

SELECTBOARD EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 5:30 p.m, via Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Laurie Colgan; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors Kale and Amanda Barberi, Janet and Kevin Sing, Marge and Lou Christie, Trish Tetreault; Road Foreman Tim Ksepka; Road Crew Member Shane Brickey

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: none

Public Comment: none

Dog Complaint: Chris explained that the Barbieris informed the town that two of Janet Sing's dogs have been out and on their property. The Town has already issued a protective order on one of the dogs due to a previous issue. The Barberis sent the Town a photograph of two large white dogs on their property. Janet confirmed that the dogs in the photo are hers and the female is in heat. Janet stated that she and her husband are working to make sure it never happens again. Goran was tethered to a nylon leash and he escaped because of the female being in heat. They immediately purchased a metal leash. She apologized to the Barberis for making them afraid. Kale agreed that they should be able to have their children in the yard without being afraid, and the dog has been vicious in the past. Kevin disputed whether the dog was ever vicious. Chris explained that the issue of the previous bite was confirmed in the Selectboard's view at the March vicious dog hearing.

Rich explained that if the dog gets out again, the Town will be in the position where they have to take him, because he is a vicious dog who is going to cause harm. Kevin stated that the dog is not vicious and there was no proof. The Selectboard explained to the Sings that if they had attended the hearing, they would have seen the evidence.

Laurie explained that the Vermont statutes give the Board the authority to impose a \$500 fine. Given the severity of the last issue and the protective order that was issued, and the potential danger, they Selectboard should consider issuing the fine.

Trish Tetreault stated that she has been to Janet's property once as a customer and the dogs did not show any signs of aggression.

The Board will discuss whether or not to impose a fine at the next Selectboard meeting on November 17, 2020.

Personnel: Shane explained that he was at hunting camp out of state with a family member. One of the family member's close contacts has since tested positive. Shane called the Selectboard to notify them. He has stayed out of work since he got back but he is unsure what the Selectboard wants him to do now.

At the time that Shane returned, there was no requirement for a quarantine based on the travel restrictions that were in place at the time, so he is only asking based on the contact.

Laurie suggested that due to COVID, the Selectboard should be reviewing leave requests, and according to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, the Board can deny requests for leave that would entail travel out of state.

The Board didn't feel that it is necessary for Shane to further quarantine because he did not have close contact with the person who actually tested positive. Shane will do work for the next two days that doesn't bring him into close contact with the other road crew members. Tim admitted that they are not wearing masks and they are not always taking temperatures or doing health screenings. The Board stated that the Road Crew should be wearing masks when they are working together or in the same building or vehicle.

Laurie is going to get screening information together for the Road Crew to make sure they are doing the appropriate screening every day and documenting it.

The Board also discussed the use of sick leave. Laurie explained that if an employee is advised by their doctor to stay home due to COVID symptoms or contact, the town should be documenting the use of COVID leave separately from sick leave.

Rich indicated that in the future if an employee wants to take vacation, we need to check to see that they have vacation time accrued, or the employee needs to ask the Selectboard's permission to use sick leave.

The Board reiterated how important the Road Crew is to the Town and how difficult it would be to keep the roads open if they got sick.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the November 11, 2020 Selectboard Meeting.

A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
