

Selectboard Minutes November 13, 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, Greg Joly and Karen Ameden

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

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

No late additions to the agenda.

2. *Approve the minutes from the October 23 Regular Meeting and November 7 Emergency Meeting of the Selectboard*

Kate made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 23rd regular meeting, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the Emergency Meeting on November 7th. Thank you, Mike. The minutes have not been posted online and the approval will be deferred to the next meeting.

3. *FEMA topics: (i) Update on awarded RFPs, (iii) update on completed projects, (iv) other*

At the Special meeting, four projects were bid on. There were two on Old Route 8, that were both awarded to Fitzpatrick Excavating. Mike Tuller spoke with Mike Fitzpatrick to make sure they understood the scope of it and they do.

Goodaleville Bridge- There is a temporary fix to get the bridge open. This was awarded to A.S. Clark & Sons.

The last bid was for work to be done at the Transfer Station. This was awarded to Hunter Excavating.

Work that has been completed includes three bank erosions on Pike Falls and paving on Pikes Falls and South Hill.

Hunter Excavating is scheduled to complete work on West Windham Hill next week.

Water Street has been touched up. Some debris was taken out of the river. It still needs paving.

Two bank projects have been completed on Goodaleville by Ameden Construction. The box culvert at Jamaica Fire & Rescue still needs to be cleaned out.

4. *Update on NRCS related efforts for private land owner flood recovery*
Mike is looking into if homes can be relocated on their property but outside the flood area. The town is not being updated on private citizens. Please let the town know updates and/or concerns.
5. *Coordinating flood plain efforts with other towns in the West River Valley*
The town of Londonderry is interested in addressing Ball Mountain Dam. There has also had interest from the state to help. Mike Tuller is trying to work with other towns.
6. *Appointment of Ed Dorta-Duque as the third Town Lister*
Jessica made a motion to appoint Ed Dorta-Duque as the third Town Lister, to fill the position until Town Meeting, seconded by Derek. All in favor. Welcome back Ed!
7. *Update on installation of mirror at intersection of Main Street and Pikes Falls Road.*
There will not be any mirrors put up across from Factory Street, the state will not allow it. In order to have a mirror it cannot cause a glare and must be on an existing pole.
Kate Ullman also looked into a crosswalk in front of the store. It must be ADA compliant, must have bumps and VTrans would have to redo the sidewalks. They have asked VTrans to reevaluate the intersection of Pikes Falls, Route 30 and Factory Street.
The board will make a request to the state for flashing lights or something to highlight the existing crosswalk.
8. *Replacement of the "Welcome to Jamaica" sign at south end of Village.*
The sign has rotted out, the rotten part was removed. Jessica made a motion to have the sign examined to see if can be repaired, seconded by Derek. All in favor.
9. *IT Support RFP update*
The Request for Proposal (RFP) was published and put on the jamaicavermont.org website. It is for hardware, software, installation and support. The library is part of the phone system.
10. *Review and approve the town Winter Operations Policy*
Every year the Winter Operations Policy is updated/reviewed and posted on the website.
We do NOT have a bare roads policy.

Susan Ahl wanted to remind everyone that someone has been leaving large snow banks between the church and the Faulkner's. She also said plows should not be on the sidewalk and that the library needs to be cleared.

State laws that pertain the Winter Operation's Policy:

- No obstruction in the right of way
- Cannot deposit material in the right of way
- No parking on sidewalks
- You can not blow snow onto the road.

Jessica made a motion to approve the Winter Operation's Policy as amended by Kate and Greg, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

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

12. Review and approve pay orders

13. Public concerns

Karen Ameden spoke with Chris Campany from Windham Regional Commission (WRC) about the septic system. Karen thinks it would be good to have WRC involved but they would need the Selectboard to ask them. Jessica will defer to Bryan Zieroff of the Planning Commission.

Susan Ahl has resigned as Library director. Madeline Hesler is taking over as Library Director.

Kate Ullman said a citizen on Turkey Mountain Road asked her to bring up the debris that was left on the side of the road. Greg will bring it up to the road crew. There is also debris/old culverts on Worden Road and Howe Farm Road.

14. Executive Session

At 8:10 p.m. Jessica, "I move to find that premature general public knowledge of a personnel matter would clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage, if the Selectboard discusses personal information in public." Seconded by Kate. 4 in favor, 1 abstained.

Jessica, "I move that we enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues, 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 8:22 p.m.

No decision made.

Jessica made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Wiswall