

Selectboard Minutes August 9, 2021

Selectboard Present: Greg Meulemans (chair), Tom Tolbert, Andy Coyne and Kate Ullman

Public Present: Paul Fraser, Terri Garland (Treasurer), Bob Stomski, Jacob Deutchsh (WRVT), Karen Ameden, Greg Joly, Bryan Zieroff and Lucas Rogers

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda

- a. Discuss planting trees on Water Street

2. Approve the minutes from the July 26th Selectboard meeting

Tom made a motion to approve the minutes from July 26th, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

3. Update/discussion on recent local flooding

Every road is now passable, but not two lanes in some locations. Wesley Ameden is still working on West Jamaica. Water Street will be next. They met with the stream engineer from ANR and are now waiting for a permit to be able to get into the water.

There has not been a declared emergency yet.

Discussion on Water Street and wash outs along West Jamaica Road.

Terri has applied for NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service) to help homeowners with damage from the storm.

4. Next-steps Traffic Ordinance revisions

Charlie wanted Greg to update the board, he hasn't had time to finish a second draft but will get it to the board. Then the board can look it over before it goes to the town attorney.

The sheriff's department is trying to schedule a traffic study for Depot/Water Streets.

5. Next steps for Bridge 32 alternatives – updates and needed information for a decision by August 23

Bridge 32 is the bridge to the state park. The board needs to decide on what bridge project they want to pursue. They need to decide by the next meeting.

6. Update from Planning Commission and confirmation of Dufresne Group as engineer of record for Planning Grant for community wastewater plan

The Planning Commission applied for a grant to do a wastewater study. They are number one in line for the grant, the application money has been approved for review. They must select an engineer to use during the process. They sent out an RFQ and they received five different ones. They reviewed and decided that the Dufresne Group is who they recommend to the Selectboard.

This is for a proposed community septic system in the town.

The application is for a 6500-gallon community system. You also have a back system that would need to be built at the same time.

Tom made a motion to confirm Dufresne Group to be the engineer for the town septic system, seconded by Greg.

Andy asked if we need to pay them before the grant money. They will be paid from the grant money. The money puts the money out and then is reimbursed. 3 in favor, 1 abstained.

The Planning Commission is asking the town to pay \$650 to Windham Regional to work on the Town Plan.

Greg made a motion to authorize the PC to contract with WR to work on the town plan, not to exceed \$650. Seconded by Andy, all in favor.

7. Update on Town Hall – inspection report and request to install A/C

The women's auxiliary wanted to donate \$5,000 for air conditioning in the town hall. Meg Cambell emailed Tom about their proposal, saying they would approve it but recommends putting the vents lower.

Tom will get a couple of other quotes and report back to the board.

8. Update on Cannabis – next steps on vote to legalize sales

We had a town vote back in March. Was the vote legal because it wasn't warned correctly? We can have another vote and that will supplant the other vote. We could vote on the two articles separately. We will set a new date for fall.

9. Public concerns

Trees on Water Street- Karen, Tom, Jacki and Kate met on Friday to look at the land. Erica Bowman also spoke with them. They would not plant the trees until October or next spring. Discussion on planting trees and what can be done with the property.

Cemeteries: There is some work that needs to be done besides mowing, such as cutting trees and branches back and you cannot see some of the stones.

Tom made a motion to allocate up to \$1,000 for cemetery maintenance done by D&K's, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Jacob is the project coordinator for West River Valley Thrives, the youth substance abuse prevention. They have more information on legalizing cannabis. They are a resource to be used if you need more information.

Erica Bowman, the town crew cut down a bunch of trees and branches on her road. It has damaged the plants, and all the branches were left behind in the ditch. All of them washed down into culverts, causing the roads to wash out.

There is a spot on Mowrey Road that the culvert has washed out. There is a drop off of 10 feet.

August 18th is when Bob is retiring, this also includes him as assistant fire warden. Parking on Factory Street, Bob has had complaints from his neighbors about people parking on the road. It makes it hard for traffic, especially emergency vehicles.

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

11. Review pay orders

Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m.

Submitted by Sara Wiswall