



**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

Members: Judy Bickford, Don McDowell, Christopher Palermo, Laura Streets, Richard Craig

Absent:

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Carrie Johnson, Interim Town Manager; Judi Alberi, Executive Assistant

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS: Martin Green, Laura Green, Bob Heanue, Scott Johnstone, Sheila Tarbox, Tom Cloutier, Etienne Hancock, Christy Snipp, Tony Cote, Officer Bruce Emerson, Tricia Follert*

**participating via Zoom*

5:30PM - CALL SELECTBOARD MEETING TO ORDER

Judy Bickford called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 5:30PM at the Tegu Building.

5:31PM - AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

None

5:32PM - APPROVE MINUTES

1. Approve minutes 1-16-24

Motion made by Don McDowell to approve the minutes of 1/16/24. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried (5/0).

2. Approve minutes 1-29-24

Motion made by Don McDowell to approve the minutes of 1/29/24. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)

5:35PM - NEW BUSINESS

1. Board of Liquor & Tobacco Control

1. Liquor License Renewals
2. Tobacco License Renewals

Motion made by Don McDowell to recess the selectboard meeting. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)

Applicant	Location	First Class	Second Class	Third Class	Outside Consumption
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Black Diamond Barbeque, LLC	639 Morristown Corners	x		x	x
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Applicant	Location	Tobacco	Tobacco Substitute Endorsement
Global Montello Group Corp DBA Jiffy Mart #686	302 VT Route 15 W	x	

Motion made by Don McDowell to approve the Liquor License and Tobacco License renewals as presented. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)

Motion made by Don McDowell to adjourn the Board of Liquor & Tobacco Control Meeting. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)

Motion made by Don McDowell to reconvene the Selectboard meeting. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)

2. Assistant Health Officer Appointment

Bruce Emerson, retired from a full-time position with the Stowe police department and has accepted the Asst. Health Officer Appointment.

Motion made by Don McDowell to appoint Bruce Emerson as Deputy Health Officer. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried (5/0).

3. Animal Control Officer Appointment

Bruce has also accepted the animal control officer (ACO) position and is present at the meeting this evening to answer questions. The Town Manager has the authority to hire the ACO so a motion is not required.

4. Town Plan Update

The Selectboard would like to move the town plan forward and respectfully request the planning council (PC) address the technical issues that prevented regional town plan approval. The SB has the authority to ask the PC to address only those technical issues (in the interest of time). To foster a more productive meeting, Scott Johnstone, Tasha Wallis, from Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) and Etienne Hancock, PC Chair attended the meeting this evening. Carrie Johnson introduced a revision to the language of the transportation section in the Town Plan. Tasha Walls (LCPC) indicated that the language change was acceptable. Etienne Hancock, chair of the Planning Council, agreed to move forward with the amendment to the transportation section of the Town Plan with direction from the SB to do so. Scott Johnstone indicated to the Selectboard that the Village Trustees seem to be in agreement with the SB and the language change.

Statute on town plan approval:

(f) The planning commission may make revisions to the proposed plan or amendment and to any written report, and shall thereafter submit the proposed plan or amendment and any written report to the legislative body of the municipality. However, if requested by the legislative body, or if a proposed amendment was supported by a petition signed by not less than five percent of the voters of the municipality, the planning commission shall promptly submit the amendment, with changes only to correct technical deficiencies, to the legislative body of the municipality, together with any

recommendation or opinion it considers appropriate. Simultaneously with the submission, the planning commission shall file with the clerk of the municipality a copy of the proposed plan or amendment, and any written report, for public review.

Motion made by Don McDowell to accept the change in language in the transportation section of the town plan. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried (5/0).

5. Highway Garage Feasibility Study

Local resident, Jerry Throne, was present to discuss the recent project in which he was the project manager, Town of Elmore new garage build. The Selectboard appreciated Jerry's input that he provided. The Town of Morristown Department of Public Works Garage Feasibility Study Request for Proposal was approved by the Select Board.

6:15PM - OLD BUSINESS

1. Communication with the Press Policy - Final

Motion made by Don McDowell to accept the Communications with the Press Policy. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried (4/1) Laura Streets Nay

2. Certificate of no appeal or suit pending Grand List

Motion made by Chris Palermo to accept the Certificate of No Appeal or Suit Pending to be signed by the Select Board by the end of the week. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried (5/0).

6:18PM - WARRANTS

Motion made by Don McDowell to approve the warrants. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)

6:19PM - COMMUNITY COMMENTS

There were no comments.

6:24PM - SCHEDULE

- 1. Monday, Feb 26th at 4:30PM Charter Committee Meeting
Monday, Feb 26th at 5:30PM SB Meeting
Monday, Feb 26th at 5:30PM Informational Meeting
Tuesday, March 5th from 7AM - 7PM Town Meeting Day**

6:25PM - OTHER BUSINESS

1. Executive Session - Contractual

Motion made by Don McDowell to go into Executive session because we find that premature general public knowledge of contractual negotiations will clearly place the Town at a disadvantage by disclosing its negotiation strategy. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried (5/0)

Motion made by Don McDowell to go into Executive session to discuss pending contract negotiations under provisions of Title 1, Section #13(a)(1) of the Vermont Statutes and to include Interim Town Manager, Carrie Johnson. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried (5/0)

Motion made by Don McDowell to come out of Executive Session at 7:04PM. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (5/0)

6:40PM - ADJOURN

Motion made by Chris Palermo to adjourn. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (5/0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

Submitted and filed this February 8, 2024.

Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

Please note all minutes are in Draft form and are subject to approval at the next Selectboard meeting.