

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2023

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey (zoom)

Guests Present: Nancy Woolley, Deb Matthews, Sarah Danly, Tony Goupee, Kristen LaPell, Orca Media, Ziggy Labejsza, Asia Kennett, Kevin & Paula Dougherty,

Guests Present on Zoom: Greg Russ, Orca Media, Martha Slater, Pat Harvey, Jeff Gephart, Rob Meadows

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

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Doon moved to approve the May 22, 2023 meeting minutes. Frank seconded. Pat said Aye. All in favor. So, approved.

Update for the River Brook Drive Culvert: Greg Russ spoke to the board to update the status of the River Brook Drive Culvert. He has one easement he is waiting to receive. The project will then be ready to go out to bid. He will coordinate efforts with Cricket and Frank.

Consideration and possible approval of promissory note, Mascoma Bank, Loan no. 63042435, \$1,100,000.00: Doon moved to approve the promissory note to Mascoma Bank, Loan Number 63042435, dated June 12, 2023, in the amount of \$1,100,000.00. Frank seconded the motion and Pat said Aye. All in favor. So, approved.

Update the Selectboard on the Housing Committee: Deb Matthews spoke to the board about updates from the housing committee meetings. There will be a future event coming up called a DIY Home Creators Event hoping to put together people renovating properties to get people to tap into state resources and funding that is available. The committee is hoping to have a community forum in late fall.

Sarah said that the State Agency of Commerce and Community Development recently launched a project called Homes for All. It is a small-scale gentle infill and incremental development as a strategy to address Vermont's housing and affordability crisis. She noted there are four components to this statewide project. One of the four elements is a neighborhood Infill Design Case Study. This is a series of 5 case studies showing how Missing Middle Housing (MMH) building designs can be integrated into existing Vermont neighborhoods and communities using illustrated visualizations. She said these case studies and visualizations will be generated in partnership with five pilot communities. She indicated that each community would receive a half-day visit with project consultants. After the visits each community will receive visualizations that will serve as problem-solving tools for the community, illustrating strategies for advancing context-sensitive designs that meet town regulations and community design objectives and that are feasible from a market perspective. Stakeholders can use the test-fit visualization to consider alternative configurations and explore ways in which they can overcome some common and unique challenges of infill development in small sites or settings.

Farmer's Market: Asia Kennett spoke on behalf of the Rochester Farmers Market, as manager for the

last three years to clarify the Farmer's Market policies. She said the Farmer's market is a community event. It is a not-for-profit market. She covers the insurance for the market. She said the issues with the grass and signage she had addressed. She said they welcome non-agricultural vendors to be included in the market. She shared the costs to pay in to be part of the ring is to cover their direct costs. Money is found through sponsors and grants to cover costs. She didn't want to raise vendor fees. She said the costs get covered under her insurance. When there are more vendors, it is a higher cost to her insurance. She suggested anyone who would like to set up during the Farmer's market and isn't part of their venue can set up away from their area and that is ok. She is grateful to the community and their support. The library has a wonderful program during the market, and they are set up at the gazebo and are not part of the market. Doon apologized to Asia and the Farmer's Market. Pat asked if Asia could submit the vendor rules, so they have some criteria about their coverage in future meetings.

Approve Windsor County Sheriff's Department Contract-July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024: Doon moved to approve the new contract with Windsor County Sheriff's Department for FY24. Frank seconded. Pat said Aye. All in favor. So, voted.

Approve Driveway Permit for GT-21 Forest Lane: Doon moved to approve the driveway permit for GT-21 Forest Lane. Frank seconded, Pat said Aye. All in favor. So, voted.

Park Use Application for Green Mountain Suzuki Institute: Doon moved to approve the park application for Green Mountain Suzuki for the week of July 10th. Frank seconded. Pat said Aye. All in favor. So, voted.

Park Use Application for Suzuki Week Ice Cream Cookie Cart -Mary Beth Tervis- July 7-14 one afternoon: Doon moved to approve the application from Mary for her son to have an Ice Cream Cookie Cart one afternoon during Suzuki Week. Frank seconded and Pat said Aye. All in favor. So, approved.

Library Update: Tony shared there will be a trustees meeting Tuesday evening at the library. The replacement roof is well underway. The library will be closed Tuesday while construction is continuing. Tony also reminded the board there will be a reception on Saturday from 2-4 on the Park for Jeannette's retirement.

Highway Update: Frank noted he would like to meet with Cooter to discuss the grant they received for Bethel Mountain at Rogers Brook. He said the crew have been grading roads.

Energy Coordinator Update: Jeff shared the GMP electric vehicle chargers are operational. He said there are two charging stations per pedestal and on each pedestal, there is one CHAdeMO connector and one CCS connector. They are fast chargers. He said they had hoped to have an electric vehicle demonstration this year to celebrate the charger, but the Valley Energy and Climate Action Committee is going to dial that back. They had agreed to participate with Randolph and Bethel on a Window's Dressers Program. This is a non-profit organization started in Maine and spread to Vermont. They are a better community building activity. They will be measuring windows for interior inserts. They would set up a management team to recruit measurers and the sizes of the frames determine the costs. The frames are built with pine and can be natural or white. They plastic wrap inserts to create an air space in each window that is treated. There are provisions to provide the windows at no charge to low-income folks. They are going to measure the windows at the town office and provide an option to consider. This community building will occur in November around the 10th and go for 5-6 days. Randolph did this last year and they had 187 windows installed.

Jeff shared that he attended the first meeting of Vermont Council of Rural Development's climate economy work with Bethel. They are seeking ways for energy coordinators and committees to collaborate. They are discussing a possible shared energy coordinator to be a paid position. He will keep the board updated with new information as he attends. Doon thanked Jeff for reporting back on the movements. He is very appreciative of Jeff.

Grant Updates: Kristen updated the board she had submitted requisition #3 from the High School study in the amount of \$9,226.74 on June 6th. She said Cricket submitted the Stream Alterations Permit application to the Rivers Program to the State of Vermont for the retaining wall project next to the town office.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith

Executive Session:
Employee