

JAMAICA SELECTBOARD  
Monday, October 23, 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), Enrique Chavez, Michael Abrams, Kelly Pajala, Craig Jewett & Mark Youngstrom (Otter Creek Engineering), Tom Tolbert, Joel Katz, Greg & Pat Meulemans, Emily Richards (Camera-woman), Pam Tweedy (Minute Taker)

Paul Fraser called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**1. Call for any late additions to the agenda.**

- a. Tom Tolbert, Town Hall business
- b. Judith Flower, WSWMD program
- c. Executive session for a personnel issue
- d. Move Veda up on the agenda

**2. Approve the minutes of the Sept 25<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting.**

Paul noted that on page 2, section 7 regarding the MOU with WSWMD, it should be specified that Windham Solid Waste will hold the "insurance" coverage.

Paul also pointed out an awkward sentence on the same page, section 9, which reads: "Their organizations are about the being the process of creating another CEDS..." This should be corrected to read: "Their organizations are about to begin the process of creating another CEDS..."

**MOTION: Joel Bluming moved to approve the minutes from Sept 25<sup>th</sup> as corrected.**

**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. Hear and discuss the quotes for the carpeting for the town office.**

The Town Clerk, Pam Tweedy, presented quotes from Lawton Flooring and Manchester Carpet Care for carpeting the Town Clerk/Treasurer's office and Lister's office. She also sought quotes from Knockout Flooring and WCW Carpet Warehouse, but received no response. Lawton's total came to \$4392.30, while Manchester's total came to \$4605.95 (which included charges for moving furniture).

**MOTION: Andy Coyne moved to accept Manchester Carpet Care's bid at \$4605.95.**

**Second: Lexa Clark**

**Motion passed.**

**6. Introduce Kelly Pajala who is seeking to finish Oliver Olsen's term as Representative.**

Kelly Pajala, Town Clerk in Londonderry and small business owner, introduced herself and explained that she is seeking an appointment from the Governor to finish Oliver Olsen's term in the State House of Representatives. Ms. Pajala described herself as a political Independent (like Oliver), and cited a need to attract and keep young people in our region. She said, if appointed, her phone will be on, her door will be open, and she wants to be involved in Jamaica.

**7. Hear and discuss a Proposal for a Town water supply study from Otter Creek Engineering.**

Mark Youngstrom & Craig Jewett from Otter Creek Engineering presented the Selectboard with an informational packet about their services. They described their qualifications and listed many municipal projects they've completed that could be compared to Jamaica, such as Berlin and Chelsea. Mr. Youngstrom detailed the process that would be

followed should the town decide to move forward with a water system, and he emphasized the importance of public involvement at each step. He also spoke at length about the different funding options through the State of Vermont Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund and the USDA Rural Development program. While he did not come with a Feasibility Study Proposal, he said he could provide one within a couple days.

After the Otter Creek Engineers left, the Selectboard continued the conversation about conducting a feasibility study and decided to have a special Town Meeting to ask residents (in the form of a vote) if they would like to proceed with this first step.

**MOTION: Joel Bluming moved to call a Special Town Meeting to vote on whether or not to move forward with a feasibility study for a water supply project.**

**Second: Judith Flower.**

**Motion passed with 3 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention.**

#### **8. Report from Joel on the VLCT Town Fair.**

Joel Bluming attended the VLCT Town Fair on Oct 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, at which he acted as the Town's voting member for the VLCT Annual Meeting. Mr. Bluming also attended information sessions regarding Municipal roadway grant programs, effective and legal Municipal meetings, and VLCT's 'Rules of Procedure.'

#### **9. Planning Commission update.**

Veda Bassett was present to remind the Selectboard that they must hold a public hearing before they can vote to adopt the updates to the Town Plan at their meeting on November 13th. She also informed the Selectboard that the Planning Commission voted to remove their one inactive member and asked the Selectboard to create a vacancy.

**MOTION: Lexa Clark moved to make a vacancy available on the Planning Commission so a 5<sup>th</sup> member can be appointed.**

**Second: Joel Bluming.**

Discussion ensued regarding the proper procedure for doing so, and it was concluded that some research should be done on the legality before they could follow through with the motion.

**Lexa Clark withdrew her motion.**

#### **10. Hear and discuss a letter from Town Garage adjacent property owners.**

Enrique Chavez and Michael Abrams were present to ask who would be facilitating the tree planting at the new Town Garage (a condition of their easement). They think the holes should be dug now and filled with top soil so they will be ready for the new trees in the spring. Lexa said she will discuss this with Keith Hazard.

#### **11. Review information obtained regarding the possible donation of property to the Town.**

The Listers provided the Selectboard with their information on the property of David Lamson, who offered to donate his land on Route 30 to the town. The assessed value is \$82,500. Lister Lou Brusco suggested telling Mr. Lamson to find an abutter who may want to buy the land from him.

**MOTION: Andy Coyne moved to graciously decline the offer.**

**Second: Joel Bluming.**

**Motion passed.**

#### **12. Discuss and decide on pursuing, or not, the latest net-metering project.**

Green Lantern Solar has offered for the town to be an anchor off-taker for their most recent Newfane landfill solar array. This project does not have the same financial incentives as the last project.

**MOTION: Andy Coyne moved not to pursue the latest net metering proposal.**

**Second: Judith Flower.**

**Motion passed.**

#### **13. Time for public concerns.**

Members of the Jamaica Community Arts Council were present to discuss the need for maintenance on the Town Hall building and access to the building for their events. Judith Flower stated that she is the one who should be contacted regarding the repairs, as she is working with the preservation organization and will act as the liaison with the

Selectboard. Regarding access, it was decided that Tom Tolbert would have a key to the building for the JCAC. The Selectboard will look into getting a new lockbox for outside the building for emergency situations.

**14. Judith Flower, WSWMD update**

Judith informed everyone that Windham Solid Waste will be holding a toxic/hazardous waste disposal event at their location on Old Ferry Rd in Brattleboro on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 8am-12pm. There is no charge for the waste but a \$5/car fee.

Judith also mentioned that D&Ks Redemption Center will be closing at the end of the month. Returnable bottle/can donations at the transfer station will have to be taken by the non-profit organizations to the new redemption center opening up in Wardsboro.

**15. MOTION: Lexa Clark moved to go into Executive session for a personnel issue.**

**Second: Judith Flower.**

**Motion passed.**

**Board entered executive session at 8:50pm.**

**Board dissolved executive session at 9:10pm.**

Paul Fraser then covered the remaining agenda items, which were two event invitations for the Selectboard from Valley Cares & Blue Cross/ Blue Shield.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.**