

Selectboard Minutes

April 22, 2024

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

Public Present: Karen Ameden, Paul Fraser, Anne Connor, Michael Connor, Mike Tuller (Town Administrator), David Marx, Erica Bowman, Everett Hammond, Gary Larouche

Jessica called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Call for any late additions to the agenda

- A. Grant for EV charger
- B. Act 250 permit-JPC made a recommendation
- C. Karen Ameden-request to add war memorial in front of church
- D. Gary Larouche from VTrans, Greg would like to move to beginning of meeting

2. Approve the minutes from the April 8 Regular Meeting of the Selectboard

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from April 8th, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

6. Update and discussion of State Park Bridge upgrade

Work is scheduled to be done in the next few years on bridge 32 going to the State Park. The Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Vermont have put together information with concerns of the refurbished bridge and the limitations it would still have.

No decision is being made tonight.

The decision on the bridge has been made for a couple of years. The Army Corps of Engineers were invited to all of the meetings but did not weigh in. Now they have funds and would like to reopen the discussion of Bridge 32.

Gary from the Army Corps of Engineers said they would have to engineer new plans for a new bridge. He asked when a good time would be to close the bridge for a couple of hours to do some tests. It would need to be coordinated with the residents and the State Park.

This is an informational discussion only, there are no decisions being made.

Structural Construction would be 100% funded by Federal funds.

There would be an additional 5-10% cost for the town for the engineering.

3. FEMA update

Everett Hammond is an engineer that is helping with the three embankment projects, which include Old Route 8, West Jamaica Road and Pikes Falls Road. They will all be paid for by the federal government. This is grant assistance helping residents.

Jessica made a motion to approve the contract as circulated, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

We are on our third project manager with FEMA, Geraldo is our new project manager. The intention is to get the projects approved. We also have a new program manager for the damages incurred in December. Diedre will be working on these projects with us.

Large boulders are being considered for the Ball Mountain Brook.

Mike is working on the RFP for debris removal plan for Ball Mountain Brook.

4. Approve Letter of Intent to participate in FY25 Grants-In-Aid program

Every year the state has some funding for storm water mitigation. We apply each year and they are looking for us to sign off on it. Greg made a motion to approve the letter of intent to participate in the FY25 Grants in Aids program, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

5. Approve VTrans FY25 Annual Financial Plan for Jamaica

Jessica made a motion to approve the VTrans FY25 Financial Plan for Jamaica, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

7. Approval of Danielle Whitham to replace the open position for a library trustee

Jessica made a motion to approve the appointment of Danielle Whitham to fill the open position for library trustee, seconded by Len. All in favor.

8. Approval of a raise for the librarian for remainder of FY 2023

Jessica made a motion commencing the budgeted FY25 wage for the librarian, following the conclusion of the Selectbaord meeting, seconded by Greg. 4 in favor, 1 abstained.

9. Review and approval to seek a state grant to plant trees designed to prevent stormwater runoff and erosion from heavy rains

Vermont Urban and Community Forestry are offering non-matching grants to municipalities. The grant is focused on placing trees to prevent runoff. They are also interested in projects that would hold banks together with trees. Anne Connor asked if it is okay with the town if a group of citizens applied for this grant? They would like to hold a public meeting sometime in the next couple of weeks. The Planning Commission said they would be the umbrella for the project. Greg asked if they need to be planted in the village because there is not a lot of town owned space.

Jessica encouraged Anne to move forward with the grant, a public meeting on Monday, May 13th will be scheduled for 6:00 p.m.

10. Recreation Committee operations discussion

Dave Marx is here on behalf of JAMBA. They are working on a bike trail at the school. They would like to plan with the town and possibly use funds from the rec committee. It was set up to fund team sports. It has not been active in recent years. The board recommended that David reach out to the rec committee and arrange a meeting.

11. Humane Society contract renewal

The fee is the same as last year, \$385.

Jessica made a motion to approve the Humane Society contract, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

12. Approve RFP for new oil tank at the Historical Society building

It is decommissioned and needs to be taken out. They may need to cut it to get it out, there could be oil still in it. Jessica made a motion to approve the RFP to take out the oil tank at the bank building, seconded by Len. All in favor.

13. Review and Approve Liquor license

Greg made a motion to approve the liquor license for Nico Vega doing business as Honey Pie, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

14. Grant for electric charger at Historical Society Building

The town cost would be \$8,000. They would be on the back of the property. Jessica made a motion to proceed with the grant application for EV chargers in the village, seconded by Greg. 4 in favor, 1 opposed.

15. Proposal for memorial

We do not have a memorial for all of our veterans. Karen would like to add a memorial for those that are not already included. There are 200 names that would go onto the memorial. Karen spoke with Mark Pickering from VTrans and he said it would be fine to put them where Karen is recommending. Wesley Ameden would donate the rock and donate time and equipment to install it. Karen is looking for approval from the Selectboard so they can move forward with funding. The Historical Foundation would be doing the funding. Jessica made a motion to approve the Historical Society to put in a memorial stone for the veterans not already there, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

16. Act 250 Permit

Tyler Wren submitted the Act 250 permit, it was looked at by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission raised no objection. Jessica made a motion to agree with the Planning Commission recommendation not to seek any changes, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

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

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

15. Review and approve pay orders; approve payment for new Welcome to Jamaica sign

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

Jessica made a motion to approve the proposal to replace the Welcome to Jamaica sign for less than \$1,000, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

16. Public concerns

Andy asked about liquor licenses, some go through the state not the town.

Greg made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Seconded by Andy.

Respectfully submitted, Sara Wiswall