Selectboard Minutes May 12, 2025

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

Public Present: Greg Lakis (EMD), Paul Fraser and John Hatheway

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

1. Late additions

Report on Windham Regional Commission and Transportation Committee

2. Minutes

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 28th meeting, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

3. Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)

Greg Lakis (EMD) is here to update the LEMP. Most of the effort went to filling empty positions. Andy Pfau is the new deputy EMD. There are other new members, Benzi Ross, Caroline Carbonaro and Mary Parliman.

George Abrams is now the president of the fire department, which has been updated. Added Andy Pfau as an additional VT Alerts member.

They will be using Front Porch Forums as a form of communication.

They added the CARE registry.

They have got involved with Neighborhood Connections.

Updated contact information for the shelters and added planning and logistics staff to municipal contacts. Updated the Selectboard.

There were no changes made to any of the attachments this year.

Jessica made a motion to approve the Local Emergency Management Plan as circulated by Greg Lakis, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

4. Annual Audit approval

Jessica made a motion to approve the request for the audit to be initiated, seconded by Christina. All in favor.

5. Grand List extension

Request from the listers for an extension on the Grand List. They are asking for a 30-day extension. The listers changed their software last year and are still working through it. The data did not transfer correctly for all the parcels. The contact who can help with this is not available until June. There are over 350 properties that need to be fixed. Jessica made a motion to approve a 30-day delay for the Grand list, seconded by Christina. All in favor.

6. Grants in Aid Application

This is just to say that we are interested in participating in the Grants in Aid program this year.

Greg made a motion to approve the letter of intent to participate in the Grants in Aid program, seconded by Andy. All in favor.

7. Update on trucks

The new truck is arriving tomorrow. We are currently seeking bids now for our next new truck. There are two vendors that provide the trucks we need.

8. Paving Bids

We budgeted to do some paving this year in five spots. There is also a little bit of work still on Water Street and work in front of the church, but this will be a separate bid. We received two bids.

Hunter Excavating (formerly O'Brien Paving) \$48,848

Springfield Paving \$53, 150

Greg made a motion to accept the bid from Hunter Excavating bid of \$48,848. Seconded by Jessica, all in favor.

9. Transfer Station Projects

To restore the retaining wall and stabilize the material where the recycling bins are.

The construction bins, the canopies would be removed and would not be replaced. They do not do a lot to keep the weather out and are in the way of Haulers. Most places do not have a canopy overtop. The RFP has gone out. There is an ad in The Commons, and the RFP is on the website. This Friday there is a sight inspection at 9:30 a.m. Bids are due on May 22nd, at 11:00 a.m.

10. Next meeting Memorial Day

The next meeting will be on Memorial Day, May 26th. Jessica made a motion to move the next regular meeting from May 26th to May 27th at the same time, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

11. Update Windham Regional Commission

Andy attended a full board meeting. Looking forward to future disasters, we should start saving money and look for other ways to deal with flood damage. It was words of advice for the towns to look at. Be prepared, there may be help from the Federal Government but there may not be.

The state is not taking any requests for anything. Vermont is having money trouble with our infrastructure. They will be paving less and repairing bridges less. They are trying to find ways to raise more revenue to keep our roads good.

Jamaica could use another representative on the Windham Regional Commission, Andy said there are about 8-9 meetings a year and there are different committees that you could join.

12. Times sheets

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

13. Pay orders

Jessica made a motion to approve the pay order as submitted, seconded by Kate. The flagpole was put out. Andy said he would be the person to raise and lower the flag; he would do that. All in favor.

14. Public Concerns

Greg Lakis received mail today for Jamaica to participate in an emergency exercise in October, must register by June 1st.

John Hatheway had a question on Bridge 32. He asked about the old railroad. It would be improved. There will be an update at the next meeting.

At 7:52 p.m. Jessica, "I move to find that premature general public knowledge of staffing matters would clearly place individuals at a substantial disadvantage, if the Selectboard discusses it in public." Seconded by Greg. All in favor.

Jessica, "I move that we enter into executive session to discuss staffing matters under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes." Seconded by Christina. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to exit executive session at 8:02 p.m. seconded by Christina.

Jessica made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Seconded by Kate.

Respectfully Submitted, Sara Wiswall