



**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF October 3, 2022**

MEMBERS: Judy Bickford, Jessica Graham, Brian Kellogg and Don McDowell
Absent: Bob Beeman

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Eric Dodge, *Town Administrator*; Judi Alberi, *Administrator's Assistant*; Dennis DiGregorio, *Fire Chief*; Jason Luneau, *Police Chief*; Bill Mapes *EMS Chief*; Stacey Ferriman, *Assistant Finance Director*; Tina Sweet, *Finance Director*; Todd Thomas*, *Planning/Zoning Director*; Paula Beattie, *Human Resources Director*

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS: Jason Kelley, Tom Cloutier, Barry Russo, Kristin Marriott, Luke Aupperlee, David Ring, Martin Green, Mary Lou Nichols.

**participating via Zoom*

Judy Bickford called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 6:05PM at the Tegu Building. Judy also let everyone know that Bob Beeman is traveling back from a business trip and will not be present.

AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

Approve Kelly Mayo as EMS Volunteer #7

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the minutes of September 19, 2022. Motion seconded by Jess Graham. Motion carried (4/0) with amendments.

Add to the last page of minutes:

Motion made by Don McDowell to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (4/0)

ADJOURN

Motion made by Don McDowell to adjourn. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. 4/(0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.
Submitted and filed this September 23, 2022

LIQUOR CONTROL

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Permission to install a deer enclosure

Conservation Commission is asking for permission to install a deer enclosure fence for forest management demonstration purposes coordinated by the Lamoille County Forester with the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. The enclosure will be located in the Morristown Town Forest in an opening in Area 4, west of Area 7C. The deer enclosure is designed to exclude deer from a small area of regenerating forest. The impact of deer can inform forest management strategies, hunting considerations, and more.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the deer enclosure and authorize Eric Dodge to sign giving permission. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried (4/0)

3. Discuss bids for sale of highway truck

The highway department has a truck that is out of commission due to the frame on the truck coming apart and is no longer road worthy. The town is still paying insurance on this truck. The Selectboard has agreed that the bids will be opened this evening for consideration. Only one bid was submitted by a town employee for \$300.

Motion made by Don McDowell to accept the bid from Matt Dewey for \$300 for the old #12 truck cab and chassis. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried (4/0).

2. Approve the purchase of a police vehicle.

Chief Jason Luneau running late due to an accident. Will hold off on this item till Chief Luneau arrives.

Motion made by Don McDowell to approve the purchase of a police vehicle for \$43,060.00 to be financed over three years and authorize Eric Dodge to sign. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (4/0)

4. Accept & Sign Errors and Omissions certificate

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to accept the errors and omissions certificate as presented. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried (4/0)

5. Approve new private road – Santos Hill Road

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the new private road, Santos Hill Road. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried (4/0)

6. Review and Approve structure grant Walton Rd Bridge

The town has received a grant from the State of Vermont in the amount of \$200,000. During the Town Meeting in March 2022, the taxpayers approved \$510,000 for the repair and replacement of Town bridges. The town received over \$200,000 from FEMA in 2019 that will be used for The Walton Rd bridge project. This project will not happen in 2022 and the engineer has given the approval to continue using the bridge with the anticipation of work being performed in 2023.

Motion made by Don McDowell to accept the State of Vermont grant and authorize Eric Dodge to sign. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (4/0).

7. Approve adding Kelly Mayo as EMS Volunteer

Kelly Mayo is an experienced paramedic from Maine. Morristown EMS now has 6 paramedics on the squad.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve adding Kelly Mayo to the volunteer EMS Roster. Motion seconded by Jess Graham. Motion carried. (4/0)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Parking Report

The Parking Committee submitted an implementation plan with actionable items for the Selectboard to consider. Todd Thomas spoke on behalf of the parking committee and suggested that an email or letter be sent to the Development Review Board asking them to stop granting parking waivers for any new residential construction until the Selectboard can see the impact of parking once the Hutchins Street building is occupied and the Copley Municipal Parking lot is restriped. The current zoning bylaws can waive parking requirements as long as there is a municipal parking lot within 500' so builders do not need to supply parking when new construction is considered. Eric Dodge will check in with the Scott Johnstone, Manager of the Morrisville Village, to make him aware of items on the implementation plan.

1st Item: The Selectboard should agree to add a standing agenda item to all future Selectboard meetings until it deems this Parking Committee Implementation Plan to be complete. Eric Dodge will do his best to keep this on the upcoming meeting agendas.

2nd Item - The Zoning Administrator and the Development Review Board should be instructed via email or letter to stop granting waivers for residential uses in the Copley Municipal Parking Lot until the Hutchins Street Apt building is occupied and the 2019 parking study thereof is updated, or recommendations of this report are implemented to create new overnight parking availability.

Motion made by Jess Graham that a letter be written asking the Development Review Board to stop granting parking waivers for residential use in the Copley Municipal Parking Lot until the Hutchins Street Apt building is occupied and the 2019 parking study thereof is updated, or recommendations of this report are implemented to create new overnight parking availability. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (3/0) Judy Bickford abstained.

3rd Item - The Selectboard should immediately direct Town Administration to install signage that designates new overnight parking on the gravel parking lot at Oxbow Riverfront Park.

Motion made by Don McDowell to install signage that designates new overnight parking on the gravel parking lot at Oxbow Riverfront Park. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (4/0)

4th Item - Town Administration should open a dialogue with Union Bank and Bourne's Energy about allowing overnight parking in the large parking lot that is jointly owned by these two companies on Lower Main St, but that the Town pays to maintain and plow. The results of these conversations should be shared at the 10/17/2022 Selectboard meeting. Eric Dodge would prefer not to entertain this item as there are many bank employees that use this parking lot and cannot risk overnight vehicles being left in the parking lot past 8am any workday.

APPROVE WARRANTS

*Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the warrants. Motion seconded by Don McDowell.
Motion carried. (4/0)*

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Municipal parking lot construction started last week for a storm water filtration system which is not taxpayer money. Phase 2 is going to work on the aging structures under the parking lot and Eric will keep the postmaster in the loop for any interruptions that may happen.
2. Interviews were conducted for highway department and police department candidates
3. Eric attended Emergency Mgmt conference at Killington last week. Maybe next year the Police, Fire, & EMS might go.
4. Highway department received their new bucket loader.
5. Sara Haskins, Town Clerk/Treasurer spoke regarding tax bills that were mailed to everyone. Taxpayers should look at their tax bill immediately – the drop dead date for changes is Oct 15th. The State of Vermont mailed all active registered voters as of 09/09/2022 their ballots this week. Mitzi and Sara attended the Clerk's Conference last week and Mitzi Fleming was 1 of 4 clerks that received her Vermont Clerk certification and Sara wants to recognize Mitzi's hard work.
6. Paula Beattie, Human Resources Director welcomed Stacey Ferriman to the meeting as the new Assistant Finance Director.

SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Don McDowell – The Town still does not have Duhamel Pit permit. Don attended the Planning Council meeting last Tuesday along with well over 100 folks also in attendance. The zoning bylaw changes will be discussed by the Selectboard November 7th. Don felt that short term rentals vs long term rentals was a hot topic. Residents have genuine concerns around both sides of the rentals. Don has asked that a link be posted on Front Porch Forum the Friday before Selectboard meetings as a compromise instead of posting the entire agenda.

Jessica Graham no concerns tonight

Brian Kellogg Thanks everyone for the wonderful job at Rocktoberfest. Thanks Judy Bickford on running the meetings in Bob's absence. Thanks Nancy Banks for the nice comments on Front Porch Forum.

Judy Bickford There is still a housing crisis for market rate and affordable housing. 500 folks applying for housing in our community, 100 folks living in a local hotel, and 25 folks living in the woods in our community.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

The community concerns focused on balancing the growth of the town along with historic preservation. Monitoring the new builds vs the limited parking available is still a concern. Residents expressed an interest in having an informational meeting. Volunteers have been recognized for their hard work on the various boards.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion made by Don McDowell to go into Executive Session because we find that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee subject to T1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3). To include the Town Administrator, Eric Dodge and Human Resources Director, Paula Beattie.

Motion made by Don McDowell to come out of Executive Session. Motion seconded by Jess Graham. Motion carried. (4/0)

ADJOURN

Motion made by Jess Graham to adjourn. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (4/0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:22PM.

Submitted and filed this October 7, 2022

Judi Alberi, Scribe

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