

Virtual Selectboard Meeting Minutes

May 25, 2020

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Pat Harvey, Frank Severy

Guests: Rob Gardner, Burma Cassidy, Nancy Woolley, Joan Allen, Bruce Flewelling, Orca Media, Sandy Haas, Julie Smith, Beth Frock, Asia Kennett, Spencer Homick, Rob Meadows, Kathryn and Joe Schenkman, Paula and Kevin Dougherty, and Martha Slater.

Doon called the meeting at 6:05 pm.

Doon read the State statute guidelines for holding a proper meeting electronically and confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Additions to the agenda: Pat Harvey- honor her brother as a Veteran, Martha-Woodlawn Cemetery, Doon- Velomont Grant

Doon moved to approve the minutes for the May 11, 2020 meeting and the May 15 Executive Session meeting minutes. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Concerts on the Park: Joe planned and arranged a schedule for 5 concerts on the Park starting July 5th and following every Sunday evening through August 2nd. Doon felt personally it would be an energetic boost for the town. Burma asked if there would be any Port-a-potty or garbage cans on the park this year. Discussion noted that there were not any in the past. Doon noted what you bring in for garbage you take back with you. He noted that Port-a-potties would have to be locked up because of COVID-19. Doon noted the board agreed to allow the concerts on the park and stay in compliance with the State requirements.

4th of July Parade: Discussion in agreement with cancelling the 4th was unanimous. Doon suggested to move the first concert date of July 5th to the 4th and have the concert in place of the parade. Kathryn noted she would check in with Joe and see if that is feasible. Decision to just stick to the schedule for July 5th was advised to not draw a large crowd.

Announcement of Water/Sewer Assistant: Cody Bowen was announced as the candidate for Water/Sewer assistant. Frank noted Cody was interested and willing to take the classes. Frank noted Terry would use him sparingly and there was enough money in the budget to cover hours shadowing Terry. Pat suggested to go with a 1-year trial and revisit in a year to see how the classes and certification goes for Cody. Selectboard were all in agreement to hire Cody.

Change in Criteria for Scholarship: The board agreed on Amy's modification to the evolution and the School structure for the scholarship. Doon read the modification. Doon noted it would broaden the criteria from a 4-year program to a 2-year or trade program. Doon moved to approve. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Approval of 2020/2021 Windsor County Sheriff's Department Service Contract: Doon moved to approve the contract. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Approval of 6 Signs in the state right-of-way: Frank spoke on behalf of Peter Rogal. He noted that he was asking to allow 3 signs east and 3 signs west on Route 73. Two of them would be

pedestrian signs and two would be horse signs and two would be slow down signs. Frank noted a conversation with the state disclosed that the homeowner would need permission first from the town. Frank noted the state would require certain protocol before the state would allow the signs to be installed. Pat noted that six signs for one property is asking a lot. She thought that four or so would be enough. Doon agreed. Doon moved to give the support of the selectboard for four signs. Pat seconded. Both in favor. So, voted.

Approval of Huntington House Third Class Hotel Liquor License, First Class Liquor License, Liquor License & Outside Consumption Liquor License: Doon noted last year's discussion about outdoor noise issue and the change of the outdoor hours from 12pm to 10 pm. Doon noted to limit the outdoor permit to 10pm. Pat and Frank both agreed. Doon moved to approve licenses with the modification to the time of 12pm to 10pm. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Approval of Maple Soul Second Class Restaurant Liquor License: Doon moved to approve. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Farmer's Market: Doon noted the governor's guidance on Farmers Markets was opening. Doon noted the main issue has been the over-use of the park on that one strip between the trees. Beth spoke and noted that the tents must be 10 feet apart. She noted that they would space them out on the Park with no tents on the front, where the grass is not in the greatest of shape. Beth noted some of the guidelines with traffic flow in one direction, no music, 6' away from tent, no lingering, no prepared unless pre-packaged. Asia spoke of all the resources that NOFA will help them with the guidelines and putting up signage. Rob noted his experience using local farmer's markets locally that has started already. Rob noted with the two issues, Beth and Asia had the regulations down pretty good. He noted with the second issue of the impact on the park. He noted after attending Woodstock's Farmer's Market they shift your both space every week so you're not overusing the grass. Discussion continued with the setup and flow direction. Frank thought better of the market to set up in the back of the park. He noted that as much as he supports the Farmers Market, we as a town should consider a policy with a fee for that type of use of the Park. He felt that the Park is the crown jewel of the community and we need to take care of the use or any non-town function. He noted that the taxpayers should not be paying for the damage to the park for all the traffic. He noted going forward that we need a better policy for the use of the Town. He noted that he had the park soil tested and is looking into the costs of repairing the park. He felt that all non-town sponsored events should pay a fee. Doon asked if discussion about this could be brought up at a later date. Nancy noted that the vendors for the farmer's market may not know the outcome of their season. Discussion ensued about the use of park and the expense involved. Rob Meadows asked if Frank could meet with Beth and Asia on the Park and look at the Park for use and solutions to help for this year. Burma noted that the Town needs to address the issue of parking on the parks. Doon noted that we are looking forward to the first Farmer's Market, coming up a week from Friday.

Joan's Updates: Joan noted that she is mostly working on the projects she reported at the last meeting. She noted VTrans is delaying the approval of the Structure's Grant application like the Better Roads application. She noted it is unclear at this point if they are even going to proceed

this year. She noted with the transportation budget, at the State level is up in the air right now and various other reason with COVID will have to wait and see.

Pat gave a shout out to her brother Bob for his services in honor of Memorial Day. Doon noted his discussion about the request for Angus McCusker, who is putting together the grant application for the Velomont Trail. He noted it's a win-win for Vermont citizens and visitors to the Green Mountain state and the economic vitality to the whole area. Doon noted, he was interested in writing a letter of support for that Grant Application. Doon noted this grant is a long-term project. He noted the grant is for the section of trails connecting Rochester to Pittsfield through Chittenden Brook. He noted it's a large project. Selectboard were all in agreement.

COVID-19 Update: Rob Gardner noted the State of Vermont nationally has done very well. He noted everyone is moving ahead cautiously and slowly. Rob noted that they have put out signs and flyers advertising the Food Shelf. He noted the proper way to deal with out of state license plates. He noted to speak with John White, who is the Town Health Officer to talk with concerned folks.

New Hours of the Town Clerks: Julie noted that the new hours for the Clerk's Office hours from 8-4, Tuesday-Friday to 9-5, Tuesday-Friday. Pat noted to make sure to check in with different websites to change the town office ours

Property Tax Grace Period: Pat noted Julie was thinking of not charging a penalty on final installment of the tax payment that was due May 15th and extending to June 15th. Pat noted this is the 8 % penalty. Doon moved to extend the grace period to June 15th. Board was in favor. So, approved.

Discussion about the School vote and polling place was discussed. Julie noted that the polling place will be moved to the High School for a better venue for social distancing. Absentee Ballots was discussed and information will be coming out soon.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith