

Selectboard Minutes November 27, 2023

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

Public Present: Paul Fraser, Mike Tuller (Town Administrator), Sam Wood, Susan Ahl, Karen Ameden and Kate Harris

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

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda

Approve the minutes from November 7th.

Discuss change order to the contract on Goodaleville Road.

2. Approve the minutes from the November 13 Regular Meeting of the Selectboard

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 13th meeting, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 7th meeting, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

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

All of the RFP's have been done for this year.

Today Greg Meulemans met with AS Clark. The Clarks recognized when moving equipment that there was some scouring. The new cost would be an additional \$11,200. If you add this to their original bid, it is still less than the other bids.

Greg made a motion that we have AS Clark & Sons do the additional work to repair the scouring and abutment for \$11,200. Seconded by Jessica, all in favor.

The total so far has been \$1.14 million.

USDA and NRCS did give an update. There were 21 damaged properties. They have deemed 7 eligible for funding, 6 were not eligible and the rest there is no decision yet.

Derek asked if Water Street was finished? There is still paving to be done but will not get done until next year.

4. IT Support RFP review and approval

The request is for someone to help with our needs for the town. There were 2 bids.

Green Mountain Smart Tech- Sam Wood proposed IT support for an hourly rate of \$125 an hour.

All-Access Infotech- No hourly rate was found in the bid.

Jessica said we will not decide tonight.

5. Continued discussion of alternative methods to "tally" trash at the transfer station

Kate has been in touch with the Town of Londonderry. They use punch cards instead of trash bags.

We are almost out of yellow and green bags. We still have a lot of blue bags (they are the same size as yellow) that were obtained in 2020 when we could not get the yellow bags. There will be follow up at the next meeting. We will use the blue bags for now.

6. BDCC/SeVEDS visit

Kate Harris from Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) is also a Jamaica resident. Southeastern VT Economic Development (SeVEDs) They have a 5-year regional plan with the goal of strengthening people and supporting people. They ask the town for an appropriation of \$3 per person, based on the current population. This year they helped with Flood relief. Three businesses in Jamaica received grants. They support jobs by working with local businesses. They work with schools to teach kids common things. They are doing a lot of work with new Vermonters. They have a bi-weekly newsletter, you can join the mailing list to keep informed what is happening.

7. Appointment of Town Health Officer

Greg will continue as health officer but is busy and would give it up if anyone is interested. Please reach out to someone on the Selectboard if you are interested as serving as Health Officer.

Jessica made a resolution that the board nominate Greg Meulemans as the Health Officer, seconded by Kate. Greg will fill the role until after the Town Meeting. We believe it is a three-year appointment, but he would resign if needed. 3 in favor, 1 abstained

8. Budget Meetings scheduling

We normally do two sessions in the month of December. Discussion on when to schedule the budget meetings. No agreement, the budget meetings will be scheduled through email.

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

Jessica made a motion to approve the times sheets, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

10. Review and approve pay orders

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

11. Public concerns

Santa Claus will be coming to Jamaica Town Hall on December 17th at 2:00 p.m. The House of Prayer will have the lighting ceremony on the same day. The Holiday Bazaar is December 8-10th at the Town Hall. Secret Santa in Jamaica, there is a tree at West River Provisions and there will be a tree at My Mother's Garden as well. You can buy presents for the kids.

Jessica made a motion to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Sara Wiswall