

**Select Board Meeting
@ Town Office
March 21, 2022
6:30 pm**

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Select Board: Jeff Chase, Diana Garrow, Mark Turco (Chair)

Town Officials: In Person: Caitlin Boyle, Dennis Devereux, Chad Farrar, Carol Garrow-Woolley, David Johnson, Elizabeth Karle, Steven Michel, Christine Pratt, James Seward, Clinton Woolley. Via Zoom: Jon McCann.

Members of the Public In Person: Mary Alberty, Zena Gates, Steve Hazelton. Via Zoom: Dottie Finnerty, Brigid Sullivan, Ron Unterman

1. **Call to Order at 6:30 pm**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Consideration of any changes and/or additions to the agenda.** Mark Turco noted a request to add item 8c earlier in the meeting. Jeff Chase noted that the deadline has passed re: 7d and can be struck. The Select Board Clerk noted that the MHCC will not attend this meeting.
4. **Approval of February 14, 2022 minutes.** Diana Garrow made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Mark Turco, unanimously approved.
5. **Reorganization**
 - a. Select Board Chair: Jeff made a motion to reappoint Mark Turco; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.
 - b. Tree Warden: Jeff made a motion to reappoint Phil Crane as Tree Warden; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.
 - c. E911 Coordinator: Diana Garrow made a motion to reappoint Carol A. Garrow-Woolley; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.
 - d. 911 Measuring Responsibilities: Mark Turco confirmed that this is delegated to the Board of Listers.
 - e. RCSWD Representative & Alternate: Mark Turco made a motion to appoint Chad Farrar as the representative and Clinton Woolley as the alternate; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.
 - f. Designated Employee Representative: Jeff Chase made a motion to re-appoint Caitlin Boyle; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.
 - g. Newspaper of Record: Dennis Devereux noted that addresses in Belmont and E. Wallingford do not receive the *Vermont Journal*; Mark Turco made a motion to continue to designate the Vermont Journal as the newspaper of record; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.
 - h. Assistant Town Clerk: Carol A Garrow confirmed they are Diana Garrow, Nancy Connor and Susan Covalla.
 - i. Assistant Town Treasurer: Liz Karle has appointed David Johnson and Shireen Geimer.
 - j. Set Day & Time of Regular Select Board Meeting: Jeff Chase made a motion to keep meeting times as second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm; Mark Turco second; unanimously approved.
 - k. Name Two Public Posting Places for Public Notices: Diana Garrow made a motion to select the Mount Holly Post Office (on Town-owned outdoor bulletin board affixed to Vermont

Hydroponics Store) and Belmont Post Office; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved. Chad Farrar volunteered to build the bulletin board for the exterior of the Mount Holly Post Office.

- l. Signer for SB Orders and Authorizations: Jeff Chase made a motion to re-appoint Diana Chase; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

6. Reports

- a. Highways & Transfer Station Update: Mr. Woolley noted that the Town loader is 25 years old and will be due for replacement in the near-term. He also noted that the RCSWD would like to present an outreach project on April 11 at 6 pm. The Select Board Clerk will schedule this to take place prior to the regular Select Board meeting. He thanked the Town for patience with the road crew after the latest snow storm.
 - i. Review VTrans Paving Grant Applications: Hortonville Rd (Shunpike to Shrewsbury Town Line) Overlay; Belmont Rd (Teer to School) Overlay. The grant has been prepared.
 - ii. Submit MRGP Annual Report. The report has been submitted.
- b. Treasurer Monthly Income & Expense Report: Treasurer Liz Karle reported that the bill came in for the Transfer Station; we're currently paying for Zero-Sort, but overall costs and expenses are tracking toward the budget. Winter labor costs are up a bit due to the recent storm. Solid waste label sales are now back on track. The auditors are doing their quality control review currently.
- c. Mount Holly Planning Commission Update: Jon McCann reported that the Commission is continuing to work on its Transportation plan. He also noted that he attended a Permit Navigator training; the state program is replacing their current system.
 - i. Administrative Officer Candidate: The Planning Commission recommended that the Select Board appoint Faith Tempest as its Administrative Officer, and asked the Select Board to approve the recommendation and, if approved, to discuss terms of employment with Ms. Tempest. The Selectboard agreed to put the decision on the April agenda.
- d. Mount Holly Conservation Commission Update: Tabled for next month. The Select Board clerk distributed the Commission's plan for ash tree preservation for future discussion.
- e. Mount Holly Community Association Update: Mary Alberty noted that the MHCA is not willing to remove the trash being collected currently at the Star Lake Beach. Mark Turco indicated that the site should be designated as a carry-in/carry-out site, and that the Town would provide signage to that effect. Diana Garrow noted that the update can be made in the *Chit Chat*; the Select Board Clerk will also post to the Newsflash and public posting sites. Mark Turco noted that the Town will remove the existing trash can in the spring. Ms. Alberty also shared that the annual Mudfling will be hosted by the MHCA at Oddfellows Hall on April 29, beginning at 7 pm; BYOB.

7. New Business

- a. Set Start Date for Spring & Summer Transfer Station Hours: Mr. Woolley noted that April 2 will be the final day of Sunday hours; April 5 would be the first day of Wednesday hours.
- b. Cemetery Mowing Bids: The Select Board will publish a RFP for cemetery mowing bids.
- c. PACIF Insurance Provider Grant Application - Submit for Town Office Fire Alarm (Or Other Safety Item): Jeff Chase made a motion to apply for back-up camera for the grader; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.

8. Ongoing & Old Business

- a. FY22 MPG Update - Certified Planner Services for Final Report: Jeff Chase provided an update on the community survey project funded by the FY '22 Municipal Planning Grant. Mr. Chase made a motion to work with Michael Allen at ReGrowth Planning to complete the project; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.
- b. AED Quotes and Demand: Interest in an AED has come from the library/community center (1); both museums (2), the Odd Fellows Hall (1); the Town Office (1); and the Fire Department (2), for a total of 7 units. Diana Garrow made a motion to purchase up to seven AED units, for up to \$12,000, with ARPA funds, if each recipient acknowledges that they own the unit and are responsible for ongoing maintenance, replacement parts and training.
- c. Discussion of Town-wide Reappraisal: David Johnson submitted a Reappraisal Fund Projection for the Select Board's review and recommended that the Select Board chose a firm to carry out the townwide reappraisal for late 2024. The Town has budgeted for the reappraisal but will likely need to raise \$33,698 in additional funds to meet the estimated services fee from NEMRC Reappraisal Services. It is anticipated that the reappraisal would start in late 2024 and would continue through 2025 to take effect for the April 1, 2026 Grand List. Approximately 1,200 parcels would be reappraised at \$115/parcel.
- d. Geese Depredation Permit: Ron Unterman noted that he wished to correct some errors from the previous discussion about geese at the Star Lake Beach. He noted that the goose population is not endangered; they are the most common waterfowl in North America and plentiful in Vermont. He noted there is historically a large quantity of goose fecal matter during the beach season, and it cannot be easily maintained by raking alone. He also noted that the state of Vermont has three legal hunting periods for geese, in the fall,; this permit merely extends the hunting season to an earlier part of the year, when the geese are a problem on the beach. The Select Board Clerk noted that Brigid Sullivan, Kathy Leber and Abe Leber all sent letters of support for the geese depredation permit. Mark Turco made a motion to approve the permit; Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.

9. Citizen Comments

- a. Chad Farrar asked whether there was a policy regarding volunteers or organizations donating resources or projects to the Town. Mark Turco noted that the Select Board encourages volunteers wishing to propose improvement projects or resources to attend a Select Board meeting or to write a letter or email to the Select Board.

10. Announcements/Other Business

- a. Rabies Clinic, March 25, 10 am - 12 pm
- b. Hazardous Waste Collection, Saturday, April 8 and Saturday, July 8

11. Review & Sign Orders

12. Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel (if needed): Mark Turco made a motion to go into Executive Session; Jeff Chase seconded; unanimously approved.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.