

## Selectboard Minutes

### July 8, 2024

Selectboard Present: Jessica Pollack (chair), Andy Coyne (vice-chair), Greg Meulemens and Kate Ullman

Public Present: Mike Tuller (Town Administrator), Paul Fraser and Karen Ameden

Jessica called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### 1. *Late additions*

- A. Approve John Van Hoesen to DV Fiber governing board
- B. Prepare a response to VHB for Hamilton Falls area at the direction of Forest, Parks and Recreation

#### 2. *Minutes*

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 24th meeting, seconded by Kate. Paul asked to have the parking violation define "event". Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes with modification of public concerns as described by Paul Fraser. 3 in favor, 1 opposed. Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on June 27th, seconded by Kate. 3 in favor, 1 abstained.

#### 3. *FEMA*

The loan through M & T Bank was approved at the Special Meeting in order to pay our education payment to the state. This will tide us through until the next tax season. They are trying to move FEMA meetings around so there is someone from the state at the meetings but the person is involved in many towns FEMA process. Discussion on change of scope for Ball Mountain Brook project. They will call a Special meeting for next Monday at 6:00 p.m. to open bids. They will have a pre-bid meeting on Thursday. Mike had the three site visits with NRCS for the buy outs. Mike and Keith formalized the site inspections for the December storm.

#### 4. *GMP work on Turkey Mountain Rd.*

Green Mountain Power joined the last meeting and discussed a project that they proposed for Turkey Mountain Rd. Greg Meulemans and Keith Hazard went with Tim Jones from GMP to look at the area where they would be working. GMP is looking for the Selectboard to sign off on the project.

The project would last about a week, and they could move out of the way in an emergency in 5-10 minutes if needed.

Jessica made a motion to approve the project proposed by GMP to replace poles and any other work to repair and make storm resistant power, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

*5. Clean up at Historical Society building*

Mike has a proposal for under \$2,000 to remove the tank and related clean up. There is a \$250 deductible that the town would need to pay and there is a grant available from the state petroleum fund.

Jessica made a motion to approve the proposal for the removal and clean up for the Historical Society building. Seconded by Kate, all in favor.

*6. Sheriff Department contract*

The contract should have been signed before this fiscal year began but we are still covered at this time. There is an increase of \$250 a month. Andy made a motion to approve the contract for the Windham County Sheriff's Department, seconded by Jessica. All in favor.

*7. Ball field usage for high school sports*

Jessica made a motion to approve allowing the use of the ball field with the caveat that we are only mowing it every three weeks, seconded by Kate.

Paul asked about insurance coverage. Jessica will look into it but the school insurance coverage should cover it.

Jessica revised her motion, to include the fact that to allow Leland & Gray subject to we only mow every three weeks and that they will maintain the property which would be detailed in the lease agreement. Seconded by Kate, all in favor.

*8. Proposal on roadside mowing*

Each year we put out on RFP and have been unsuccessful finding someone to do the roadside mowing. Tom Daigneault proposed that he could subcontract to do the roadside mowing on a case by case basis where it was needed. He has a tractor that he could use. His rate would be \$100 an hour. He would do every other Friday for three months. It would be 6-8 hours which in total would be around \$3500 for the season.

Greg made a motion that we accept Tom Daigneault's offer to mow on demand in coordination with Keith at the rate of \$100 an hour over the summer, seconded by Kate. Kate made a request that he avoids any flowers growing. All in favor.

*9. Traffic and Parking Ordinance*

Jessica is going to make a motion to discuss this in executive session.

*10. DV Fiber alternate*

John Van Hoesen is a member of the planning commission and has volunteered to replace Anne Connor as the alternate for DV Fiber. Jessica made a motion to appoint John Van Hoesen to be the alternate for DV Fiber, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

11. The Planning Commission has offered to examine the engineering proposal and would have a proposal to the board. VHB had three concept designs for Hamilton Falls prepared at the direction of Forest, Parks and Recreation.

Jessica made a motion to request the Jamaica Planning Commission to examine the three

concepts and make a proposal to the Selectboard, seconded by Greg. All in favor.

*12. Time sheets*

Jessica made a motion to approve the times sheets, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

*13. Pay Orders*

Jessica made a motion to approve the pay orders, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

*14. Public concerns*

The next meeting we will be approving the tax rate, and we will post on the website an explanatory guide of how your tax bill was created.

Karen Ameden said Jamaica Day is coming up on August 17th.

Karen also mentioned that there are free groceries for kids starting this Thursday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Jamaica School or Leland & Gray High School. Anyone can come, it is for kids up to 18.

Kate Ullman said a citizen mentioned that over 30 years ago, there was a welcome package that people were given with tax info, how the transfer station works. We do give them all the information on the Transfer Station.

Karen mentioned that Joel Beckwith passed away, who served on Jamaica boards for many years. She also said Ginny Hines had passed away.

Jessica said there are concerns with the new trash bags and it will be on the agenda in two weeks. Please come and share your thoughts. Kate mentioned that there should not be food in the bags, it should all be composted.

At 8:00 p.m. Jessica made a motion

“I move to find that premature general public knowledge of certain individuals who may be impacted by the new traffic ordinance would clearly place the individuals at a substantial disadvantage, if the Selectboard discusses in public.” Seconded by Kate All in favor.

Jessica, “I move that we enter into executive session to discuss these particular homeowners under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes.” Seconded by Kate. 3 in favor, 1 abstained.

Jessica moved to exit the executive session at 8:18 p.m. Seconded by Kate, all in favor.

Signs will be placed at the following locations:

2 signs on Pikes Falls Rd- 1 near Route 30 and 1 near South Hill

2 signs on Depot St- one near Route 30 and 1 near the bridge  
Corner of Route 30/Water St.

2 signs for Pikes Falls swimming hole

2 signs for Hamilton Falls (Windham Hill)

Jessica made a motion to acquire and place the signs as described above and as advised by our road foreman, seconded by Kate. All in favor.

Jessica made a motion to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. seconded by Kate.

Respectfully Submitted, Sara Wiswall