

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Monday April 24th, 2023

5:00 p.m.

Present: Eric Pope, Larry Labor, Bruce Remick and TammyLee Morin

1. Call the meeting to order.

-Meeting was called to order at 5pm.

2. Make any changes/additions to the draft agenda.

- a. School Septic System: The septic system at the E Taylor Hatton School is failing and in need of replacement. All Systems Septic has been asked to begin designing the new system and it will be installed by Shawn Austin.
- b. **VT 111 Culvert Change: There will be a public information meeting to coincide with the next Selectboard meeting on May 8th at 5pm for a discussion on the upcoming culvert change on VT 111 which will result in the State Highway to be closed near Bear Mountain for 4-6 weeks. Vtrans and the Contractor, Kirk Fenoff will be attending and able to answer any project related questions the public may have.**
- c. Farrow Farm: VT Fish and Wildlife has purchased Mike Farrow's Farm on Valley Road and has contracted with Memphremagog Watershed Association to develop a streambank restoration project for Valley Brook and for the surrounding watershed. Patrick Hurley, Project Manager for MWA will be attending the May 22nd Selectboard Meeting to discuss the project with the Board.
- d. NEK Broadband: The Selectboard re-appointed Eric Pope as the primary and Larry Labor as the secondary to represent the Town on the NEK Broadband Governing Board. On that note, The Selectboard is seeking interested parties to replace Eric and Larry as Governing Board Representatives – responsibilities include 6 zoom meetings a year, 2 in person meetings a year and updating the Selectboard on NEK Broadband business from time to time. Anyone interested can contact TammyLee Morin or Eric Pope for more details.
- e. Town Office Entry Project: The Selectboard discussed ideas and plans for constructing a new entryway to the office. Shawn Austin will be performing the work – likely in June. The Town will be using ARPA funds to finance the project.

3. Review and approve the minutes of April 10th, 2023.

-Minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

4. Let any guests speak.

-No guests attended.

5. NFI discussion.

-The Selectboard is awaiting response from NFI from Larry Labor's letter to President Chuck Myers in which the Town outlined some potential changes (Listed in the April 10th meeting minutes) to the Leasing contract between the Town and NFI for use of the E Taylor Hatton School. Earlier this year, NFI had sent the Town a letter terminating the leasing of the school building, effective September 1st, 2023. Since that time, NFI has sought to rescind the lease termination and has requested to remain in the building. The Select board welcomes them to stay, but with a few small changes to the contract. Tabled until NFI responds.

6. Request from Taylor Girardi for use of the school gymnasium during non-school hours for Northeast Kingdom Allstar Cheerleading.

-The Select board is open to accommodating the Cheerleading group and has invited Taylor to a future Select board meeting for a discussion. Tabled until we hear back from Taylor.

7. Radar speed feedback sign discussion.

-The Town's permit to install 4 Radar Speed Feedback Signs on VT 111 has been finalized and approved by Vtrans. Bruce Remick will coordinate the installation efforts with Chris Quinn from New England Signal Systems.

8. Community House discussion. (Robert Sincerbeaux Fund)

-The Town has been given a 50/50 Grant from the RSF by Jackson Evans of the Preservation Trust of Vermont to hire Timber Structure expert Jan Lewandoski to perform an assessment of the Community House which will produce a report outlining his findings.

9. Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit for AmeriGas and Kelley-View Farm, Inc. to review approve and sign.

-Reviewed, approved, and signed

10. Discussion about loan status from Meredith Maskell from the Agency of Natural resources.

-Eric Pope sent an email to Meredith inquiring about the status of the forgivable loan the town had applied for in December to begin engineering and scoping for potential new water source for the school and surrounding properties affected by the PFAS contamination. All efforts are on hold pending loan approval (or denial). Meredith replied that the loan reviewers are behind and would hopefully have an answer soon. Tabled

11. Bill for Seymour Lake Association for ½ the first quarter unemployment costs.

-Reviewed.

12. Greeters needed for Milfoil project.

-The Seymour Lake Association is seeking to hire employees to inspect boats and educate the public about Aquatic Invasive Species. Interested parties should contact Beth Torpey at bethy1@gmail.com or 802-895-3013.

13. Order #22030 to sign for the Grader Anderson Equipment Company in the amount of \$170,000.00.

-Reviewed, approved, and signed.

14. Orders #22032 to review approve and sign for payment.

Payroll - \$2,227.92 and Accounts Payable - \$ 12,171.95

-Reviewed, approved, and signed.

15. Any other business.

Brandon LaChance notified Larry Labor of the Army National Guard having money and donated time for small projects if needed in town in the future.

16. Adjourn the meeting.

-Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

*Next Meeting will be May 8th, 2023.