



**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF JULY 1, 2024**

Members: Don McDowell, Christopher Palermo, Laura Streets, Richard Craig, George Cormier

Absent:

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Brent Raymond, Town Manager; Judi Alberi, Executive Assistant

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS: Skip & Maria Ward, Leah Hollenberger, Chris Demars, Tom Cloutier, Kristin Marriott, Sheila Tarbox, Tony Cote, Barbara Percy, Kate Greenmum, Kristin Fogdall*

**participating via Zoom*

5:30PM - CALL SELECTBOARD MEETING TO ORDER

Don McDowell called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 5:31 PM at the Tegu Building.

5:31PM - AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

Add under Approve Minutes:

Approve minutes SB Zoning Change Public Hearing 6-17-24

5:32PM - APPROVE MINUTES

1. Approve minutes 6-17-24

Motion made by Chris Palermo to approve the minutes of 6/17/2024. Motion seconded by Laura Streets. Motion carried. (5/0)

2. Approve minutes SB Zoning Change Public Hearing 6-17-24

Motion made by Chris Palermo to approve the minutes of Public Hearing 6-17-24. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried. (5/0)

5:35PM - NEW BUSINESS

1. Board of Liquor & Tobacco Control

1. Approve Tobacco License Renewals

Motion made by Chris Palermo to recess the Selectboard meeting and open the Board of Liquor & Tobacco Control. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).

Liquor Licenses

Applicant DBA	Location	First Class	Second Class	Third Class	Outside Consumption
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Tobacco Licenses		
Applicant	Location	Tobacco Substitute Endorsement
Big Intelligence Group LLC	10 Railroad Street	X

Request to Cater Permits						
Applicant	Event Name	Location	Date	Start Time	EndTime	# of people

Motion made by Chris Palermo to approve the tobacco license renewal as presented. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried (5/0)

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

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

2. Adopt Local Emergency Management Plan

Brent Raymond, Town Manager, reviewed the Local Emergency Management Plan changes, which were due to staffing changes.

Motion made by Chris Palermo to accept the Local Emergency Management Plan as adopted and corrected, and approve Brent Raymond to sign the plan. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).

3. Approve Coin Drop for Lamoille Area Cancer Network August 3rd

Erica Scott (speaking on behalf of Tracy Patnoe) requested permission for a Coin Drop to raise money for the Lamoille Area Cancer Network on August 3rd. This will be the fourth year of the coin drop. This is a very successful and profitable operation. It will be from 9 am to 1 pm in front of Demars Properties at 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville.

Motion made by Richard Craig to approve the Coin Drop on August 3rd from 9:00 am through 1 pm at 275 Brooklyn Street. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).

4. Appointments:

**Lamoille Valley Rail Trail
Brownfield Committee**

Motion made by Chris Palermo to appoint Brent Raymond to the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail Committee and authorize the Chair to sign. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).

Motion made by Chris Palermo to appoint Brent Raymond to the Lamoille County Planning Commission Brownfields Committee. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried (5/0).

5. Hazard Mitigation Funding Program (HMFP)

Brent Raymond provided an update to the committee regarding a pre-application for part of a federal grant of 91 million dollars awarded to all of Vermont for developing flood hazard mitigation projects. One possible project is raising parts of Oxbow Park to avoid flooding. Another project involves surveying roads and bridges needing repair and creating a work priority list. Morristown can apply for this grant. The cooperation between the town, LCPC, the trustees, and FEMA has been demonstrated in all applications, thus avoiding duplication of efforts. Deadlines have been rolled back due to a lack of definitive information about the grant.

6. Jersey Heights - Three-Acre Rule

A presentation was made at the last meeting about the Storm Water Permit for the Jersey Heights area. Seven sites are available for grant funds and Morristown is one of them. Correction of the storm water problem would be a significant expense for the town, whereas the grant would cover approximately 70% of the cost. The state has offered criteria options over the years requiring Jersey Heights properties to form an HOA, which the State can not demand. Discussion involving the community and the impact on all of Morristown ensued. One issue involved having a special tax to pay for the expenses. It is a complex issue involving correcting the problem and the equity between the whole town and the Jersey Heights area. Several community members spoke about their concerns. Generally, the people did not want to form an HOA and asked about leaving the situation uncorrected. Only a few homes may need easements on their properties. More information and feedback from the public must be gathered, including the long-term impact of doing nothing, information about other towns' actions, and current details from the state. Don McDowell, Chair, suggested another meeting be scheduled, and he thanked the community members for their helpful comments and suggestions.

5:55PM - OLD BUSINESS

None

5:56PM - APPROVE WARRANTS

Motion made by Chris Palmero to approve the warrants. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried. (4/0/1) Laura Streets Nay due to not having adequate time to review the warrants.

6:00PM - COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Two community members complained about the terrible condition of the roads on Cote Hill. There are major holes in them, and traffic has to move slowly, and in the opposite lane to avoid losing a tire. The roads have not been filled, nor graded. The highway department has not been there to do any repairs. Traffic is heavy and is going too fast over the road beds. Many other area residents are also seeking help from the town to correct the road conditions.

6:10PM - SCHEDULE

1. Monday July 15, 2024 - SB Meeting 5:30PM

Tuesday July 16, 2024 - Charter Committee Meeting 5:30PM

Monday August 1, 2024 - SB Meeting 5:30PM

Date Corrected by the Chair.

SB Meeting in August is the 5th not the 1st.

6:15PM - OTHER BUSINESS

1. Executive Session to discuss legal matter

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into Executive Session because I find that premature general

public knowledge of probable civil litigation to which the public body may be a party would clearly place the public body involved at a substantial disadvantage. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried (5/0).

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into Executive Session to discuss probable litigation under the provisions of Title 1 section 313 (a) (1) of the Vermont Statutes, to include Town Manager, Brent Raymond and Executive Assistant, Judi Alberi. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried. (5/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to come out of Executive Session at 8:05PM. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried. (5/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to approve Stitzel, Page and Fletcher for legal counsel and advice regarding Jersey Heights 3 Acre Stormwater matter and authorize Brent Raymond to sign the retainer agreement dated June 28, 2024. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried. (5/0)

6:30PM - ADJOURN

Motion made by Chris Palermo to adjourn. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried. (5/0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm
Submitted and filed this 7/1/2024.
Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

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