

Selectboard Minutes
September 12, 2022

Selectboard Present: Greg Meulemans (chair), Jessica Pollack and Kate Ullman

Public Present: Karen Ameden, Paul Fraser, Greg Joly, Alice Abraham, Michael Abrams, Enrique Chavez, Bob Rolen, Alione Mammae and Falcon

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

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda

- A. Update on the library
- B. Update on History Museum
- C. Discussion of Declaration of Inclusion

2. Approve the minutes from the August 22nd Selectboard Meeting

Kate made a motion to approve the minutes from August 22nd, seconded by Jessica.

#3-Demarsico should not have a space

#7-The painting Hazel Denton donated was painted by longtime resident Keith Hoffman.

Kate made a motion to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

3. Update on Depot Street Bridge and discussions with Army Corp of Engineers

The Army Corp of Engineers have asked the town to consider helping to find a solution for getting equipment over to the other side. They are looking for preliminary draft plans that should be done in October. Having this discussion does not put us behind at all, the bridge work is not going to start until 2024.

We did reach out to the Army Corp of Engineers when discussion first began on doing something with the Depot Street Bridge. They have since been given grant money to put into the bridge.

4. Update on Transfer Station

We were able to retain a replacement for Dan on probation. There is also a new alternate. Ernie is the new transfer station attendant and Al is the alternate.

5. Discussion of proposed Transfer Station hours

The goals:

- To make the schedule less awkward. It is difficult for some residents. They

would like more consistently with the hours.

- Friday being an open day.
- Change Saturday and Sunday, so that they are not both full time days.

Jessica would like to have the days be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and keep one late day of 2-6 p.m. The days would be Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The Transfer Station would be closed on Wednesday and Thursday. Sunday would be 1-5 p.m. to eliminate full days on both Saturday and Sunday.

They would like to wait to decide when the entire board is present and then it would be posted for a couple weeks before the change.

Decision tabled until the next meeting.

6. Review new heating system quotes for town buildings

The bank building had a leak in the oil tank a couple of months ago which triggered this conversation on heating systems in the town buildings. The Planning Commission recommended using ARPA funds for the heating systems.

Terri started the process of getting bids for new heating systems. She received a quote from our current provider.

7. Approve a change to the Grand List

There was an error on a parcel 00P-19.6. Sean Poole was given a new value of \$6,200 and a new tax bill. The original value was \$12,300. Greg made a motion to approve the certificate of correction, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

8. Discussion of using portion of ARPA money for Hazard Pay

This should be retention pay, according to the ARPA guidelines. They will go into executive session.

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

Greg made a motion to approve the time sheets, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

10. Review and approve pay orders

Greg made a motion to approve the current weeks pay orders, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

11. Reminder of September 21, site visits and hearings for proposed road reclassifications

Reminder, the site visits will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Turkey Mountain Road.

12. Library Update

Alice Abraham, chair of the Library Trustees

There is old water damage in the main entrance, they are asking for cosmetic fixes, stain

killer and painting the ceiling. The leak has been addressed. It was fixed about 10 years ago; it is old damage. Greg made a motion to allow the Library Trustees to work with Terri to get bids, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

13. History Museum Update

Karen Ameden said that about 15 years ago, the town had the bank building and didn't know what to do with it, so the Historical Foundation moved into the bank building. They have filled the building with things donated to the Historical Foundation. They are a point that they want to work on the lighting in the building. There are old fluorescent lights that are starting to fall. They would like to open the ceiling. They need a Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the town to proceed with the project. Alice Abraham will be writing the grant.

Jessica made a motion to work with the Historical Foundation on the MOU for the usage of the bank building, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

14. Discussion of Declaration of Inclusion

Two years ago, the Selectboard responded immediately to hate speech. The state is working on a declaration of inclusion. Karen is asking that the town would write a declaration of inclusion. The board will work on our previous statement and integrating it into the formal declaration.

15. Public concerns

Bob is hoping to move to South-East Jamaica soon and wanted to introduce himself and get involved in the community.

Karen Ameden- Laura Sibilia and George Wilson are running for State Representative and will be at Town Hall to talk to residents.

Laura Sibilia will be there September 13th from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and September 27th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

George Wilson will be there September 22nd from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and September 24th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Greg Joly- A campaign sign should not be posted at the Town Office because the Town Office is a polling place. It looks like support from the town.

At 7:53 p.m. Jessica, "I move to find that premature general public knowledge of personal compensation information of the town's staff members would clearly place the town staff at a substantial disadvantage, because the Selectboard would reveal personally identifiable information if it discusses using ARPA funds for retention raises in public." Seconded by Kate.

Jessica, "I move that we enter into executive session to discuss using ARPA funds for retention raises for town staff under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes." Seconded by Kate, all in favor.

Exit executive session at 8:07 p.m.

Jessica resolved that the town shall allocate the following amounts, in the following years, from the amount allocated to the town pursuant to the American Rescue Plan to fund raises for the staff members to drive employment retention. \$37,642.47 for fiscal year 2023, \$36,639.85 for fiscal year 2024, \$35,626.52 for fiscal year 2025, and \$34,627.85 for fiscal year 2026. Seconded by Greg, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Submitted by Sara Wiswall