

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Michele Gonzales; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors: Rich Phillips, Grace Vinson (CVRPC), Jeremy Hanson (CVFiber), Robin Gomez, Susan Green (Library Director), Heather Bent and Alana Vaillancourt (Animal Control Officers)

At 5:31 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: Trees at Eaton, Solar tracker at OSC

Public Comment: none

Minutes: Approved the minutes of July 20, 2021

Hazard Mitigation: Grace explained that VEM made comments and she has incorporated them into the draft. The Board reviewed and discussed her revisions. The next step is for her to resubmit to VEM for their approval. She hopes VEM will issue approval pending adoption before September 7.

OSC: Robin Gomez asked permission to clean the Veterans' monument, cut back shrubs, and spruce up the flower bed. She would use soap and water, nothing abrasive, to clean the granite. The Board approved and thanked her for her volunteerism.

Vandalism: Chris and Bobbi met with the two people who vandalized the property around the Old Schoolhouse Common. They seem sincere in their apology for what they did and they are willing to do community service projects. Rich B suggested coming up with a minimum number of hours of community service. One of the projects that the board is considering is painting the bandstand and dugouts. Robin volunteered to oversee the painting. Rich P agreed to oversee building new picnic tables if there is time. The Board agreed to require 40 hours each. Rich P. has calculated that the materials for the picnic tables would cost about \$450.

Maintenance: Susan feels that the building is not being cared for the way that it used to be when we had a regular maintenance person. She feels that the town should use some of the money that is coming to the town to fix up the building. Bobbi explained that the money can only be used for certain purposes. Rich B. suggested that money should be put in the budget for next year. Chris will talk to Dan Tetreault to see what his plans are, since he has moved further from town and may not want to continue to the job.

COVID: Susan explained that masks are once again required in the Library. Rich P. asked what the Board thinks about holding the community day event, due to the rise in COVID cases. The Board feels like it will be ok to hold it outside. Rich P. is concerned that people might not come, and it is a lot of work to put an event together and it would be a shame to not have a good turnout. The Board decided to require masks again in the building.

ARPA: Jeremy Hansen is the chair of CVFiber and he attended the meeting to update the Board on their progress. He asked the Board to consider giving CVFiber some of the ARPA money to help lower the eventual subscription costs for their service. They anticipate having service to 50% of underserved households in 2022, and 95% of underserved households within a few years, depending on funding and availability of equipment. The more money they get from towns, the faster it will get done.

The Board agreed in concept that they would like to see at least some of the money go towards broadband. They will develop a survey to ask townspeople for their opinion about what other projects should be considered, knowing that use of the money is limited by statute.

Dog Complaint: The Board has received another complaint about Vivian Davis's dogs running loose. Heather Bent offered to go out and meet with Vivian Davis to talk to her about the complaint. Bobbi will get them registered with the municipal bureau so that they can issue citations.

Local Emergency Management Plan: The Board approved revisions to the LEMP. Bobbi will make the revisions.

Park & Ride: Bobbi submitted an application for a grant for lighting at the Old Schoolhouse Common, and for paving. The Board is not sure whether they will pave the parking lot but it is not a condition of the grant.

Route 2 Speed Limit: The Vermont Traffic Bureau is meeting on Monday August 23rd to consider lowering the speed limit on Route 2 entering Plainfield village.

Ordinances: The Board added time frames to the offenses in the dog ordinance.

Solar Trackers: Rich B has talked to Rich Nicol about the trackers and the maintenance agreement that has been offered. He feels that the contract is worth it.

Cemeteries: The Board executed a deed to Douglas and Lori Zimmerman.

Chris looked at the trees in Eaton Cemetery and he didn't feel that weedwacking is the problem. Three of the trees have areas where the bark has split. Bobbi will ask the Conservation Commission to take a look and see if they have any recommendations.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the August 17, 2021 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk

* * * * *