

Special Select Board Meeting:

Mount Holly Town Office
50 School St
Mount Holly, VT

January 25, 2024

4:00 pm

Minutes

Attendance: Mark Turco, Diana Garrow, Jeff Chase, Caitlin Boyle, Jon McCann, David Johnson, Francis DeVine, Kathy Leber, Dennis Devereux, Brigid Sullivan, Ron Unterman

1. **Call to Order** at 4:00 pm.
2. **Sign Town Meeting Warning.** Mark Turco made a motion to sign the Town Meeting Warning with twelve ballot items, as submitted by the Town Clerk. Diana Garrow seconded; unanimously approved.
3. **Sign Bowlsville Bridge Finance and Maintenance Agreement.** Diana Gaow made a motion to sign the Agreement as drafted; Mark Turco seconded; unanimously approved.
4. **Discuss Public Comments on Town Plan.**
 - a. The Select Board received many letters of support for the proposed Town Plan's passage as drafted.
 - b. In addition, the Select Board received seven letters and/or notated plans and one set of comments from an in-person meeting, in which specific edits were suggested for the Plan, or complaints were made; these comments were from Chris Pratt, Evelyn Tully Costa, Ted Crawford, Jon McCann, Kelly Beerman, Dennis Devereux and David Johnson, and the last was unsigned.
 - c. Regarding Evelyn Tully Costa's letter, Jon McCann noted that he met with Ms. Costa regarding her concerns about the section of the Plan that concerned posting private land. The Town Plan's wording echoes the wording of the current Vermont state statutes, and the Select Board noted that it would retain the statutory phrasing in the final draft of the plan.
 - d. Regarding Chris Pratt's comments regarding cell towers and lighting, the Select Board discussed her concerns, and opted to keep the relevant language in the Plan the same, as the plan does not compel the Town to legislate lighting or cell tower design.
 - e. The Town received an unsigned, hand-delivered list of proposed changes that it read aloud into the minutes. The notations did not include specific recommended edits, but the Board considered each notation.
 - f. The Select Board made the following minor edits and considerations to the Plan:

- i. After discussion, the Select Board decided to keep childcare sections as in the proposed plan.
- ii. The Select Board will clarify the phrase "Highway Access" to "Town Highway Access."
- iii. The Select Board will rephrase the language on page 2 to clarify the statutory backing for Act 250.
- iv. The Select Board will add a note regarding the significant stone wall demarking Wallingford and Jackson Gore.
- v. The Select Board will strike the sentence regarding declining student population.
- vi. The Select Board will strike the phrase regarding "well-considered and controlled growth."
- vii. The Select Board will add links to support evidence of changing climate.
- viii. The Select Board will add the word "excessive" to "economic hardship."
- ix. The Select Board will replace the paragraph describing Lake Ninevah with the updated version provided by Kelly Beerman.
- x. The Select Board will incorporate the minor factual corrections regarding Town history submitted by Dennis Devereux.
- xi. The Select Board will review the annotated plan from Ted Crawford and will indicate which notes it wishes to incorporate.
- g. The Select Board will do a final review of comments for incorporation by Clerk prior to the next regular meeting..
- h. Mark Turco thanked the Planning Commission for the energy and effort.

5. Adjourned at 5:41.