

## Selectboard Minutes October 23, 2023

Selectboard Present: Jessica Pollack (chair), Andy Coyne (vice-chair), Greg Meulemans, Kate Ullman and Derek Ahl

Public Present: Mike Tuller (Town Administrator), Paul Fraser, Susan Ahl

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

### *1. Call for any late additions to the agenda*

- A. Review and approve hiring Austin Meeks for cleanup at town cemeteries
- B. Would like minutes to be different line items

### *2. Approve the minutes from the October 9 Regular Meeting and October 16 Special Meeting of the Selectboard*

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from October 9th regular meeting, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to approve the special meeting from October 16th, seconded by Kate.

Bid number 3, was accepted for \$43,500 from Ameden Construction.

Goodaleville Road, the bid was \$42,000 and accepted from Ameden Construction.

Jessica made a motion to withdraw the original resolution. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to accept the minutes for the October 16<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting with the revisions, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

### *3. FEMA topics: (i) update on total cost (paid and estimated), (ii) Update on awarded RFPs, remaining open proposals, and additional Pikes Falls embankment RFP (iii) update on exploration of funding for Ball Mountain Brook debris removal and Stratton watershed exploratory meetings, (iv) other*

They are working on conservative estimates for the damages done in the July storm.

There are 70 plus sources of projects that could be reimbursed from FEMA. They work will continue into next year.

Today they finished the first project paperwork, and it has all submitted to FEMA.

Mike Barrington and Jim Conshovitch are the two people from FEMA who have been working with the town.

The outside audit is moving along and hopefully we will have a line of credit before the next meeting.

The goal is to receive 100% FEMA reimbursement for all the projects.

Last week there was a special meeting to award some RFP's (bids). Ameden Construction was awarded a lot of them and started the work this week on one of the projects.

The projects included:

**Paving of Pikes Falls and South Hill**

**Goodaleville bank-temporary project can be reimbursed**

**Pikes Falls bank**

The major projects have started but some will not be completed until next year.

Andy asked about Depot Street, Ameden Construction will be doing this work. It will be done in the next couple of weeks.

A representative from VT Emergency Management said we should remove debris from the town garage all the way down to Depot Street. The rubble and material need to be removed. They are working with the state on a phased plan. It is going to be a big project.

Greg acknowledged Mike's help with everything, how he looks ahead and looks at all information available.

*4. Update on NRCS related efforts for private landowner flood recovery*

There is a list of 21 impacted areas, 2 are studies and the other 19 are homes. The state will work directly with the property owners.

NRCS- Natural Resources Conservation Service

*5. IT Support RFP update*

This will go out this week, an RFP for IT in the Town Office. The Request for Proposal will be on the website. It will be for our server, IT help and a new phone system.

*6. Sign and Road Ordinances, updates on efforts to amend*

**The Road Ordinance-** VLCT has given specific updates needed that were confirmed by council.

Jessica will send it out what she has in advance of the next meeting.

**The Sign Ordinance-** Kate is working on this and has got a lot of information. She is going to work with Greg and Mike on revising the ordinance.

*7. Windham Regional Commission Municipal Planning Grant and Act 154 Certification*

Mike answered some questions from Windham Regional and worked with our Planning Commission to get everything before the November 1st deadline. The grant is for the Town Plan update that will be due in 2025.

Andy and Mike both serve on The Windham Regional Commission and citizens can join a board. If interested, reach out to Andy.

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

Jessica made a motion to approve the time sheets for the town office, listers, highway and transfer station. Seconded by Kate. All in favor.

*9. Review and approve pay orders*

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

*10. Public concerns*

Andy said the town repaired the bridge to the state park, but they still need to fix some things. It is better than it was but not quite right. They will take a second look at it tomorrow.

Susan Ahl said the dogs roaming around town is still an issue. People are either not picking up the dog waste at all or putting the dog waste into bags, but then leaving the bags. She said she wants to keep it on the radar.

Paul Fraser suggested using full names in the minutes.

At 7:53 p.m. Jessica, "I move to find that premature general public knowledge of a discussion of ACT 154 certification would clearly place the town itself at a substantial disadvantage, if the Selectboard discusses potentially sensitive subjects in public." Seconded by Kate.

Jessica, "I move that we enter into executive session to discuss Act 154 certification 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 8:23 p.m. They discussed the Act 154 Good Standings certification and are in agreement to proceed with seeking the municipal planning grant.

Jessica made a motion to adjourn at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Sara Wiswall