



SELECT BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2019

Members Present: Bob Beeman, Brian Kellogg, Chris Towne, Eric Dodge & Judy Bickford

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Richard Keith, Chief of Police; Bill Mapes, Chief of EMS; Kevin Barrows, Highway Foreman; Tina Sweet, Finance Director; Sara Haskins, Town Clerk/Treasurer; and Denny DiGregorio, Fire Chief

Guests: Nancy Pritchard, Sarah Kourkoulis, Peter Kourkoulis, Jude Prashaw, Becky Doherty, Scott Loug, Gary Nolan, and Lucas Peterson

Bob Beeman called the Select Board Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

I. AGENDA CHANGES OR ADDITIONS

1. Delete - Update EMS Roster
2. Move budget discussion to after New Business

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Chris Towne to approve minutes of November 04, 2019. Motion seconded by Eric Dodge. Motion Carried. (5/0)

Minutes of the November 13, 2019 meeting were unavailable for review and approval. Dan will add the November 13, 2019 minute approval to the next meeting agenda.

III. COMMUNITY CONCERNS

1. A community member shared concerns about a policy that had been changed and asked for clarification as to why the change was made and not shared with the public. Initially the policy stated that an employee was required to provide written notification when engaging in work outside of their Town position. The Select Board explained that the policy had been changed because they felt it was

unnecessary for employees to submit written notification. The Select Board felt that verbal discussion with the Town Administrator was sufficient.

IV. LIQUOR CONTROL

1. None

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Discuss and Approve Belanger Lane as a Town Road** - Kevin Barrows, Highway Foreman stated that Belanger Lane met the Town requirement for becoming a Town Road. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator shared that the residents on the road would need to deed the road to the Town before it would become an official Town Road.

Motion made by Chris Towne to approve Belanger Lane as a Town Road. Motion seconded by Brain Kellogg. Further discussion – Eric Dodge wanted to know the effective date that Belanger Lane would become a Town Road. Motion amended by Chris Towne to include an effective date of November 19, 2019 with the understanding that the road would need to be deeded to the Town. Motion carried. (5/0)

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Discuss Morristown Pickle Ball League** - Jude Prashaw who is involved with the Pickle Ball group provided information regarding the lack of available places to play and the option that is currently available. The group has been given permission to play in Wolcott. In order to do so the group is required to provide insurance coverage. Jude shared that she contacted VLCT and was told that if the Town recognized the Pickle Ball group as an official league under the Parks and Recreation Department that they would be able to obtain insurance coverage under the Town's insurance umbrella policy. Sara Haskins, Town Clerk/Treasurer shared that the Parks and Recreation committee discussed the needs of the Pickle Ball group but that they were unable to reach a decision and were looking for direction from the Select Board. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator said that a waiver would need to be signed by all group participants and that Tina Sweet, Finance Director would have one available. Dan also indicated that the risk would be minimal and that no additional insurance expense would be incurred for providing coverage for the group. The Select Board had several concerns which were as follows: what this would mean for other possible groups, what the liability Insurance would cover, who the insurance would be extended to in the future, and how the group waivers would be monitored. Sara Haskins, Town Clerk/Treasurer felt that the waiver could be

completed through the Parks and Recreation website but reminded everyone that the Parks and Recreation committee did not have a paid staff member to manage the website. Any work involved in setting up the Pickle Ball group on the website would need to be completed by her. Having time available to do so was a concern.

Motion made by Chris Towne to allow the Pickle Ball group to be considered an official group under the Parks and Recreation Department for a 7 month trial period with the understanding that waivers would be required for all participants. Motion seconded by Judy Bickford. Motion carried. (5/0)

2. Approve Stagecoach Rd. Repairs – Storm Damage – Dan Lindley, Town Administrator asked for approval to provide a temporary repair to the damage on Stagecoach Road. The section being repaired would need to be repaved in the spring. The repair would be to get us through the winter months only. Judy Bickford, Select Board asked about the approval process for FEMA funding? Dan shared that it would be quite some time before we would have answers on the available FEMA funds. The Select Board reviewed two proposals for the repair: First one from ECI in the amount of \$8,330. and a second proposal from J. Hutchins in the amount of \$17,250.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the bid from ECI with a not to exceed limit of \$9,000. and Dan Lindley, Town Administrator to approve full scope of work. Motion seconded by Chris Towne. Motion carried. (5/0)

3. Discuss Gallery Lane as a Town Road – Gary Nolan acting on behalf of Manosh asked that Gallery Lane, from the bypass to the beginning of the buildings, be considered as a Town Road. Eric Dodge, Select Board asked if the road met the Town requirements. Bob Beeman, Select Board asked if there was sufficient room available for snow removal as well as proper drainage. Kevin Barrows, Highway Forman will look at the road to determine that it meets the Town requirements. Site visit will need to be scheduled. The meeting for the site visit will be scheduled and warned.

4. Approve Change to Personnel Policy Section 20 Educational Travel & Lodging – Dan Lindley, Town Administrator was asked if a current policy was in place? Dan shared that the only policy currently in place was for the police department. He also shared that the intent of this policy was to make things consistent and employees aware of what are reimbursable expenses. Several recommendations to the draft policy were provided by the Select Board as well as Department

Heads. It was decided that some modification needed to be made to the draft policy. Further review and discussion will take place at a future time.

VII. BUDGET

1. **Budget** – Department Heads from EMS, Fire and the Police Departments reviewed their budget with the Select Board. Overall the budgets are level funded. The need for an additional police officer was discussed at length. Discussion took place about upcoming department needs and how we should be thinking ahead about the infrastructure needs for each department. Select Board will approve the budget at a future meeting.

VIII. APPROVE WARRANTS

Motion made by Eric Dodge to approve Warrants through November 17, 2019.

Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (5/0)

IX. TA REPORT

- Thanksgiving gift cards were issued again this year. The amount was \$40. per employee and location options were the same as approved last year by the Select Board.
- Three roads are still closed due to the flood: Cole Hill, Sterling Valley and Mud City Loop. All homes are able to be accessed and are not being considered as isolated areas. We requested a temporary bridge on Mud City Loop. The State owns the temporary bridge and because there isn't any isolated areas they have the right to take the bridge back if deemed necessary. Goeltz road is open. The engineer recognized that head walls needed to be added. There is money in the bridge reserve to complete the work.

X. SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Chris Towne - None

Brian Kellogg - None

Eric Dodge - None

Bob Beeman - None

Judy Bickford – Looking for update on LCPC. Chris Towne and Bob Beeman, Select Board shared that they have discussed amongst themselves but a meeting with LCPC has not been arranged. Both seemed hopeful that the meeting would take place within the next month.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Motion made by Eric Dodge to enter executive session to discuss evaluation of a public employee under the provisions of Title 1 section 313 (3) (a) (3) of the Vermont Statutes to include Dan Lindley and Richard Keith. Motion seconded by Chris Towne. Motion carried. (5/0)

Motion made by Eric Dodge to exit executive session. Motion seconded by Eric Dodge. Motion carried. (5/0)

XII. ADJOURN

Motion made by Eric Dodge to adjourn. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (5/0) Meeting adjourned at 8:55PM

Respectfully submitted and filed this 18th day of November, 2019
Paula Beattie, Scribe

Please note all minutes are in draft form and are subject to approval at the next Select board meeting.