

Town of Groton, Vermont - Select board Minutes September 21, 2017 (approved)

Select board Members in Attendance: Wade Johnson, Sr., Deborah Jurist, and Mary Grant

Attendance for the meeting included: Debra Johnson, Brent Smith, Mark Shallberg, Carrie Peters, Kitty Diggins, Gary Lamberton, David Boyce, Derek Curtis, Dave Spencer, Dorothy Knott, Henry Knott, Gail McDonnell, Kevin McDonnell, David Tillberg, Amy Alexander, and James Downing.

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Deborah moved to approve the minutes of September 7, 2017, Wade seconded and motion passed.

Update on Railroad Bed Definitions and set date for special meeting/Dave Spencer, Kitty Diggins and Brent Smith

Deborah Jurist spoke on how classifying the Railroad Bed into a trail is a big project, will take awhile, and needs input from people in the town. There is going to be a meeting on Sept. 29th at 4:00 pm to work on this. No action was taken on the Railroad Bed at this meeting.

Highway/Brent Smith - sand bids

Brent mentioned that he has a major beaver problem on Stillwater Road inside the culvert. Brent wanted the Select Board to know that there might be more expense to the town with this beaver issue.

Brent asked the Select Board if it was okay to use some gravel for the Pancake House parking lot. There was a short discussion on this. Deborah made a motion for Brent to go ahead and use some gravel to fix the Pancake House parking lot for Fall Foliage, Wade seconded, and motion passed.

Mary mentioned that at the last Select Board meeting Brent asked the Select Board to drive up the Great Road and check it out. Mary said the Great Rd was all graded and Harv Orr Rd culvert job looked great.

Town Clerk/Linda Nunn - Porta Potty Update and Feral Cat Update

Linda Nunn was not present. Carrie Peters had her updates on the two issues. The Porta Potty has been moved for the winter. Heidi, the woman Linda is talking to about the feral cats has been on vacation so no update.

Carrie reported that Jon Kaplan said there is no reimbursement for the town on the sidewalk grant. Mr. Kaplan also said he needs a letter on the second sidewalk grant that the town is refusing.

Carrie mentioned that the Gandin Bros. had cleaned the monuments in front of the town office, at the veteran's park and the Frost baseball field with no charge. A thank you note needs to be sent to them.

Cilley Property Update on Special Meeting

Deborah said that the special meeting there was different opinions, and need to reach out and talk to the town's people to get other ideas of what can be done. When Deborah said that the motion passed at the meeting, Amy Alexander questioned the vote and read from the Roberts Rules of Order in Article 8 Section 46 concerning the legality of the vote.

On a tie vote the motion is lost, and the chair, if a member of the assembly, may vote to make it a tie unless the vote is by ballot. The chair cannot, however, vote twice, first to make a tie and then give the casting vote. In case of an appeal [21], though the question is, "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the assembly?" a tie vote, even though his vote made it a tie, sustains the chair, upon the principle that the decision of the chair can be reversed only by a majority, including the chair if a member of the assembly.

It was mentioned that there needs to be more information on the Cilley Property put out on the website. Deborah will get this info to Dave Spencer for uploading onto the website. There was discussion about the Cilley Property and the special meeting. Mary made a motion saying that the Select Board is not going to proceed on the Cilley Property until clarification on the tie vote being broke by the moderator is made by contacting the lawyer at VLCT, Deborah seconded and motion passed. The answer from the VLCT lawyer needs to be in writing.

Zoning Update

Village Center designation is being worked on now and next will be zoning bylaws.

Financials/Budget Update - Purchasing Policy

Deborah made a motion to approve the new purchasing policy, Wade seconded and motion passed. The Select Board signed the Purchasing Policy.

Open to Public & Other Business

Mary said she had copies of the library's minutes to a meeting. Then it was discussed that the minutes of all the departments in the town need to be emailed to the Select Board members so they can know what is going on. The same list of people can be used as the one that is used for the Select Board meeting minutes.

Mary said the CEDC had a meeting about the 5 year capital investments plans. An email was sent out with the link that each department can use to fill out.

The link is https://1drv.ms/x/s!Atmush_w368wgZQPA-OQUZA6cjRO3A

Sign Orders & Open Mail

The orders were signed and mail opened. There was mail from the VT General Assembly saying that the Community Club has been awarded \$3500 for replacement of the basketball back board.

Fire/FAST - Henry Knott had questions on the process of purchasing a new/used Emergency Vehicle for the FAST Squad. In the Capital Plan for the Fire/FAST, in the year 2018 is to replace the old ambulance with 147,000 miles. Henry handed out copies of an example of vehicle that they are looking at. Mary

told Henry he needs to look at the New Purchasing Policy that was passed tonight to know what the process is. There was some discussion on this.

Due to the next scheduled Select Board meeting being on Oct. 5, two days before Fall Foliage, the Select Board meetings have been changed for the month of October. The two Select Board meetings for the month of October are the 12th and 26th at 6:30 PM.

Set Agenda for next Select Board meeting on Oct. 12, 2017

Meeting called to order

Review/Approve Minutes - Sept. 21, 2017

Gary Lambertson - Buckaroos/Dick Page Ride In

Update on Railroad Bed

Department Updates - Highway/Brent Smith - sand bids; Town Clerk/Linda Nunn - Animal Control Contract

Cilley Property Update

Financials/Budget Update - set a date for discussing budgets for 2018

Open to Public & Other Business

Sign Orders & Open Mail

Set Agenda for next Select Board meeting on Oct. 26, 2017

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Johnson

Select Board Secretary

Mary Grant, Chair

Wade Johnson, Sr.

Deborah Jurist