

Selectboard
March 22, 2022
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: Brian Shackett, Chair; Chasity Fagnant, Vice-Chair; Matt Morin

Members Virtual: Roland Boivin

Members Absent: Susan Bartlett

Attendees Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator

Attendees Virtual: Al Spitzer, Dean Hewitt, Mary Walz, Liz Courtney, Aaron Calvin, Susan Dorn, Frank Pastor; Bill Hoag, new owner Two Sons Bakery; Michael Foss; Ally Judkins; Mark French; Town Clerk Kim Moulton; Michael Rooney; GMATV did record this meeting.

Susan opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

1. **Welcome.** No changes to the agenda. Cindy Riddle read a statement regarding the status of **Diggins Road Class 4** section from Jim Fontaine's driveway to the fire pond, noting that the DRB is meeting with a lot owner in the Kusserow subdivision next week, March 29th. Cindy noted that the road is narrow and asked if the lot owners in that project would pay for upgrades to the Class 4 to make it wider and safer. Cindy stated that more traffic may be added once the first lot owner builds with the potential for 11 homes being added to the Class 4 section. Cindy asked about existing zoning permits and the requirement to make road improvements before new homes are built. Ron explained that deeds and upcoming permit reviews would set any requirements for road improvements. Denise Greene expressed support for the **Bee the Change** proposed improvements at the town office parcel that is on the agenda later in the meeting.
2. **Gihon Valley Hall** – Liz Courtney and Al Spitzer were present to review a Community Development Grant for ADA and fire safety improvements. The Committee needs to seek approval of the Selectboard to move forward as the owner of the parcel. The application process includes a public hearing. Liz noted that the grant requires a 10% match with \$100,000 max state grant. Motion by Chasity to approve the Gihon Valley Hall Committee moving forward with the grant and the next step being a review of the grant application before submission. Seconded by Matt. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Chasity will be the contact for the project. Al Spitzer noted that the proposed fire escape on the western end of the Gihon Valley Hall may be on the neighbor's property. Ron will bring additional information on a property survey to the April 12th meeting.
3. **Foss Subdivision Appeal** – Michael Foss appeared to ask where things are with the selectboard regarding the zoning permit appeal of his recently issued zoning permit at 114 Green Park East Road. Ron explained that the Environmental Court will manage the appeal and the town attorney has submitted the paperwork to enter his appearance for the Town. A status conference will likely be the next step with the level of participation by the Town to be determined as the case progresses.
4. **Website Posting** – Brian made a statement on the recent notification to the town that a document was posted on the town website which included personal information resulting in the immediate removal of that document. Brian stated that there is an on-going investigation into the matter with the Town having no additional comment at this time.
5. **Personnel Policy** – The Board reviewed amendments to the 2016 policy that were summarized on the cover page. Motion by Chasity to adopt the 2022 Personnel Policy amendments effective immediately. Seconded by Matt. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
6. **Local Board of Health** – The Town received the copy of the appeal by Michael Rooney and Susan Dorn to the State Board of Health regarding the town's final health order issued 02/22/2022. The town attorney will monitor the beginning of the case and advise the Selectboard on next steps.
7. **Hyde Park Liquor Control Board** – Motion to sign the licenses for VFW and J&C Bread Company. Seconded by Matt. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

- 1 8. **Bee the Change** – Ron explained that the 2-year program will create meadow space on the town
2 office parcel, along the back hill, along the lower-level entrance walkway and along the highway access
3 drive with plantings and labor provided by the Bee the Change program. The Board was supportive of
4 the effort and will re-evaluate in two years.
- 5 9. **Highway Department** – Roland explained that town’s road grader needs six new **tires**, and the cost
6 is over \$10,000. Motion by Chasity to approve the purchase of grader tires up to \$11,000. Seconded
7 by Matt. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Roland explained that the Board previously
8 approved up to \$30,000 for a single-jack trailer without air ramps for the town’s new tracked excavator
9 trailer, and this new proposal is for a trailer with air ramps at a cost of \$38,800. Mark French stated
10 that the price of trailers is not likely to decrease, and the cost of air ramps is \$7,000. Roland thought
11 the cost was too high for the air ramps and the regular ramps worked fine. Ally Judkins asked about
12 used equipment and Brian explained that there is a risk with used trailers that significant repair costs
13 could occur, and that the Town did spend time to explore used equipment. Matt stated that equipment
14 supply is tight and waiting may result in no trailer available. Chasity stated that she doesn’t want
15 to wait on a decision like the Board did with the excavator purchase and see another large price increase.
16 Mark stated he may be able to save funds in other areas in the highway budget to make up the
17 additional cost. Motion by Chasity to approve the purchase of the Lucky’s trailer in the amount \$38,800
18 with an overall balance highway budget. Seconded by Matt. Voting: 3 in favor, 1 against (Roland due
19 to additional cost), motion passed. Roland asked about the recent **use of the town road grader** in
20 Morristown - one day with a town operator and one day without a town operator. Roland would like
21 town equipment to be shared with other towns, but with a town operator. Mark agreed that he would
22 send with an operator but asked if he can accept equipment from other towns without their operator.
23 Mark felt that sharing of towns’ equipment between towns works well for the taxpayers. Chasity asked
24 about insurance and Ron stated that the insurance would be available if the town employee is not
25 acting against the Selectboard’s directive. Roland stated that the issue is the town road grader being
26 operated roughly by a non-town employee. Chasity stated that the Board trusts Mark’s judgement.
27 Matt noted that the town works for the taxpayer and sharing equipment makes sense. Roland stated
28 he was mostly concerned with the road grader and not so much with dump trucks. Brian summarized
29 that if the equipment goes out of town, then it is to be operated by a qualified operator, after Mark
30 offers to send the equipment when there is an available town operator.
- 31 10. **1111 Permits** – Discussed authorizing the town administrator to sign highway access permits on
32 behalf of the Selectboard unless there is a need to refer to the Selectboard, typically for potential
33 denials of permits or when there is a policy issue. Many access permits are straight-forward and can
34 comply with the minimum town access requirements. Motion to authorize the town administrator to
35 issue 19 VSA 1111 application approvals after review by the road foreman, and to refer applications
36 with town policy non-compliance issues to the Selectboard liaison for review and approval. Seconded
37 by Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 38 11. **Class 2 Paving Grant** – Ron worked with the town highway crew to come up with a grant project for
39 paving a segment of Centerville Road near North Hyde Park Road and a connecting segment of North
40 Hyde Park Road north to Benson Rd. Moton by Chasity to authorize Ron Rodjenski to sign the Class
41 2 paving grant application for Centerville Rd and North Hyde Park Rd. Seconded by Matt. Voting: 4 in
42 favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 43 12. **Slate of Officers** – The Board reviewed the annual appointment of committee and board volunteers
44 and roles on the 2022 Slate of Officers, which includes authorizing the Chair to sign interim warrants
45 and orders on behalf of the Selectboard. Motion by Chasity to sign the 2022 Slate of Officers.
46 Seconded by Matt. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 47 13. **Minutes** – Motion by Chasity to approve the minutes from 03-07-2022. Seconded by Matt. Voting: 4
48 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 49 14. **Town Orders** – Motion by Chasity to approve the town orders in the amount of \$50,344.41. Seconded
50 by Matt. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Motion by Chasity to sign older warrants that
51 were missing signatures. Seconded by Matt. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining as he was not
52 present, motion passed.

1 15. **Other Business**

2 **Michael Bartlett** – Motion by Chasity to authorize Brian Shackett to sign the deed and paperwork to
3 transfer the parcel and home at 5659 VT100 back to Michael Bartlett. Seconded by Roland. So voted.

4 **Manosh 25 acre** – Brian will bring the town's draft of a purchase and sale agreement to Howard
5 Manosh for review. Brian noted that a private water supply exists near the 25 acres which could limit
6 gravel extraction or other uses. Roland asked about the setback requirements for gravel pits and Ron
7 stated 200-feet for excavation and 300-feet for processing equipment. Matt noted that amount of
8 setback takes about 10 acres out of the 25 acres for gravel use. Brian will report back at the next
9 meeting.

10 16. **Adjourn** – Motion by Roland to adjourn, seconded by Matt, so voted at 8:42 p.m.