

Selectboard Minutes January 8, 2024

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

Public Present: Paul Fraser, Karen Ameden and Mike Tuller (Town Administrator)

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

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda

A. Approve a proposal to renew contract for tax map maintenance

B. Application to have a Village center designation.

C. Municipal Planning Grant from Windham Regional for Town Plan, must accept.

D. Note on storm for tomorrow

2. Approve the minutes from the December 11 Regular Meeting, and December 13 Special Meeting of the Selectboard

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 11th meeting, seconded by Kate. 4 in favor, 1 abstained

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on December 13th, seconded by Kate. 4 in favor, 1 abstained.

3. Presentation by the Windham County Sheriff's Department

Moved to the next meeting.

4. FEMA and Storm Preparedness topics: (i) Status of 2021 submission, (ii) Status of 2023 submission, (iii) update on completed projects, (iv) application for Vermont Bond Bank financing, (v) other

We do still have some submissions from the July 2021 Storm, Mike Tuller is working on finding out what we need to do to receive these funds. There is still some information missing for FEMA for the July 2021 storm.

Mike has been going through all the information for the July 2023 flooding and is working to get everything together for FEMA.

The RFP projects are all completed.

The Transfer Station was done but there is an adjustment that still needs to be done.

They have extended the deadlines for FEMA and there are at least six months before any deadlines.

The funds that we have spent came out of the Town funds, we need to obtain a line of credit. The Vermont Bond Bank has an opportunity, but the deadline is Wednesday. We will know by mid-February if we are approved.

5. Approval of updated Traffic and Parking Ordinance, next steps, and discussion of enforcement

Jessica made a resolution to approve the Traffic and Parking Ordinance, seconded by Kate.

Some gaps were discovered with the previous Traffic Ordinance. There is a real desire to see enforcement on all ordinances. We needed mechanisms to support our parking ordinance.

There will be fines and the ordinance gives the ability to remove a vehicle. Jessica has been working with the town council.

Andy asked about when tickets are written, does the Sheriff have to go to court? Would this come out of what we already contract with them, or would it be an additional fee? They would go to Traffic court. Jessica would have to speak to the Sheriff about the specifics.

There will be signs in areas where there is no parking.

Vehicles can be towed. Who would do the towing?

We can use the Sheriff department to have vehicles towed.

To adopt the ordinance:

It will be posted in 5 places around Town for 60 days and published in Brattleboro Reformer.

If someone objects, they can petition against the ordinance, and it would go to a town vote.

All in favor. Motion passed.

6. MERP Grant Contract approval

We have applied for money for three out of four buildings in town. They are hoping to have the library and history building benefit from the grant.

Jessica made a resolution to approve the contract, and the acceptance of the grant. Seconded by Tom.

The state is providing \$4,000 to each town. One of the factors is ADA compliance. All in favor, motion passed.

7. IT Support update and approval of provider proposal

Jessica made a resolution that we enter into an agreement with Sam Wood for our IT needs.

Paul asked what the contract was for. It is for our server, IT help, cyber security, and phones. All in favor, motion passed.

8. RFP for Town Wide Reappraisal

Jessica made a resolution that we approve the proposal for the town wide reappraisal, seconded by Greg.

About 60% of the towns in Vermont need a reappraisal, they will begin in 2026 and be finished in 2028. The proposal is \$141,000. We only received one proposal. This is the company that did our last reappraisal. There is \$129,000 in an account set aside for the reappraisal.

All in favor, motion passed.

9. Porta-Potty Contract Increase

Jessica made a motion to approve the increase, seconded by Greg.

Discussion on having the porta-potty at the Town Office.

All in favor, motion passed.

10. Tax maps

We have been working with CAI technologies. It is time to renew the contract for one year.

Jessica made a resolution that we approve the January 25th proposal for \$1500 with CAI Technologies, seconded by Kate. All in favor, motion passed.

11. Village Center designation

It is not just for the town; it also makes it possible for grants for nonprofits and businesses. This does not put any restrictions on anything.

Jessica made a motion to apply for the Village Center designation, seconded by Kate.

All in favor, motion passed.

12. Municipal Planning Grant

Jessica resolved that we accept the grant under the planning grant program, seconded by Tom. All in favor, motion passed.

13. Storm Tomorrow

There is a pre-alert. The storm will start tomorrow afternoon with wet snow. There will be strong winds but may not happen here. There will be rain in other places. There could be road flooding.

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

Jessica made a motion to approve the timesheets, seconded by Tom. All in favor.

15. Review and approve pay orders

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

16. Public concerns

Andy asked about the invoice for Dufresne Group, it is reimbursed by a grant.

Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sara Wiswall