

TOWN OF CLARENDON

SELECT BOARD MEETING- REGULAR FEBRUARY 10, 2020 MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Select Board

Mike Klopchin, Chair

Bob Bixby, Clerk

Cash Ruane

Rick Wilbur

Robert Congdon

Katie Rock, Secretary

Kelly Jakubowski, Delinquent Tax Collector

Janet Keefe

Alf Strom-Olsen

Marjorie Southard

Cindy Davis

Matt Jakubowski

Mike Wetherby

William Chmielewski, PEG-TV

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Klopchin called the meeting to order at 6pm.

2. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS

Cash motioned to add the Zoning budget to Old Business, Robert seconded, and all approved. Selectman Congdon motioned to accept John McKenna's letter of resignation from the Recreation Committee under New Business, Selectman Bixby seconded, and all approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectman Bixby motioned to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2020 Regular Meeting, Selectman Wilbur seconded, and 3 of the 5 Selectmen approved. Selectman Ruane abstained from the vote since he was not present at the last meeting.

4. HIGHWAY

Road Commissioner Report- Cash and Katie have been working on a paving grant and hope to send it out tomorrow, 2/11/20. Cash hoped that all FEMA paperwork was finished as of today (2/10/20) from the April 2019 flooding. Robert asked how repairs were going on Gorge Road. Cash and Mike explained that the culvert had not yet been replaced.

Alf Strom-Olsen questioned the price of the culvert installation on Gorge Road. Cash explained that the unique type of the culvert that had to be installed was why it was pricey.

5. APPROVAL OF SELECT BOARD WARRANTS

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

6. GUESTS

N/A

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recreation Committee- Chairman Klopchin explained that two members resigned from the committee, one being the Chair, and two members were present at the meeting. Robert described the responsibilities of the committee chair. Matt Jakubowski questioned if the position could be posted online. Matt also asked Katie to send the Recreation Fields' mowing bid sheet to him. Matt expressed his concern in getting the bid sheet approved and posted quickly. The public requested the Town having a Facebook page for these kinds of updates (committee openings, available bid sheets, etc). Robert asked the Board Secretary to reach out to VLCT about the legal aspect of it.

B. Approve Marijuana Ordinance

Mike explained that the ordinance was not made legal because it was not posted in all 5 places, per the process, as well as the newspaper. Alf Strom-Olsen questioned whether this current ordinance was legal to begin with based on the legal advice of the attorneys at VLCT. In an email from Garret Baxter, senior attorney at VLCT, he stated that "municipalities cannot preemptively ban the sale of recreational marijuana for the simple reason that the Vermont Legislature has yet to confer any authority upon them to ban an activity that is currently still illegal." Chairman Klopchin read the current ordinance as drafted. Selectman Congdon motioned to table this discussion indefinitely to further examine what will happen in the VT Legislature regarding recreational marijuana, Selectman Wilbur seconded for discussion. Selectman Bixby said he doesn't think that the Board should discuss further because the ban of recreational marijuana cannot be made by the municipality as of yet. This motioned passed unanimously.

C. Zoning Budget

Robert motioned to have Katie draft a letter to the Zoning Administrator that all town officials have been granted a 3% raise in the proposed budget and that his requested raise was well beyond that. That being said, if he is unable to accept a 3% raise, he is encouraged to resign from his position. Selectman Wilbur seconded, and all approved.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Accept Letters of Resignation

The Select Board received letters from Tim Mumford (Rec Committee), John McKenna (Rec Committee), and Art Menard (Lister Position). Robert motioned to forgo reading the letters of resignation aloud, but to make them available to the public, accept them all, and write letters of thanks. Selectman Bixby seconded and all approved. Selectman Congdon motioned to post the openings for these committees on the website for 14 days. Selectman Ruane seconded, all approved. Chairman Klopchin read an email from John McKenna regarding his recommendations concerning the Recreation Committee.

The Board Chair also updated the public on the status of the ballfield. The permit is currently in a public comment period.

B. Discuss & Approve Rutland Region Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement

Robert motioned to not adopt the Mutual Aid Agreement, and Bob seconded for discussion. Alf questioned what it was. Robert explained if there was a major disaster that RRPC would have a list of all our vehicle inventory and would be able to pull from it, if need be. Robert reiterated that as the Town of Clarendon and in true Vermont spirit, they would be willing to offer equipment if need be to neighboring towns in a disaster, but they do not need to sign a document to agree to that. The motioned passed unanimously.

C. Set CMV Policy Workshop Time & Date

Robert motioned to set the CMV Policy workshop for 5 o'clock before the next meeting (2/24), Cash seconded and all approved.

10. TOWN OFFICER'S REPORT

Katie reported that Robert Sebasky has wished to not be reappointed to the RAS and the position needs to be filled in March. Selectman Congdon motioned to have Katie post that opening online, Selectman Wilbur seconded, all approved.

Clarendon Fire Chief, Matt Jakubowski, reported that the new fire truck's cab and chassis is being built.

11. SELECT BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS

Selectman Bixby attended a Solid Waste meeting but there was not a quorum present. He questioned if Katie and Cash received clarification on whether the Kingsley Covered Bridge would be rehabilitated/ replaced as a covered bridge; Katie clarified that Brian Sanderson confirmed it would definitely remain a covered bridge.

Selectman Ruane thanked the Town for their thoughts and prayers with the passing of his father.

Chairman Klopchin announced that the Town received a thank you note from the Ruanes. He also wanted acknowledge the passing of Roxanne Phelps, former Town Health Officer.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Congdon motioned to adjourn at 7:10pm, Selectman Wilbur seconded, and all approved.

SIGNED: _____, Mike Klopchin, Chair

SIGNED: _____, Bob Bixby, Clerk