

Jamaica Selectboard Meeting
September 10th, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

Selectboard Present: Paul Fraser (chair), Andy Coyne (vice-chair), Judy Flower, Greg Meulemans & Tom Tolbert.

Public Present: Joel Bluming, Lou Brusco, Rebecca Ohm, Chris Robbins, Michael Abrams, Karen Ameden, Sara Wiswall (town clerk).

At 7:00 p.m. Paul called the meeting to order.

1. Late Additions to the agenda. Request from Rebecca Ohm from the Planning Commission to give an update on the energy plan.

2. Approve the minutes of the Aug. 27th Selectboard meeting. Paul added that the minutes should have stated that they were out of executive session at 8:30 p.m.

3. Approve time sheets for: town office, Listers, highway, and transfer station. Moved to the end of the session.

4. Sign Selectboard orders. Moved to the end of the session.

5. Review and vote on new Sign Ordinance. Some adjustments were made to what was presented at the last meeting. There was a line about lights being shut off from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. There were some who felt this was unnecessary and they decided to remove this stipulation. Who will be the sign administrator? Not a Selectboard member because if there are issues, the Selectboard is who they take the problem to. It would be someone collecting money for the town, the treasurer and town clerk were suggested.

There is no specification for village and out of town; it is all under the same ordinance.

Andy made a motion to accept the sign ordinance with the additional changes. There was no second.

The discussion continued with feather signs. A lot of existing businesses already have feather signs. If someone only used it periodically would it still be grandfathered in? The decision was to delete this item completely.

There was more talk about who the sign administrator would be. It was suggested that the wording be taken from the old ordinance. "There is hereby created the office known as the Administrative Officer. Such officer shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Selectboard."

Andy made a motion to adopt the new ordinance with the changes. 2nd by Greg. With a vote of 3-2, the ordinance passed. If the public does not agree with the ordinance, within 60 days they can petition to call a special town meeting.

6. Chair factory update and discussion. There is a historical significance with the building. Karen Ameden, Lou Brusco & Michael Abrams.

It is one of the last remaining mills in the area and they would like to look into restoring it.

Karen said they would look into getting grants with the help of Rebecca Ohm.

The bank building is running out of room. It is not big enough to display larger pieces. The chair factory is in the flood zone and would need a permit.

There is no other place around here that is anything like it.

The first step would be to have someone come in and look at it to see if it is even fixable.

Karen will look into what can be done and get back to us. Visit the historical foundation at jamaicahf.info

7. Update on Water Feasibility study. Water sampling will begin on Wednesday or Thursday. Mark Johnson is doing the water testing. There were 10 locations selected. The study is quite intensive and will look for many things in the water. There will be a draft by September 21.

8. VLCT Request for a voting delegate for annual meeting. Greg volunteered. Tom made a motion to appoint Greg as the representative to VLCT as a the voting delegate. 2nd by Andy, passed.

9. Discussion of the Facilities Manager job. Paul talked to Keith about putting it on the road crew. Judy said they need someone to manage all 6 buildings to prioritize what needs to be done. A description needs to be written on what is needed.

10. Update on the Transfer Station. Greg will be deputy transfer station supervisor. He will be supervising at the transfer station. They are working on writing the job specifics up. Judy will still oversee the other things at the dump.

11. Discuss schedule and procedures for employee reviews. Review after 6 months and then yearly. Formal reviews and then touch base constantly. The Selectboard would review the Road Foreman, the Treasurer, the Town Clerk, and the Transfer Station Attendant. The Road Foreman will review the road crew. No decision was made, further discussion to follow.

12. Update from the Planning Commission on the energy plan. Chris Robbins is the energy coordinator and he said that they are taking an all above approach to renewable energy. They expected to get a determination on if the energy plan complies or not but cannot until the plan is adopted. 5 edits were made to make the standard. Rebecca added that conservation is a huge part and they will be doing more in the fall.

Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. 2nd by Judy.

Submitted by Sara Wiswall