

JAMAICA SELECTBOARD AGENDA  
MONDAY, Sept 14th, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Meeting to be held virtually through a video conference \*

Selectboard Present: Greg Meulemans (chair), Paul Fraser, Tom Tolbert, Jessica Pollack, and Andy Coyne

Public Present: Joel Bluming, Dana West. Terri Garland (Treasurer), Lou Brusco (Lister), Rob Simmons, Bob Stomski (fire chief), Nancy Jean Henry, Bryan Zieroff, Christopher Robbins

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda
  - Green Iron bridge update
  - Tobacco license
  - Request for use of Town Hall
  - Request for more responses to survey

2. Approve the minutes from the August 6 and August 24, Selectboard meetings  
August 6 minutes are not finished.

Andy made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Tom.

Paul said I should put my name on public present even though I sign my name at the end. There was no info on the sign ordinance.

Passed, all in favor.

3. Updates and discussion on Robert Simmons request for the Rawson Bridge/  
Town Trail

Mr. Simmons asked the town to pay for half of an engineering study. He has asked the town to deed the bridge to him. The town attorney was contacted to see if we should do this. It really comes down to the town to decide if this is in the public good.

Paul Gillies asked: are there individuals that use the bridge? Is there anyone that uses the town trail?

Robert Simmons: The town trail and the bridge are about 50 feet long. Most hikers access the property from the Sage Hill Bridge.

Paul Gillies legal opinion is that the bridge is owned by the town of Jamaica.

More information needs to be gathered on the subject.

Jeff Nugent suggested that towns not throw up their town trails, per Joel Bluming.

Andy made a motion to table the subject and find out more information. Seconded by Paul.

Mr. Simmons said that in the years he has owned the Rawson property, he has been given permission from the town and has had liability for use of the bridge. He has never felt that he owned the bridge. He is trying to figure out the ownership and condition of the bridge.

Motion to table passed 4-1.

Greg made a motion to form a small committee, with Jessica and himself, to talk to Mr. Gillies office and gather the information that is needed to decide what to do about the bridge. Seconded by Tom. Passed 3-1-1.

#### 4. Errors & Omissions from Listers

Lou Brusco- they received a request from Angela Gully to take into consideration a survey she submitted to the town that shows she only has 10.69 acres not 15 acres. The listers did not know this was filed and she has requested the change to be made.

Tom made a motion to reduce the acres on parcel 00G-14 from 15 to 10.69 acres. Seconded by Greg. The value would change from \$55,000 to \$50,100. All in favor.

#### 5. Update from Listers Office

One of the listers has recently resigned. If the lister position was eliminated the town could hire an accessor instead. It would have to be voted on at Town Meeting. Lou is in the process of selling his house, Micah has resigned, and Barbara does not plan to run again in March.

The Selectboard could hire a clerk to do the daily duties that the listers do and then have a professional accessor to do the other duties.

#### 6. Review proposed False Alarm Ordinance from the Fire Department

Bob Stomski has been working on a false alarm ordinance and has sent it out to the board members. It is an eight-page document. He would like to implement it by the beginning of 2021.

Paul is unsure if the fire department can collect the fines because it is not a municipal fire department.

#### 7. Review proposal and application for Municipal Wastewater Feasibility Study

The Planning Commission would like to do a Municipal Wastewater feasibility study. They have looked into a community septic system.

What properties would this benefit specifically? They are not far enough along to know what specific properties this would benefit.

They are trying to have a septic system that would support a place with seating. The yoga studio has limits because of their septic system. There are restraints on people who

want to have something besides a residential building. There are places like the old antique shop that do not have a septic. It could also benefit residential places. The state is looking to the town to do something with wastewater. They are hoping to receive a grant to cover the cost.

There are state grants to cover the cost of the feasibility study. The test pits would need to be covered by the town. If it were done this way, we would not have to do additional test pits.

The grant would cover the feasibility study if we do not move forward with it, if we did move forward the cost would be rolled into the whole project.

RFQ- Request for Qualifications

Jessica made a motion to sign the application as drafted by The Jamaica Planning Commission. Seconded by Tom. The information should be put out the town, on the website and in the newsletter. Motion passes 4-1.

#### 8. Update on R&R sign application

John was unable to attend the meeting. They submitted two sign applications for the former Asta's and the former Muzzy building. The signs are temporary until the business signs are ready for the buildings. The sign at Asta's is the correct size and John has approved it. The ones on Muzzy's has too many signs and they are too large but they will reduce the size of the signs to be in compliance.

Paul feels that there should be action taken because the signs have been in non-compliance. They have been in violation for most of the summer. Tom would like to talk to John before making any motions.

Tom made a motion to table the topic until John can be a part of the discussion. Seconded by Jessica, all in favor.

#### 9. Updates on town road paving projects

Paving will start this week. Greg would like to move this topic to executive session. There was a request by a citizen, due to health reasons, so Greg would like to discuss this to executive session.

#### 10. Updates on plan to address speeding issues in town:

- a. Windham Regional Commission speed study- Paul talked to Jeff Nugent and asked to postpone the speed study because paving will start tomorrow morning. He is going to put it off for a couple of weeks. The speed carts are collecting data.
- b. Crosswalks being repainted on town and state roads- Have been put on hold until the paving is done on Pikes Falls.

- c. Installation and locations for electronic speeding signs-These have been ordered. Keith has some sites that they might be located. Terri will finish the permit for the signs once we know where we would place them.

11. Updates on Transfer Station Alternate and proposal for hiring

We are limited on our alternates for the transfer station, our first alternate was able to work this weekend for Dan.

Greg made a motion to form a small committee to hire another alternate for the transfer station. Jessica and Tom volunteered. Seconded by Tom. All in favor.

12. Review time sheets for town office, listers, highway and transfer station

No questions or comments

13. Review pay orders

No questions or comments

14. Other public concerns

Christopher Robbins put out a request for performance data and they have received about a dozen replies. They need a few more replies in order to get good sample. Anyone on Pikes Falls or West Jamaica Road can participate, and they would appreciate your help. Please send emails to [Jamaicaplanningcommission@gmail.com](mailto:Jamaicaplanningcommission@gmail.com)

Jessica made a motion to approve the tobacco license that should have been included with the liquor license. Seconded by Paul. All in favor.

Town Hall rental, if they are following protocol then everything should be okay.

Dana West would like to ban trick or treating this year because of covid-19. The board does not feel they can cancel an event that is not a town event. Will work with schools to see what they are doing.

Joel would like to make a sign with the statement that the Selectboard has made. We can hang a banner across the road but would need to submit an application.

Vtrans is sending an engineering group to the green iron bridge this week. We are still two or three years out but we are making movement.

Do your census!

There is a meeting at Hamilton Falls on Friday, September 18, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

Paul made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a topic that would be sensitive to the public. Seconded by Jessica.

Tom made a motion to go into executive session at 8:58 p.m., seconded by Jessica.

At 9:00 p.m., went into executive session to discuss a concern from a Jamaica resident.

At 9:35 p.m., came out of executive session. No action was taken.

At 9:38 p.m., went into executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

At 9:58 p.m., came out of executive session. The Board agreed to revise the office policy surrounding the wearing of masks. Jessica will draft revisions.

Submitted by Sara Wiswall