



**MORRISTOWN PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING MEETING MINUTES
&
REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF FEBRUARY 22, 2022
THESE MINUTES WERE AMENDED BY SARAH HYDE ON MARCH 14, 2022**

MEMBERS: Bob Beeman, Judy Bickford, Jessica Graham*, Brian Kellogg and Gary Nolan

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Kevin Barrows, *Highway Superintendent*; Paula Beattie, *Assistant Finance Director*; Dennis DiGregorio, *Fire Chief*; Eric Dodge, *Town Administrator*; Sarah Hyde, *Administrator's Assistant*; Jason Luneau, *Interim Police Chief*; Tina Sweet, *Finance Director*

PARTICIPANTS: Nancy Banks*, Ruth Brown*, Laura Streets, Mary Ann Wilson, Chris Wiltshire*

GUESTS: Julie Bomengen*, *Lamoille County Food Share*; Patti Hayford*, *Lamoille Special Investigation Unit*; Shap Smith, *Public Informational Hearing Moderator*

**participating via Zoom*

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING MEETING MINUTES

Moderator Shap Smith called the informational meeting to order at 5:59 PM.

There were no agenda changes or additions.

Mr. Smith reviewed each article and asked the public and the board if there were any questions on the articles presented.

Mary Ann Wilson asked the following question about article 4 & 5: "does the Town have any idea what the anticipated 10% of the revenue will be?" Tina Sweet, Finance Director, answered that it will be 10% of \$818,850 (General Unassigned Fund Balance) and 10% of \$397,718 (Highway Unassigned Fund Balance).

For article 8, a question was raised by Chairman Bob Beeman. He asked which roads would be paved. Town Administrator Eric Dodge answered that the primary portion of the money will be used for paving Garfield Road. Any money left over will be applied to roads next on the list, such

as Stagecoach Road, Towne Hill Road and Randolph Road.

Regarding article 10, Mary Ann Wilson inquired about the E=MC2 (Everyone = Morristown Community Center) appropriation and where the money was spent if they no longer are in operation. Eric replied that Stuart May of Lamoille Health Partners and several other local non-profits are looking to rebrand the Center and continue the funding as is. He will continue to work with Mr. May and stay abreast of the reopening of the Community Center. Laura Streets asked if E=MC2 received the appropriations last October and where it was used. She also had questions about RSVP appropriations and how the funding is used in Morrisville. Mary Ann noted that if a voter doesn't agree with one appropriation, they'd have to vote against all because there is no way to amend an article since there is no traditional Town Meeting going on this year. She stated if E=MC2 didn't use last year's money, the law says they should return it to the Town. Eric replied that he believes that they are still paying for their overhead costs. The Town will do research and follow up with answers. Gary Nolan read the E=MC2 appropriations report from the back of the current Town Report which outlined their activities and plans for the upcoming season. The board would like to update the Town's policies on appropriations.

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.

REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chair Bob Beeman called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 6:34 PM at the Tegu Building.

AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

Add "Review and Approve Oxbow Park Use Request" and "Review and Approve Memorandum of Understanding for Hardwick Police Department" to New Business.

APPROVE MINUTES

APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 7, 2022

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the minutes of February 7, 2022 with changes suggested by Jessica Graham and Chris Wiltshire. Motion seconded by Judy Bickford. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Resident Nancy Banks asked about how the CARES Act money is used and how much the balance is. Eric Dodge replied that it has not been used as of yet and there is just over \$500,000.

Ruth Brown checked in about the Park Street sidewalk request. Eric said easements would need to be obtained for all the properties that the sidewalk would affect, at a taxpayer cost of

approximately \$250 per household. Jessica Graham suggested discussing this further at the next meeting and obtaining a budget for the sidewalk costs. She would also like to hear about grants that could be considered for a project such as this.

LIQUOR CONTROL

On a motion by Judy Bickford, seconded by Gary Nolan, the Selectboard recessed their regular meeting to meet as the Board of Liquor Control at 6:43 PM.

BOARD OF LIQUOR CONTROL

Liquor license renewals were received from Morrisville Food Coop LLC, Slim Point Inc (Riverbend Market), DG Retail LLC, Copley Country Corp., and Bombastic Industries LLC (10 Railroad St) for the Board's approval.

On a motion by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Gary Nolan, the Board of Liquor Control approved the applications as listed on the memorandum dated February 22, 2022. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

On a motion by Judy Bickford, seconded by Gary Nolan, the Board of Liquor Control adjourned at 6:44 PM and the meeting was resumed as the Selectboard meeting. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

NEW BUSINESS

1. LAMOILLE COUNTY FOOD SHARE PRESENTATION

Julie Bomengen gave a presentation of the ways her organization serves Morristown residents. She supplied the board with facts and figures on the types and amounts of foods that are given to those in need, and the frequency in which the resources are utilized. The Town currently appropriates \$5,000 per year to this organization.

2. LAMOILLE COUNTY SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT PRESENTATION

Patti Hayford gave a presentation of how her organization serves the children and vulnerable adults of our community. She spoke of their partnerships with other local services and how many investigations the LCSIU conducted. The Town currently appropriates \$3,375 in appropriations per year to this organization.

3. REVIEW HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Eric Dodge presented the board with a draft of the Town Hazard Mitigation Plan he has been working on with Stephanie Magnan of SEAM Solutions. He is continuing to update the document with current information.

4. REVIEW AND APPROVE ROAD NAME: "GOOSE FARM LANE"

Motion made by Gary Nolan to approve the road name Goose Farm Lane and the town will install the sign and post. Motion seconded by Judy Bickford. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

5. DISCUSS LRSWMD STAFFING PROPOSAL

The Cochran Road Transfer Station is short staffed and looking for help one Saturday per month with limited on-site station duties. Eric brought it to the board's attention and asked permission to offer it to the Highway crew if they wanted the overtime pay and hours.

Motion made by Judy Bickford to approve Eric to discuss work offer at the transfer station LRSWMD with Town employees. Motion seconded by Gary Nolan. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

6. REVIEW AND APPROVE OXBOW PARK USE APPLICATION

The Oxbow Music Fest (Nick DeNoia) has applied to use the park on Saturday, July 23, 2022 from 2:00 – 11:00 PM for their ticketed, live music event with a food truck and alcohol catered by Moog's Place.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the Oxbow Music Fest park use application for July 23, 2022 from 2:00 – 11:00 PM. Motion seconded by Judy Bickford. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

7. REVIEW AND APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR HARDWICK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jason Luneau, Interim Police Chief, created an M.O.U. between the Morristown Police Department and Hardwick Police Department that outlines the details in which an MPD Patrol Officer and/or Detective will assist the HPD for specific incidents and crimes for a period of time between February 2022 and June of 2023, if staffing allows.

Motion made by Gary Nolan to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Hardwick Police Department. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

APPROVE WARRANTS

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the warrants as presented. Motion seconded by Judy Bickford. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary

Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Eric Dodge reported the following notes out of the Administration Office:

- Eric, Jason Luneau and Kevin Barrows met with Morrisville Water & Light about their requirement to conduct a full scale drill this year of the potential for a catastrophic dam failure at Green River Reservoir. Hoping to schedule this during the fall when the Highway Department's workload is lighter.
- The Animal Control Officer position may soon be filled by John St. Amour. Eric will ask him to attend a March meeting for board appointment.
- There is a candidate for the Tree Warden position, Fran Sladyk.

SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Bob Beeman: Read a personal statement about social media comments directed at certain board members.

Judy Bickford: None.

Jessica Graham: None.

Brian Kellogg: None.

Gary Nolan: Gave an update on Walton Road Bridge.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Judy Bickford to adjourn. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Roll Call: Bob Beeman Y, Judy Bickford Y, Jessica Graham Y, Brian Kellogg Y, Gary Nolan Y. Motion carried (5/0).

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted and filed this February 25, 2022

Sarah Hyde, Scribe

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