

JAMAICA SELECTBOARD
Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.
At the Jamaica Town Office Meeting Room
Minutes

Selectboard present: Paul Fraser (Chair), Andy Coyne, Lexa Clark, Judith Flower, Joel Bluming
Others Present: Lou Bruso (Lister), Veda Bassett (Planning Commission Chair), Chrissy Haskins & RED Dufresne (Dufresne Group), Kristi Lembke, Drew Ameden, Samantha Russ, Chris Mays (Reformer) Rich Melanson (Cameraman), Pam Tweedy (Minute Taker)

Paul Fraser called the meeting to order at 7pm.

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda.

- a. Judith – Committee for Town Hall preservation
- b. Lexa – Town Garage update

2. Approve the minutes of the Aug 28th Selectboard meeting.

MOTION: Lexa Clark moved to approve the minutes from August 28th as written.

Second: Judith Flower.

Motion passed.

3. Approve time sheets for: town office, listers, highway, and transfer station.

Completed after public meeting.

4. Sign Selectboard orders.

Completed after public meeting.

5. Presentation by, and Q&A with, VSP regarding the recent criminal activity in Jamaica.

Postponed.

6. Review and consider a new Errors and Omissions report from the Listers.

Lister Lou Bruso presented one change that was made to a property assessment on the 2017 Grand List. The owner brought in a professional appraisal before grievance time, but it was not addressed by the Listers during grievance so they addressed it now.

MOTION: Lexa Clark moved to accept the Errors and Omissions.

Second: Joel Bluming.

Motion passed.

7. Hear and discuss a Proposal for a Town water supply study.

Joel Bluming introduced the topic, stating he has contacted the Dufresne Group and Beck Engineering to look into the feasibility of a having a municipal water supply. He is still waiting to hear back from Beck, but Chrissy Haskins and RED Dufresne of the Dufresne Group were in attendance to present their proposal.

Mrs. Haskins distributed copies of a “Proposal for Jamaica Water Study” and outlined her background, position and experience. RED Dufresne introduced himself as owner of the Dufresne Group. He explained that they work mainly with municipalities and have experience helping towns find State and Federal funding.

Mrs. Haskins stated that this topic has come up in town before, usually during the Town Plan update, and a study was done in 2000; but, some factors have most likely changed since then and still a lot of what is said around the subject is based on assumptions. She said the main questions are, "Do we need a municipal water supply, and how much will that cost?" The funding assistance groups are going to require a lot of information before they will give the town any money, so the first step is a small study to identify the issues and create a report laying out what the problems are or aren't. She directed the Selectboard to page 8 of the proposal which lays out the scope of work, followed by project sheets of similar projects completed by Dufresne, and finally a cost proposal. She emphasized that this stage is not a design and there are no commitments. The next step would be a Preliminary Engineering Report (which is where grant funding could come in to help off-set costs), then a more detailed plan would need to be developed, followed by a bond vote.

There was a period of question and answer about the different types of water systems and what kind of equipment/facilities/staffing they require, as well as discussion about who in Jamaica would benefit from such systems.

Jamaica's Procurement Policy requires three bids for purchases over \$500 and less than \$10,000, so the Board will need to get estimates from 2 other engineers before any decisions are made.

8. Discuss a possible plan to work with Neighborhood Connections regarding the Muzzy Fund.

Paul Fraser has been in contact with the Town's Attorney about the possibility giving the interest of the Muzzy Fund to an entity like Neighborhood Connections to distribute to people in need. Mr. Gillies said the Board could not give the money to the organization because then the Board becomes a fiduciary. They could, however, keep the funds in the Town's possession, ask Neighborhood Connections to do the vetting of potential recipients and come to the Selectboard with their recommendations, and the Selectboard would then vote to distribute the funds to the individuals. Andy stated that he supports this plan as long as it is following the original wishes of the Muzzy family. Paul Fraser replied that, yes, there would have to be some kind of contract or memorandum with Neighborhood Connections that would specify the purpose and guidelines. Joel asked if other people could contribute to increase the fund. The Board discussed that the Muzzy Fund was meant to only be the interest earned on the original bequest, but they would check with the Treasurer on the possibility of other contributions being added.

9. Discussion regarding a Transfer Station project.

Judith explained that there is a State regulation which requires refrigerators, air conditioners and some other potentially hazardous electronics to be stored on concrete, in order to prevent any leaking Freon from getting into the ground. She stated that the Town Road Crew is willing to do the work to put in a 20x15 foot platform, about 5" deep, so all that would need to be purchased is the concrete. Judy will find out if it needs to have a lip at the edges. Joel asked how long items like that stay at the Transfer Station, and Judy responded there needs to be 18-20 items for a pick-up. Joel also asked if people pay the Town to drop such items, and Judy said yes, there is a fee.

MOTION: Judith Flower moved that the Transfer Station begin to look into having a platform built to deal with the hazardous waste that comes in.

Second: Joel Bluming.

Motion passed.

10. Time for public concerns.

None.

11. Town Garage Update.

Lexa Clark reported that the new Town Garage is on schedule and in the final phases. Presently they are completing the interior painting and installing the overhead doors. The "Punch List" for finishing touches will be done on 9/27. They estimated the project would take about 6 months – it started in April and they'll be in by October, and the project is in good financial standing. Lexa stated she couldn't have asked for a better contractor than VMS. Lexa was thanked by the Board for all her hard work.

12. Town Hall Preservation Committee.

Judith explained that she received a list of repairs and improvements needed on the Town Hall to maintain its historical status. She recommended the Board set up a committee to assess the needs, get bids for the work, etc. She found three people willing to be on such a committee- Karen Ameden, Pat Meulemans, and Tom Tolbert. Judith will act as a liaison between the committee and the Selectboard. Paul pointed out that the committee doesn't have to be restricted the three people if anyone else is interested.

MOTION: Lexa Clark moved to create a Town Hall Committee consisting of the three people named and overseen by Judith.

Second: Joel Bluming.

Motion passed.

Lexa Clark motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Andy Coyne. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.