

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2024

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey

Guests Present: Kristen LaPell, Julie Smith, Nancy Woolley, Orca Media, Katelyn Bowen, Mason Wade, Cricket McCusker, Jeff Gephart

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

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

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Fire Dept Baseball Tournament (Sunday 7/7) approval-Katelyn Bowen: Katelyn requested permission from the board to use the softball fields for the Fire Department annual tournament on Sunday July 7 with the understanding they would clean up afterwards. The board was happy to have the fire department use the fields and granted them permission.

Awarding Retaining Wall Bid: The board awarded the Retaining Wall Project bid to the lowest bidder, Aldrighetti Construction LLC in the amount of \$43,435.00.

Awarding Skatespace Bid: The board accepted the single bid submitted for Skatespace from Standard Construction in the amount of \$92,100.

Permission to abate 23-24 taxes under \$5 totaling \$36.47: Doon moved to approve abating the FY24 taxes due under \$5 totaling \$ 36.47. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Opening Bids for Local Hazard mitigation Plan (LHMP) request for proposals: The board received three bids. On May 10 a bid was received from Kyle Katz from Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission in the amount of \$9,828.00. On May 21, the board received a bid from Paul Luciano from OPH Consulting Services in the amount of \$8,900.00. Lastly, the board received a final bid on May 26th from Stephanie Magnan of Seam Solutions Vermont in the amount of \$9,600.00. The board will decide later to look at their bids and award at the next meeting.

Park Use Application for graduation party June 16 12:30-5:00pm: Doon moved to approve for the graduation party on June 16th. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Delinquent Taxpayer page in Town Report discussion: Mason spoke to the board considering the recent approval for the Declaration of Inclusion initiative how we might remove the names of the delinquent taxpayers and possibly include the span numbers. Doon suggested this become a question at the Town Meeting to include further discussion.

Discussion on including history of the past initiative voted on and informational page on running for town offices: Mason discussed with the board about including history of the past initiatives in future town reports as a reference. Doon referenced a time in 1948 when the Town voted to adopt Daylight Savings Time and light the streets. He said in the 40's the Town voted on whether or not the town should allow baseball, moving pictures and lectures and concerts on Sundays. He said in 2007 the town voted to impeach George Bush and Dick Cheney for crimes against humanity and a multitude of impeachable defenses. In the past three years the town voted to pass a Climate Emergency Declaration. Doon shared in 2015 the town voted to call on the state legislature to create a public bank for Vermont. The concept was to lend money to people to not make money for themselves. It was discussed that the town report is really the financial standing of budgets. Mason wanted to include the information of historical understanding of the declarations that have occurred, or other information people could learn as voters for the first time. Mason asked what the town clerk and the clerk's association may have for information for more participation from citizens. They recommended that Mason put it together and post it to the town website.

April Treasurer's Report: Doon moved to approve the April Treasurer Report. Pat seconded the approval. All in favor. So, approved.

Approve Huntington House First-Class Hotel Liquor License: Doon moved to approve the First-Class Hotel Liquor License for the Huntington House. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Approve Huntington House Third Class Hotel Liquor License: Doon moved to approve the Huntington House Third-Class Liquor License. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Request for Town's decision on Payroll Tax for Childcare deduction for town employees: Doon moved to approve the town covering the costs of the Payroll Tax for Childcare deduction for the town's employees. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Vermont Statutes Annotated (green Books) discussion: The state informed the town they will no longer ship the green books free. There will be a cost to continue. The board decided there is no need since all the statutes can be found online now.

Highway Update: Frank updated the board that a portion of Brook Street is now paved.

Energy Coordinator Update: Jeff spoke about the Vermont Buildings and general services with MERP (Municipal Energy Resiliency Program) Community Capacity Building Mini Grant. He was seeking the boards authorization to submit and application for \$4,000 to be used by the energy committee and the town. He said one of the roles is to help with out-of-pocket expenses to amplify the work of the energy committee. Doon moved to approve the submission of the grant. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Grant Update: Kristen updated the board she is currently working on reimbursement from the grant for Rogers Brook. Jeff said in June, the Level 2 energy audit for town office and town garage will take place.

Public Comment: Robert Franks commented what a great job the town crew did on Brook Street.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Smith