

Selectboard
November 29, 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
Attendees Virtual: Bretton Gardner, Pike; GMATV did record this meeting.

Susan opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome.** No changes to agenda and no public comment.

2. **Center Road – Pike Paving**

Bretton Gardner from Pike was present to review the recently completed paving which had smooth sections and rougher, more porous sections. Bretton explained that there are many factors that come into play when paving and nothing can be done now to know for sure about quality due to the on-set of winter, noting that in the spring any poorly applied sections would be evident and possibly need repair. Dave though no paving should occur when not 40-degrees or warmer with rising temperatures. Brian stated that the one-year guarantee allows them to analyze the situation and work with Pike to correct any deficiencies. Bretton stated he would send an email to the Town to summarize the discussion.

3. **Mask Mandate Option for Town** – The Board discussed the Governor allowing mandates to be decided by each town. The Board felt that pushing towns into the debate did not make sense and the Board was not inclined to vote on the new option.

4. **Excavator** – Brian reported that Nick Manosh offered then declined to sell their Volvo so the town staff may still find a used one, but if not, then a new one would be purchased per the prior board vote.

5. **Digital phone and fiber upgrade at town office** – Funding for the replacement phone system, as the current system is analog and replacement parts are no longer made, with new business fiber to the office could come from savings by discontinuing the current land line costs and ARPA funding. Motion by Chasity to approve the fiber and phone upgrade proposal. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

6. **Personnel** – Motion by Dave to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Roland. So Voted. Motion by Brian to authorize Susan to negotiate a letter of hire with the #1 candidate for the Town Finance Director position. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

7. **Other business** – The Board would like to ask remote participants to identify themselves, acknowledging callers may not want to identify. Two meetings on Dec 6th – North Hyde Park / Eden Fire Department and Hyde Park BCA. The Board members will try to attend both. Dave noted that Howard Manosh is still willing to sell his 25 acres on McFarland Road to the Town for \$250,000 with owner-financing over 10 years. Dave suggested adding the purchase to the Town Meeting 2022 ballot with test bores are needed to confirm amount and quality of material. Dave suggested asking Capstone to help with running fiber lines to residents that are in immediate need of high-speed internet and qualify for support due to the service they provide to the community from their home.

8. **Adjourn** – Motion by David to adjourn, seconded by Brian, so voted at 7:14 p.m.