

TOWN OF CLARENDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
REGULAR
January 25, 2021
Minutes

Attendees:

Select Board

Mike Klopchin, Chair
Bob Bixby, Clerk
Robert Congdon
Cash Ruane
Rick Wilbur

Katie Rock, Secretary
Kelly Jakubowski, Delinquent Tax Collector
William Chmielewski, PEG-TV

Call to Order

Chairman Klopchin called the meeting to order at 6:01PM.

Agenda additions/deletions

Katie let the Board know that Art Peterson had to cancel, as legislative issues came up; and suggested they take him off the agenda. Selectman Congdon motioned to delete Art Peterson, and Selectman Wilbur seconded. Anne Southard dropped off a letter to the Select Board regarding the naming of the terminal at RSVR Airport. Selectman Congdon motioned to add Anne's letter to the agenda under Old Business; Selectman Bixby seconded. Both motions passed unopposed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from January 11 subject to any corrections and Selectman Bixby seconded. After finding no errors, the motion passed 3-0. Selectman Wilbur abstained from the vote since he was not present at the last meeting.

Highway

Road Commissioner Report- Road Commissioner Ruane and Katie have started working on weight limit posting. They will be figuring out which roads to post and will present that to the Board in the future.

Selectman Congdon commented that he received an email saying that the State's Transportation Fund (as well as Education Fund) had not been affected as poorly as originally thought, so Cash should keep his eye out for paving grants.

Selectman Bixby mentioned a pothole that needed attention on Creek Road, and a couple on Cold River Road. Road Commissioner Ruane responded that when it warms up they will fix them.

Approve Access Permit- Road Commissioner Ruane presented an access permit for Tim Page's property on East Street. He would like to put a driveway in directly from Old Orchard Place. There is no culvert needed. Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the permit and have the Select Board Chair sign it. Selectman Wilbur seconded and all of the Board members approved.

Approval of Select Board Warrants

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All new warrants and warrants previously signed by the designated Select Board Member were approved and signed by all Select Board Members.

Guests

Art Peterson was going to stop in and discuss H. 48, which was in the Legislature, regarding Town Meeting Day being pushed forward or not. Unfortunately, he was unable to make it. Selectman Congdon clarified that the Informational Meeting on March 1 will be over Zoom, and voting will be in person the following day. As always, an absentee ballot may be requested. Selectman Congdon also asked where the Select Board would be for the Information Meeting, because the Town Hall would be set up to vote. The Board asked Katie to see if the Grange Hall was available and if it had Wi-Fi.

Public Comments

N/A

Old Business

Naming of the RSVR Airport Terminal- Anne Southard submitted a letter she had written to the Vermont Transportation Board, to the Select Board as well. Her letter was a summary of her Dad's dedication to the Airport and why the Transportation Board should name the terminal after him. Chairman Klopchin asked Katie to make copies of the letter for the Board so they can have a formal discussion at their next meeting. He also asked that Katie send it to Chris Beitzel, Airport Manager, so that he is informed as well.

New Business

Cemetery Plot request- The Board received a letter from a lady, asking for a plot in the West Clarendon Cemetery. The understanding by the Board, was that there was no room left. However, this lady will be cremated, and only requires a small plot. Selectman Congdon asked Katie, if the individual had any dire health concerns and needed an immediate answer from the Board. Katie responded that the lady indicated getting her will in order, thus the request. Selectman Congdon motioned to write the individual a letter that the Board has taken this request under consideration, they will do some research, and issue an answer by the end of March; Selectman Ruane seconded. Chairman Klopchin also wanted to let the Cemetery Committee know. Selectman Congdon quickly looked over the cemetery map and wondered why certain plots were marked with an "X". He suggested that Linda Trombley be contacted to consult about the cemetery plots. After discussion, the Board passed the motion unopposed.

Formal Statement regarding Election Day 2021- Selectman Wilbur motioned to have the Informational Town Meeting over Zoom on March 1, and in person voting the following and of course absentee ballots can be requested. Selectman Congdon seconded for discussion. Selectman Ruane asked that the time of voting be stressed (10am-7PM). The motion passed unanimously.

Approve 2021 Election Warning- Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the 2021 Town Warning, Selectman Wilbur seconded and all Board members approved.

Town Officer's Report

Kelly Jakubowski, Delinquent Tax Collector- Kelly gave an update on the Morton property that she has been working to get off the books. There are 15 years of back taxes on it, totaling around \$16,000. The owners cannot be located. It's a 1-acre parcel. Bill Bloomer suggested posting a notice of issuing a quitclaim deed. It wouldn't be a clear title, it would have "adverse action" on it, and wouldn't be cleared for 15 years. A notice has to be placed at certain

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locations in Town, as well as the newspaper, and then the Board can accept bids. Kelly predicted an acre in Clarendon is around \$4500- \$6000. The abutting landowners have shown interest. Kelly asked for approval from the Board to move forward with this. Selectman Congdon motioned Kelly moves forward in getting the property taken care, Selectman Wilbur seconded, and all approved.

Kelly also reported that the 2021 delinquent taxes are under by \$100,000 this year compared to late. She updated the Board that the Fredericks Property has been valued at \$0 and the taxes have been abated. Selectman Congdon said that the State buy the property and use it for river access.

Katie, Board Secretary- reported that she included a copy of the updated Selectmen's Report for the Town Report. Chairman Klopchin asked that Katie respond to Anne Southard's letter acknowledging that they received it.

Select Board Member Concerns


Selectman Bixby noted that after their last Select Board meeting with the Sheriff's Dept., he has seen better patrol in the village.

Selectman Ruane reported that when the Road Crew is plowing there have been issues with cars parking on the side of the road, as well as garbage cans placed too close to the road. He would appreciate if the public could set their garbage cans back from the road.

Adjournment

Selectman Wilbur motioned to adjourn at 6:44PM, Selectman Congdon seconded, and all approved.

SIGNED:  Mike Klopchin, Chair

SIGNED:  Bob Bixby, Clerk