

Selectboard
October 18, 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; Roland Boivin; Chasity Fagnant; Brian Shackett, David Gagnier
Members Virtual: None
Members Absent: None
Attendees Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Al Spitzer, Gihon Valley Hall; Jerry Smith; Sherry Heckler; Scott & Christine Griswold, James Brosseau
Attendees Virtual: Alli Cusson, Payroll & Finance Assistant; Liz Courtney, Gihon Valley Hall; GMATV did record this meeting.

Susan opened the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

1. **Welcome.** No changes to agenda and no public comment.
2. **Preservation Trust of VT \$50,000 grant & historic easement – Bruhn Grant**
Liz Courtney explained that the Gihon Valley Hall members have met with the Preservation Trust for the easement for historic standard. The work needed to complete the study is the ceiling and stair well work. Fire code needs to be up to date for the 2nd floor. The Selectboard will need to sign a contract and easement if the Town accepts the grant. An ADA report is being done on the hall for standards and codes and the results will be available soon. Motion by Chasity to accept the Bruhn grant for \$50,000. Brian second. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
3. **Highway Department**
 - a) **Discuss GPS Demonstration with Verizon for town plows/equipment**
Ron gave an explanation on what the benefits of GPS in all highway trucks would be I.E., FEMA grants (time spent on each damage site for reimbursement requirements). Susan stated to set up the demonstration. Chasity verified that the Highway Department would be included in this – Ron stated yes, they would.
 - b) **Beam Road – Confirm ROW plan and Set Hearing Date for early December**
Large discussion between the Selectboard, Ron Rodjenski, Jerry Smith, Sherry Heckler & Scott & Christine Griswold. Please refer to the video recording for maps and images regarding this topic. Discussion continued until November meeting.
 - c) **Winter Seasonal Position – Letter of Hire - Michel Renaud** requested that instead of on-call work he would prefer 40 hours/week in his letter of hire. Otherwise, he would not be interested in the position. Shorter season for his employment would be November 15th – April 1st. Motion by Chasity to approve the letter of hire. Brian second. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - d) **J. Hutchins Contract: Amend Paving & Prospect St Stormwater Contact**
Ron stated Prospect St paving will be moved to 2022 and Prospect St stormwater to be completed near November 15th. Motion by Roland to accept the contract amendments. Chasity second. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - e) **Volvo excavator / trailer acquisition \$200,000 -** The excavator that Manosh was going to sell to the Town fell through. Brian stated the bid he received was no good anymore as that excavator was sold. Scott from CRW will be in touch with Brian on an updated quote. David stated the item needs to be tabled for next meeting as there is no bid or quote for the excavator. No action – tabled for next meeting.
4. **Town Personnel Policy Amendments -** Ron gave the board a hard copy (with logo). Require direct deposit for new employees (one proposed change – Roland stated that he doesn't think we can do that. David asked for clarification. Ron asked the board to read the new policy as the

1 policy should be updated every 5 years (currently it was revised in 2016). Ron asked the board
2 to mark it up and let him know any questions or concerns.

- 3 **5. National Opioid Case - Exhibit K, Approval of Release; any payments for remediation –**
4 Ron gave information on the national opioid crisis – each municipality has the option to get
5 payments for remediation services to address this issue. Exhibit K releases the companies from
6 risk of lawsuit. Municipalities haven't spent money on this case – just have done research on
7 the topic. Could be another year for more information or seeing a settlement payment.

8 Motion by Roland to authorize Susan Bartlett to sign Exhibit K. Chasity second. Voting: 5 in
9 favor, 0 against, motion passed.

- 10 **6. Regional Emergency Management Committee Town Representative Appointments –**
11 Ron stated that Roland is the Emergency Management Director and Dawn Archbold is the
12 Emergency Management Coordinator. Ron asked Fire Chief Carriere for firefighters to be
13 appointed as one of two town representatives – one could be Dawn Archbold and Fire Chief
14 has not given Ron any names yet (Roland could be back up). Ron stated it should be someone
15 in the Emergency Services division. David asked if retired Fire Chief Ed Webster would be a
16 good fit – Ron stated that he heard Ed was done with everything Town related – but it may be
17 a good idea to ask. Ron will connect with Fire Chief Carriere again. Susan will check with retired
18 Fire Chief Ed Webster.

19 Motion by Roland to appoint Dawn. Chasity second. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

- 20 **7. Tax Sale scheduled for Nov 4th – Review list, discuss Town bidding for taxes owed**
21 Ron checked with Krista Jones, Assistant Town Clerk and there are two parcels including Larry
22 Demar's property in North Hyde Park and another property – both owners are trying to come up
23 with a plan to reconcile with the Town. Larry Demar's property has squatters living on his
24 property – Roger Audet contacted Ron about the property to see if the property could become
25 Town property for North Hyde Park beautification. Ron asked if anyone wanted to take the time
26 to research the properties to determine if either would be a good investment for the Town. The
27 Tax Sale is November 4th at 11am. Susan and Chasity will be attending the Tax Sale. David is
28 concerned about the clean-up costs of the Demar property. No motion made.

- 29 **8. Municipal Planning Grant 2022 for North Hyde Park & Bylaw Modernization Grant**
30 Ron stated that two grants need Selectboard approval of resolutions to apply. 10% match to the
31 Town – NHP gateway project would establish boundaries in NHP and a logo for NHP welcome
32 sign designs only for now at \$7,000 with the money to come out of the Economic Reserve Fund.
33 The Bylaw Modernization Grant focus on housing restrictions in the zoning bylaw at an
34 estimated cost of \$4,500, also with a 10% match.

35 Motion by Brian to approve both resolutions and apply for the grants. Chasity second. Voting: 5
36 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

- 37 **9. LEDC Regional Economic Development List – Discuss Hyde Park Projects to Add; NHP**
38 **Wastewater**

39 Ron gave information on the Economic Development list – 5 current regional projects are on
40 the list. NHP wastewater will be a project to be added to the Regional Economic Development
41 List. No other properties to add. Ron will draft the letter. Susan asked for an update on Michael
42 Bartlett – Capstone is involved (emergency grant \$ is available). \$13,000 is roughly the amount
43 due for everything involved (utilities are in the process of being taken care of). \$5,000 grant has
44 been applied for. Court order could be done at this point because the Town has met the time
45 frames. Ron is not sure what the condition of the house is (not sure if it is winter livable). Susan
46 and Ron will meet with Capstone to come up with a plan to resolve this matter.

- 47 **10. Other Business**

48 **ACO resignation** – LCSO contacted Ron about this to get some answers on who the
49 replacement will be since Keith Ulrich resigned. Ron stated we will be posting for this vacancy
50 – no details yet. Ron gave background on what the ACO does. Does not have to be a Hyde
51 Park resident and is considered an employee position.

1 **MVP renewal** – open enrollment notification will go out 10/19/2021 and all employees will have
2 until the middle of November to make changes if needed.

3
4 **Mailing ballots for elections** – Susan asked if the Selectboard wanted to mail ballots
5 automatically to all registered voters in Hyde Park or not – all local elections – and the Board
6 said no.

7
8 **Paving reminder (David)** – David wanted to remind Ron to let Mark French know to not to
9 forget the Morin property during the end of year paving projects.

10
11 **Crosswalks in Hyde Park Village (David)** – the cross walks need to be re-done due to the
12 higher volume of traffic at HPES.

13
14 **Highway Garage update (Brian)** – he created a list after visiting the garage of the things that
15 need to be fixed and updated. There is still money that needs to be spent for the garage repairs.
16 Due to COVID this project was placed on a brief hold until now.

17
18 **James Brosseau (Brosseau Fuels)** appeared to discuss his expired Zoning permit and asked
19 for guidance on what to do. Ron explained that he was in violation of continuing his project
20 because his zoning permit was expired. David advised that he wants to waive the permit fee for
21 the renewal for James. James was advised to fill out and submit a new zoning permit for the
22 remaining work that needs to be done.

23 11. **Adjourn** – Motion by David to adjourn, seconded by Brian, so voted at 8:52 p.m.