

Selectboard
January 27, 2022
Remote 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: None
Members Virtual: David Gagnier; Susan Bartlett, Chair; Roland Boivin; Brian Shackett
Members Absent: Chasity Fagnant
Attendees Present: None
Attendees Virtual: Town Clerk Kim Moulton; Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Matt Reed, town lister and Assistant to Town Assessor; GMATV did record this meeting.

Susan opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

1. **Welcome.** No changes to agenda.
2. **COVID Update:** Employee leave time when following COVID precautions was discussed and the Board asked Ron to check with the town attorney on drafting a policy to require unvaccinated employees to use their accrued ETO leave time when isolating and not at work but for those vaccinated, the town would allow additional COVID leave so ETO did not need to be used.
3. **Highway Mileage Report** – Motion by Dave to sign the annual 2022 certificate reporting no mileage changes made by the Selectboard in the past year. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
4. **Warning for Town Meeting Mach 1, 2022** – The Board reviewed the proposed FY2023 municipal budget of \$2,900,600 and the projected tax rate. The FY2023 municipal tax rate is estimated to be \$0.8680 which is 4.97% more (about 4 cents) than FY2022. The Board discussed each proposed article and agreed to set a Town Meeting informational meeting on 02/21 and the bond informational hearing on 02/28 with all articles discussed at both meetings. Matt Reed said he is willing to continue as Assistant to the Town Assessor should voters eliminate the Board of Listers. The Selectboard hired the contracted town assessor in 2021, as required by state law, when there is not a quorum of the Board of Listers in office. An information flyer is planned to go to every mailbox to inform voters on the budget and articles because voting will be 100% ballot (at the town office) with no floor discussion at the high school this year due to COVID numbers which remain very high. The Board briefly discussed reforming a Fire/EMS department, so all costs are in one budget, as it once was, and Susan agreed to talk to Chief Carriere. Ron noted that taxpayers are benefiting by having two fire departments serving the town for a combined cost of \$140,000. Motion by Brian to approve the proposed FY23 municipal budget of \$2,900,600, sign the 2022 Town Meeting Warning. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
5. **Manosh 25 acres** – The purchase of agricultural land for municipal development is on the town meeting warning and to have the option of bonding for the purchase, a resolution is needed confirm that the costs are too great to be paid out of the ordinary income and revenue of the Town. Motion by Brian to approve and sign the Resolution of Necessity for Public Improvement Project for estimated cost of \$275m000. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
6. **ARPA Projects** – New Guidance from US Treasury simplifying the reporting and requirements for small communities like Hyde Park. More information on guidelines and potential projects will be discussed after Town Meeting Day.
7. **Adjourn** – Motion by Roland to adjourn, seconded by Brian, so voted at 7:17 p.m.