

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2023

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey

Guests Present: Orca Media, Nancy Woolley, Kristen LaPell, Tony Goupee, Rob Gardner, Susie Smolen

Guests Present on Zoom: Orca Media, Troy LaPell, Martha Slater, Jeff Gephart, Robert Franks

Doon called the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Prior Meeting Minutes: Doon moved to approve with a correction to the new speed ordinance. Change the word adopt to warn. April 10, 2023 minutes. Pat moved to approve the minutes from April 24, 2023. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Marshall/Weir Tax Issue: Doon tabled this until a later date.

Park Use Application – 6/24 Vermont Gran Fondo: Doon moved to approve for use at the lions Club. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Adopt amended ordinance “Affecting the Speed Limit on a Portion of Bethel Mountain Road: Doon read the notice for the amended Ordinance. This will be published in the paper and posted in 5 places. Doon moved to adopt the amended ordinance. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Approve Second Class Liquor License for Seasoned Books and Bakery, LLC: Doon moved to approve the liquor license for Seasoned Books and Bakery, LLC. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Approve Second Class Liquor License for Village Grocery & Liquor Inc.: Doon moved to approve the Second-Class Liquor License for the new owners of Macs. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Approve Tobacco License for Village Grocery & Liquor Inc.: Doon moved to approve the Tobacco License for Village Grocery and Liquor Inc. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved. Doon moved to approve the Outside Consumption for the Rochester Café and also the First-Class Restaurant License. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Approve application for Park Use-Library program for Children on climate change held 5/20 9:30-11: Doon moved to approve the Park Use application for the library program on May 20th. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Library: Tony shared there will be a trustee meeting tomorrow evening. He also shared the Great Decisions Discussion that is coming up in a couple weeks.

Highway: The street sweeper swept the roads in town. Frank shared they are holding out on the grant for Bethel Mountain Road culvert project. He said the road crew are now on their 10 hours (4) days a week. They are not working on Fridays. Frank said there will be a pre-construction meeting on Thursday at 1pm for the West Hill Road Bridge Replacement.

Energy Coordinator: Jeff shared that in two weeks the energy committee will be coming back to the board to request a location for an electric demonstration day in either June or July to celebrate the new charging facility in town. He said they are making progress on the charging facility. He said it looks like it will be completed by Memorial Day weekend. He thought perhaps the park or maybe the old ballfield.

Jeff said with the library, they should push back with the Historical Preservation so that they can do the repair job properly. He said getting a working weather resistant barrier on the building is the only way to fix it.

He said the energy committee is collaborating with Bethel and Randolph on what is called Window Dressers. He shared that they are a nonprofit out of Maine that helps communities offer low income and people with no income and municipalities and businesses with inexpensive interior storm inserts. He said he will measure the town building windows and get an idea of savings to help town facilities that could benefit from it. Doon asked if this program was open to the public too. Jeff agreed that it is open. He will share the information with surrounding towns as well. Doon asked if these are openable or just sealed shut. Jeff explained they are inserts that are installed from the inside with a gasket. He said it's a pine frame that can be painted white. He said it's a plastic type like what meat is packaged with. He explained it wraps the frame so there are two layers.

Public Comment-limited to 3 minutes: Rob Gardner shared his first meeting with Granville First Response Board meeting. He said this will be the first public announcement of the project. He shares that Dan Sargeant, Captain of both the Granville First Response and the Granville Fire Department along with Matthew Parrish, administrator from White River Valley Ambulance and Charles Pecios, training officer with WRVA along with Teddy Smith who is a captain at the Granville Fire Department all met together. They discussed how they are going to establish a working transport ambulance on this side of the mountain. This would be working in coordination with WRVA and even meeting them halfway as an option. This would help with the response time. Rob said Granville has most of the hardware to install in an ambulance, they have enough drivers as well. He shared that they would like to purchase a new used ambulance capable of transporting. Rob said Dan felt the biggest obstacle is the volunteers to staff this. They discussed how they felt this would be a two-year process to achieve this goal of having such a service in place. The cost is something they are not sure of just yet. One of the concerns was the bylaws from the Rochester Fire Department that restrict firemen working in two different towns. They would like the bylaws to be examined and discussed. Training is a big deal. This is the beginning process to how this would all work. Doon thanked Rob for attending to give an update.

Susie Smolen asked if Terry Severy could evaluate the water coming into her basement. She said she thought he had a measuring devise and said there is someone who has more advanced equipment to check to see if the water is leaking from the town system. The board will follow up with Terry.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith