

Selectboard Minutes

February 22, 2021

Meeting held virtually through a video conference *

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

Public Present: Joel Bluming, Galen Robinson (BCTV), Martina Barnes

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda

No additions to the agenda

2. Approve the minutes from the Feb 8, Selectboard meeting

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from February 8, 2021. Seconded by Paul. All in favor.

3. Meeting and discussion with Martina Barnes, District Ranger, US Forest Service

Martina Barnes started as District Ranger last November. Jamaica has over 1,000 acres of forest land. The most recent Forest Plan was done in 2006. They do them about every twenty years.

She will let Greg know what projects are in Jamaica.

4. Discuss bids for new town truck

There are two different companies. This is a two-step process, that is why there are four quotes. Delurey and ATG are for the truck itself. The others are for the plow, the wing and the set up to make it functional for the town.

Traditionally we have always bought internationals. They did come in lower in the equipment portion of it.

Keith said Fairfield is better equipment, but it is higher priced.

After ordering the truck it would be about three months until we received it. Fairfield is quicker at getting all the extras put together. The other company is backed up with the state contracts.

Keith's choices are the international truck and Fairfield. They have a better timeline to get it to you. Most of the time we have used Fairfield.

The warranty is three years on the truck (engine/drivetrain) and the equipment is one year.

Keith had said that MAC trucks are generally \$30,000 higher. Jessica would like to get a bid from them for the third bid.

Paul made a motion to go with the International and Fairfield, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

Keith will talk with Terri about the financing options and get back to the board.

5. Approve Warning for Retail Cannabis Sales Vote, March 24

We came across something saying that this article cannot be voted on from the floor, it can only be done by Australian ballot.

Paul made a motion to warn the town on the authorizing or not, the sale of cannabis. Seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

6. Approve Warning for Hearings for Town Charter change, March 22 and March 29

We need to warn two public hearings prior to the vote of possibly changing the town charter to change the position of lister from elected to appointed.

Discussion on if we can have a hybrid listers office, with some elected and some appointed or would we hire a professional accessor.

There will need to be two hearings for a town charter change. They will need to take place prior to the vote at Town Meeting. The board will contact the lawyer again to make sure to get the wording correct.

7. Recap of call with Town of Londonderry and Windham County Sheriff's Department

Andy and Greg participated with a call with the Windham County Sheriff's Department and a couple of members on the Londonderry Selectboard. Londonderry had approached us about contracting the same as Jamaica does. The Sheriff's department said that if they did contract as we did, they would have a deputy that was only in Jamaica and Londonderry. Londonderry needs to commit to a sheriff's contract before anything would happen. We would either get increased coverage or could cut some of the cost.

8. Update on speed signs, current data and possible need for speed study

Tom has gathered some of the data of the existing signs in town.

Andy spoke with Windham Regional, he thinks they misunderstood him and sent the results from this past summer that Paul had already received.

Vtrans said we needed a speed study before putting the speed signs on Route 30. The board is trying to figure out if past speed studies are sufficient.

Andy will check with Windham Regional to see if they can do a speed study on Route 30.

9. Update regarding Board of Listers – sign PVR-4155

The Selectboard needs to sign off on PVR 4155. This is part of the grand list approval process.

10. Update on Town Plan adoption timeline

The Planning Commission is working on the timeline/timeframe for updating the Town Plan. There is a certification process that must be implemented.

11. Approve Liquor License requests

Paul made a motion to approve the liquor license for Blue Dot Beverages, seconded by Andy. 3 in favor, 1 abstained.

12. Other public concerns

No public concerns

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

Jessica made a motion to adjourn at 8:41 p.m.

Submitted by Sara Wiswall