tools and \$6,000 for fire truck repairs. Brad explained that he hopes to replace extrication tool parts gradually over time rather than asking for \$50,000 all at once. The current unit is at least 22 years old. Request from town highway to assign \$6,000 for double-yellow centerline painting and culvert supply purchase in the amount of \$28,900. Motion by Brian to approve the following assignments to FY2022: \$8,900 for fire extrication tools, \$6,000 to fire truck repairs, \$6,000 for centerline painting and \$28,900 to culvert purchases. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Chief Carriere spoke about the current difficulty with building the fire fighter roster due to training requirements and taking time away from family. Chief Carriere explained that current training is geared to career fire-fighting and he would like to increase outreach to the high school to raise interest in serving, understanding that seeing an increase in the roster number probably would take three or four years. The Board thanked Chief Carriere for coming in, encouraging him to continue to maintain a good level of communication with the Board.
5. **Excavator Matrix.** The Board reviewed the submitted proposals for six machines and discussed the highway crew taking a "test ride" to narrow down the machines being considered. Brian will work with the highway crew and look at all factors to try to come up with a recommended machine.
6. **2021 Dog Warrant** – No enforcement of unlicensed dogs until Sept 13 which is the 90-day COVID extension for expired licenses. Ron explained that the warrant does provide for humanely destroying unlicensed dogs, but the practice is to use the adoption option only as a last resort. Motion by Dave to approve the 2021 dog warrant. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
7. **Draft letter to Percy** seeking a site visit to Center Road culvert . Motion by Dave to approve the letter to Percy. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
8. **Draft letter to Ken Harvey & Sterling View Cooperative Community** on park sale. The Board signed the congratulations letter on the recent sale of the park to the residents.
9. **LCSD FY22 Patrol Contract & Communications Contract for Services.** Ron noted that the proposed contract matches the amount approved by voters at Town Meeting. Motion by Brian to approve the LCSD Patrol and Communications budgets for FY2022. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention (Dave G. as an employee of LCSD). Motion passed.
10. **NEMS Annual Contract for Services** – Motion by Brian to approve the NEMS FY2022 contract and authorize Susan to sign the contract. Seconded by Chasity. Voting 4 in favor, 0 against.

- 1 11. **Watershed Consulting** – Net Zero final report presentation - Andres Torizzo and Tony Stout
2 presented the final plans for the net zero project. Andres noted that if all improvements are constructed
3 100% of the stormwater falling in the designated Village Center will be captured during a 100-year
4 storm event. The project includes new curbing which is designed to accommodate snowplows. The
5 next step is for final editing of the report and site plan to close out this \$50,000 Lake Champlain Basin
6 Program grant. Susan noted that the elements proposed on the site plan are subject to change during
7 final design and construction. The Board appreciated the comprehensiveness of the plan for the
8 Church and Main Streets area.
- 9 12. **Grants-in-Aid Program** – Letter of Intent to apply for \$13,500 Grant for Diggins Rd – Authorize Town
10 Administrator to sign required documents. Brian to authorize Ron to sign the Letter of Intent for the
11 FY2022 grant round. Seconded Chasity. Voting 4 in favor, 0 against ,motion passed.
- 12 13. **Harvey Loan Payoff** The loan to support construction of the Sterling View Mobile Home Park was
13 paid off in full resulting in unanticipated revenue of \$44,415.35. With the loan payoff, the loan account
14 not longer needs to maintain a minimum \$5,000 balance to manage a small loan to Marilyn Zophar,
15 and only \$1,000 is required to be maintained to have Union Bank continue to service the loan. Motion
16 by Brian to transfer \$40,000 to highway reserve and \$8,415.35 to economic development reserve
17 fund. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 18 14. **Paul Bruhn Grant \$50,000** – The prior discussions on the grant’s historic easement restrictions with
19 Preservation Trust of Vermont is deferred until the Selectboard’s July monthly meeting to allow PTV
20 to review the Gihon Valley Hall’s building renovation plans.
- 21 15. **Stormwater Funding Updates** – Ron reported that work is being done with the Lamoille County
22 Conservation District to seek state funding to support three stormwater projects in the Village of Hyde
23 Park; Prospect Street bioretention system, Sylvan Road erosion control and Ten Bends stream
24 restoration. Ron will keep the Board informed of progress and if funding is approved.
- 25 16. **Annual town employee pay adjustments (FY2022)** – Motion by Dave to approve 2% for wage
26 increases for eligible employees. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 27 17. **ARPA Town Project List** – The federal relief funds will be coming to the Town soon and a town
28 project list is being developed with information from town departments. Chasity stated that the
29 recreation committee has a project proposal, and she will forward it to Ron to include in the list. Ron
30 explained that water and sewer infrastructure is a priority with broadband and community resiliency
31 for the next pandemic, including hazard pay for workers during the 2020 emergency. Finance Director,
32 Alyson Cusson is managing the portal for the state funding distribution.
- 33 18. **Town Orders** – The Board reviewed the town orders. Motion by Brian to approve and sign the town
34 orders, seconded by Dave, so voted.
- 35 19. **Remote or Telework Policy Discussion** – The Board discussed the COVID induced technology
36 upgrades, negatives and benefits of remote work and the need for a town policy. Susan noted that
37 discussing the policy for the several town employees now working remotely part of their time needs to
38 be well balanced. The Board reviewed a draft town policy and the state’s current telework policy. The
39 Board discussed the re-opening of the town office and the ways to gauge employee performance if
40 teleworking, including if new technologies could reduce town taxpayer costs to providing services. The
41 Board will continue to work on the policy.
- 42 20. **Adjourn** – Motion by Brian, seconded by Dave to adjourn at 9:49 PM, so voted.
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