

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

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Present: Selectboard members Laurie Colgan, Chris Martin and Andy Perchlik; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors Josh Gouge, Will Schwarz, Jacob Gouge, Grace Gouge, Tim Maclay, Janet Nielsen, Kelly Carpenter, Pam Smith, Julia Carpenter, Faeterri Silver, Ivan Shadis, Michael Schumacher, Faith Lloyd, Jonathan Lloyd, Will Walters (Hardwick Gazette);

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Andy Perchlik

**Changes or additions to the agenda:** The Board received a dog complaint

**Public Comment/Unscheduled Appearances:** Janet Nielsen resubmitted petitions supporting the Stranahan Town Forest. She read comments from one of the people who signed the petitions, regarding Dinny Stranahan's vision for the forest.

**Dog Complaint:** The Board received and read the dog complaint from Jennifer Bickford regarding a dog that she alleges bit her fiancé, Christopher Wike. The dog belongs to Kelly Carpenter. Kelly alleges that the dog did not bite Christopher but only growled and barked at him, and she was able to control the dog. The dog got out accidentally. Andy stated that as the owner, she must keep the dog from running out and barking at people, so that people are not afraid to walk on the town road. He noted that the dog ordinance requires people to keep their dogs under control at all times, and it sounds like they have been under control until this one time. There have been no other complaints. Laurie stated that if there was a second complaint we would have to take more serious actions. Pam Smith asked if there is a leash law. Kelly stated that Jennifer's dogs are allowed to run at large. The Board confirmed that this is not allowed under the ordinance.

**Emergency Medical Service:** Josh Gouge from Cabot Ambulance stated that the roster is down to 9 people. He feels that people are getting adequate care through mutual aid. They receive about 200 calls each year. They were able to get someone on scene 65% to 70% of the time last year. Cabot relies on Barre Town for backup. They have a paramedic. Marshfield relies on East Montpelier for backup because they are closer. Cabot Ambulance members would prefer to have a paramedic for backup because of the longer transport time. Josh feels that it is important to keep a local service so there is an

EMT close by. He used the example of someone choking. Will Schwarz noted that Marshfield has the Plainfield Fast Squad to respond with EMT's even though they don't transport. Will noted that an ambulance call may be a half-day commitment. That makes it difficult for people who are working to make ends meet. He also noted that the training is a big commitment. Josh stated that it's 500 hours to get to his level of training (advanced EMT), and then 72 hours of ongoing training per year. Chris asked about financing. Josh noted that the service pays Barre Town \$100 per call if a paramedic intercept is needed. Those present discussed the possibility of having one service serve one end of town and another service at the other end of the town, but it would be difficult to define what the tax implications would be. Will Schwarz noted that Cabot Ambulance has been doing a better job of calling for mutual aid faster than in the past. Josh noted that the dispatch has been doing a better job. Josh mentioned that there is a committee forming to try to explore EMS possibilities for Marshfield and Cabot. Chris and Will volunteered to join the committee.

**Old Schoolhouse Common:** Chris attended the meeting that was held last week regarding the gym. The consensus was that there should be sound-deadening improvements made to the gym and hallway. Michael feels that the rules will still be an issue. The estimate for materials would be about \$2,500. Andy moved to use \$2,500 from the OSC building fund. Laurie seconded – all in favor. Michael Schumacher offered to donate labor if the Town changes the rule about when kids can use the gym. Andy suggested that if soundproofing is done, the rule about not using the end wall and the end hoop until after 5:00 p.m. would go away. The decision about whether kids can be supervised by someone 16 vs. 18 will be deferred until the insurance company can be consulted about liability. The Board discussed the possibility of reforming the Old Schoolhouse Common Building Committee.

The Board reviewed a list of Ernie Penley's personal equipment that he uses while maintaining the building (ladders and staging). The equipment is for sale and can be purchased for the building if the Town wishes. Most of the equipment is already stored here. Chris moved to purchase everything except the pressure washer, and talk to the Road Foreman about whether the pressure washer is similar to the one that the town already owns. The total for the other equipment would be \$620. Andy seconded – all in favor.

Bobbi noted that the Recreation Committee and Library both have needs for storage. The Library has books that have been donated for the booksale and in between sales they

need a place to store them. The Board agreed that the Recreation Committee can share the space where the books are stored.

**Planning Commission:** Faeterri Silver does not want to be appointed to 3-year term on the Planning Commission because she doesn't want to have more than a one-year commitment. The Town offered to appoint her for three years and let her resign after a year but she does not want to be in the position of having to resign. She asked if she could switch terms with someone else.

Ivan Shadis came to the Selectboard after seeing the notice looking for volunteers. He is willing to serve on any Board that is needed, but he is particularly interested in the Planning Commission.

Andy moved to increase the number of the Planning Commission to 6 members, to appoint Ivan Shadis to the three year term that is open now, and appoint Faeterri Silver to a new term that is initially a one-year term but will be a three-year term after the first year (to maintain staggered expiration dates). Laurie asked whether it is appropriate to manipulate the number of members on the Board. Andy and Chris explained that they have changed the number before when the Planning Commission has asked for more members. Chris seconded – all in favor.

**Zoning Forum:** The Planning Commission is going to hold a forum on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. They encouraged the Selectboard to attend. The focus of the forum is to look at the town's zoning to see if it is doing what we want it to do in regards to the vision of the town plan. They are seeking the public's input.

**Audit Findings from Public Safety Audit:** tabled

**Policy review and adoption:** Open meeting policy, Conflict of Interest policy, Procurement Policy: tabled

**Annual Financial Plan for Highways:** The Selectboard approved it

**SASS Ave:** Chris has spoken with the Agency of Natural Resources and they have already received a complaint.

**Pellets for the Old Schoolhouse:** Andy will send the bid information to Bobbi.

**Town Clerk's Report:** The Town received a request for an abatement. The Board of Abatement will meet to hear the request on May 3, 2016 at 5:30. The Selectboard will meet immediately following.

**Annual Road Tour:** The Board will meet at 7 a.m. on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> to look at road issues and possible ordinance violations.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** The Board approved the minutes of March 15 and April 5, 2016.

**Expenses, Permits & Payroll:** Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the April 19, 2016 Selectboard Meeting.  
A True Record. Attest, \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk

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