

Selectboard
July 19, 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; Roland Boivin
Members Virtual: None
Members Absent: None
Attendees Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator
Attendees Virtual: Town Finance Director Alyson Cusson; GMATV did record this meeting.

Susan opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

1. **Welcome.** Agenda changes: Add Beam Rd survey and \$1,000 retainage for Zophar loan.
2. **IBEW Local 300 Collective Bargaining Agreement.** The town attorney approved the strike version to the agreement, and it can now go to the Union.
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Brian to approve the 06/21/2021, 06/29/2021, 06/30/2021 minutes, as written. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
4. **Assistant Town Clerk & End of Probation –** Kim Moulton, Town Clerk wrote a memo, dated July 14, 2021, to the Selectboard recommending an \$0.87/hr. base wage increase and a one-time \$250.00 performance bonus for Krista Jones who has successfully completed her probation period and providing excellent office coverage during Kim's recent vacation. Motion by Dave to approve the \$0.87/hr. hourly rate increase and the one-time \$250.00 bonus for the July 30 pay date, as recommended. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
5. **Center Road Culvert –** Percy Letter/Inspection. Ron contact VTrans who advised that the Town seek legal advice. The Board felt going that route would be time-consuming and expensive considering the tentative plan to pave the road this August. Roland showed a picture of water going under the culvert at the inlet and Ron stated that the outlet end appeared to be raised versus at a negative grade creating a ponding area at about 11-feet in from the outlet. The Board would like to see Percy reset the culvert properly by the end of July, so the site is ready for Pike to pave. Dave recommended seeking quotes to mill Center Road's pavement as it is rapidly deteriorating since this past winter and is only 3" to 4" in depth, advising that the town's investment will last longer than paving over the severely cracked existing surface. The Board agreed to get bids on grinding the existing pavement to gravel and compacting the material for paving with work completed by Aug 15th recognizing Pike's scheduling. Ron will work with the town attorney to review the Percy work contract and to write a letter to Percy advising that the culvert needs to be reset before August or the town will complete the work.
6. **Excavator Matrix –** A price increase for Nortrax to include previous optional items is now in the matrix. The Board would like to test drive the two low-bids Hyundai and Volvo to make sure low bids are looked at in more detail. Brian will work on the test drives as soon as possible. If one of the two low bids don't work out, the Town would look at the CAT for comparison. The town cost to borrow \$110,000 through the Municipal Equipment Loan Fund is 2.0% with a commercial bank making up the balance at about 3% versus using of town reserves. Alyson will look at financing costs for \$175,000 acquisition and paying cash for the \$25,000 trailer for the excavator from highway reserve.
7. **Town Personnel Policy Amendments –** Chasity reviewed the status of the policy amendments and the list of amendments that are now in the strike version previously distributed to the board. The Board wanted the town attorney to begin the review on specific areas requested by the town, any statutory changes since the 2016 policy and any red flag or areas of concern that should be included in the amended policy. A new draft will come back for Selectboard for review and possible adoption.
8. **Review and approve town orders –** Motion by Dave to approve the town orders as presented. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

1 9. **Other Business**

- 2 • Beam Road – A draft survey has been prepared by Matt Reed. Susan asked that the Class 3
3 road limits be added to the survey. A site visit with neighbors will be scheduled after the revised
4 site plan is ready. A new public ROW will need to be laid out including a plow truck turnaround
5 before it can be opened officially as a town highway as a portion of the road is private but
6 publicly maintained. The goal is to have the road opened as a public highway before this winter.
7 Ron will work on scheduling a neighbors' site visit – preferred for a Saturday at 9:00 a.m.
- 8 • Zophar Loan – Ron explained that with pay off the Harvey loan, the board can now reduce the
9 retained amount for the Union Bank loan management services Union Bank to \$1,000 from
10 \$5,000 for just the Zophar loan. The Zophar loan is a \$12,000 loan to Marilyn Zophar in 1988
11 (Vol. 61, Page 211) that assisted her with home acquisition at zero percent interest that needs
12 to be repaid when she sells or transfers her home on Battle Row Road. Motion by Brian to
13 reduce the retainage on the Union Bank Zophar loan to \$1,000. Seconded by Roland. Voting:
14 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 15 • Jedediah Hyde Ice Cream Social is Monday July 26
16 • Hyde Park Health Day is Saturday August 21
17 • Knotweed – “Knot-in-Hyde Park” projects are around town with yellow signage at each site.

18 10. **Adjourn** – Motion by Dave, seconded by Brian to adjourn at 8:09 PM, so voted.

19