

Selectboard Minutes 3-4-19 DRAFT
Camels Hump Middle School
7pm

Called to Order at 7pm

Present: Bard Hill, David Sander, Roger Brown, Christy Witters, Josh Arneson, Jessica Draper, Connie Bona, Mary Houle, Jay Furr, Marie Thomas

Public Comment:

Marie Thomas discussed the current Town Center survey and mentioned that substantial renovation would be needed to bring everything up to code. She also said we need to think carefully about the future of potential flooding, and where the town government will set up elsewhere in the event of another "Irene". She also said that the town needs to think about the current parking issues in the village, and wants to continue working on CSWD to reopen the Reuse Zone.

Mary Houle suggested that next year when the Conservation Fund is back up for consideration, it makes sense to consider an Economic Development Fund alternative.

Pre-Town Meeting Informational Presentation:

Josh Arneson gave a presentation on the proposed FY 2020 budget. He spoke about the overall increase, the main drivers for the increase, as well as current town operations. Josh also discussed the new additions to the budget this year such as the new technology support contract and the Community Outreach Program. He noted a decrease in police department staffing and increase in highway dept staffing by replacing two part time seasonal positions with a full time year round position. Josh presented an overview of fund balances and explained that the unassigned funds are now being accounted for differently due to statute. He also mentioned the new banking change that will give the town better return, and that the selectboard is still looking at how much surplus they should keep on hand going forward.

Jay Furr asked if the COP program would have nighttime coverage. Josh said he wasn't sure what the staffing would look like until the program leaders knew how many towns would be participating.

CSWD Funds:

Josh explained that Richmond still has about \$3300 in clean up funds available to utilize and that department heads are looking at possibilities

UPWP Approval:

Jessica explained that it was likely our School Street stormwater project would be approved, and we needed approval specific to the project from the selectboard. Christy Witters said that it was great that we pursued this project. David Sander moved to approve the School St stormwater UPWP project. Seconded by Roger Brown. All were in favor. So moved.

ACH Transfer Fees:

Josh gave an update about a past question regarding FSA transfers. Josh clarified that it is only \$0.15 for that transfer, but we are still working on determining where the \$45 fees come from.

Historic Site Marker:

Josh presented a letter from the state that informed the town of the 4-6 week repairs they would be doing on the Round Church historic site marker. The selectboard asked Josh to speak to them about a temporary replacement.

Letter of Support re: Buttermilk:

Jessica explained that Buttermilk has now approached the planning commission with further changes to the previously discussed zoning for their parcel. The selectboard agreed that the letter drafted in support of their current DRB application was still appropriate. David Sander moved to approve the letter. Seconded by Christy Witters. Bard Hill, David Sander, and Christy Witters voted in favor. Roger Brown abstained. So moved.

Police Chief:

Josh said there would be an announcement in the near future.

Water-Sewer Bill Appeal:

Jessica and Josh explained that upon legal investigation, it was determined that the selectboard holds the authority to approve or deny appeals until and unless they vote to give the water commissioners that authority. David Sander moved to appoint the water commission as hearing officers for water-sewer disconnection appeals. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor. So moved.

Community Economic Development Forum:

Josh gave the selectboard a flyer from VLCT that invited them to participate in the forum in Burke on March 27th.

Minutes:

Postponed to next meeting.

Warrants and Purchase Orders:

Christy Witters had reviewed the warrant and did not have any major questions. She noted that the Neopost invoices seem to be resolved for now. Connie mentioned that Linda had spoken with someone about our billing issues. Roger Brown moved to amend purchase order 36431. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor. So moved.

Next Agenda:

The selectboard agreed that items for the next agenda would include approval of minutes, reorganization, discussion of survey results, liquor license approvals, and parking in the village.

Christy Witters moved to appoint the water commission as hearing officers effective tomorrow 3-5-19, and deny the Lavoie appeal. Seconded by David Sander. All were in favor. So moved.

Executive Session:

David Sander moved to find that premature public knowledge about the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee would cause the Town or person to suffer a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor. So moved.

David Sander moved that they enter into executive session to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee under the provisions of 1 VSA 313(a)(3) of the Vermont State Statutes and to invite the town manager Josh Arneson into the executive session. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor. So moved.

The selectboard entered executive session at 8:00pm. Roger Brown moved to exit executive session at 8:45pm. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor, so moved.

Roger Brown moved to adjourn. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor. Adjourned 8:46pm.