



## Select Board

Town of Hinesburg  
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### Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2019

- Draft -

**Attending the Meeting:** Phil Pouech, Aaron Kimball, Merrily Lovell, Tom Ayer, Andrea Morgante, Renae Marshall, Joy Dubin Grossman, Frank Koss, Al Barber, and Madeline Hughes.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Phil addressed why the Board is meeting on Martin Luther King Jr Day. Merrily shared some information and inspirational quotes by Martin Luther King Jr.

#### **Additions / Deletions or Changes to the Agenda**

Andrea said she would like to discuss an email she received concerning an investigation of the Addison VT Gas pipeline.

Phil said they will hold an executive session meeting regarding personnel at the end of the meeting.

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **FY 20 Capital Budget and FY 20-24 Capital Improvement Plan Public Hearing**

Andrea moved to address the Capital Budget portion of the Town Budget. Second by Tom and approved with 5 yes votes.

#### **FY 20 General Fund Budget and FY 20 Capital Transfer Summary Review**

Andrea explained that some of the items in the capital budget that are being transferred are basically payments that we had committed to previously. She wants voters to realize that it is not until we transfer funds the first time that there is a commitment to make that purchase. Items are not being put in with the need to raise tax dollars until voters approve the first payment. In making that first payment it obligates the Town to put money in for future years. Renae noted anything \$400,000 or greater requires voter approval.

Renae proposed to use \$50,000 of capital reserves toward paving reducing the amount from the

general fund transfer to \$200,000.

There was considerable discussion on the planning for the purchase of the screen plant and the decision was to put it off and move the \$35,000 to the FY 21 and 22 budgets.

Items remaining for Highway are the 2000 Case tractor for \$20,000 / 2009 dump replacement for \$25,000 and the mulcher for \$5,000.

Police general fund transfer was reduced to \$5,000 for FY 20 for mobile technology as Renae noted there was \$5,000 already in capital reserves and then in future years the amount will be \$10,000.

Fire Department - Renae is proposing to apply the capital reserves for the FY 20 payment of \$16,733.75. There will be a balance of \$4,000 in capital reserves which could be used to offset future budgets or apply to next year's payment.

Buildings and Facilities - Sidewalk Construction was increased from \$7,500 to \$10,000. Sidewalk plow / sander was increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Andrea had a question about the line for Bissonette Fields. She would like to see a full budget of what has been spent and where we are headed. It is a valuable Town asset and it would be good to show the voters what has been spent and what the future costs will be.

The Board reviewed the FY 20 general fund budget with the changes made tonight.

In the Town Administrator budget Tom was questioning the request from the Energy Committee for the Energy Assessment of municipal buildings. He feels there are other avenues through which we can get this information. Phil said he feels it is worth seeing what we get. Tom would like to see information from the committee on exactly what the plan is, what has been done and what people working the buildings recommend. Phil suggests leaving the request in the budget but to have the Energy Committee come to the Board and explain what they plan to do before the money is spent.

Andrea asked about the proposal to warn the work for the improvements at Charlotte Road/Route 116 intersection. Phil will have a warning ready for review at the next meeting. It was noted that we need to include the cost in the budget.

Conservation Commission - The Board discussed the request of \$8,000 for the Natural Resources Inventory. Andrea said this is phase 1 and she feels it is a worthwhile investment to kick start a lot of projects. She noted there is a program that is available called the VT Master Naturalist where people can get training and will be able to help with the phase 2 aspect. Tom felt the increase to \$8,000 is a bit much. He noted the Commission has other funding available from the barn fees and VT Gas money. Andrea said it would be good to know what the long term plans are for the VT Gas funds. Rena looked up and found that the VT Gas funds are planned to do more extensive habitat work.

Lake Iroquois Association (LIA) - Tom again said he feels the suction harvesting is not an effective use of funds. Renae noted that the suction harvesting was not the first choice in mitigating milfoil but the LIA felt they were left with no other option. The Board will write a letter to LIA about their feelings on the

value of suction harvesting.

### **The Board reviewed the proposed FY 20 General Budget Revenue**

Renaë noted she met with the St. George Select Board and explained to them the reason for the increase in the contract for Fire Aid and their Select Board agreed to the \$40,000 requested by Hinesburg.

### **Review of 2019 Town Meeting Warning**

The warning about the Charlotte Road/Route 116 intersection improvement will be added.

### **Committee for Police Chief Search and Next Steps in the Process**

Aaron said he and Merrily will meet this week to finalize names for the committee to bring to the Select Board's next meeting to officially form the committee. They received a draft from Chief Koss of his duties and will put that together with the existing job description. Also to finalize next week is where to post the job ad and how to manage it.

### **VT Gas**

Andrea said the Public Utility Commission has decided to investigate various issues concerning the construction of Addison County natural gas project by VT Gas. The firm RPC has been hired by the State of Vermont Public Utilities to do the investigation. The firm is asking for responses from involved parties to notify them what level they want to be kept informed about the investigation. There are 5 levels; to be dropped from the list / to be copied only on status reports / invited to all physical meetings and site visits / copied on all correspondence and invited to all meetings / to participate to the maximum extent possible.

The Board agreed to respond they are interested in the level where we will be invited to all physical meetings and site visits.

### **Town Administrator Report**

Renaë thanked all who have plowed and taken care of the sidewalks in the recent storm.

Jordan Ayer has been doing some painting work for the Town, shoveling sidewalks and helping where he could with the Highway Dept.

### **Select Board Forum**

Aaron wanted to publicly thank our local Police and Fire Departments as well as St. Mike's rescue for their work in the storm.

Aaron also noted that in going through the budget process he was made aware of how much in

services and production happens both on a paid and volunteer level in Town.

Andrea added the budget reflects our values. We are putting items out there that say this is what makes us our Town.

Andrea said the Water/WW Allocation Committee will have something to present in writing for the Board hopefully at the Board's February 18th meeting.

Andrea reports the Regional Planning Commission is addressing revisions to ACT 250.

Phil has started working on the Select Board report for Town Meeting.

Phil mentioned as the Health Officer he had to do an inspection of a rental property.

### **Review Minutes from January 7, 2019 and January 14, 2019**

Andrea moved to approve the minutes of January 7, 2019 as amended. Second by Tom and approved with 5 yes votes.

Minutes from January 14, 2019 will be acted on at the next meeting.

### **Consider Approving Warrants**

Aaron moved to approve the warrants, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer. Second by Andrea and approved with 5 yes votes.

### **Executive Session**

Aaron moved the Board go into executive session for personnel discussion under the provisions of 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(b). Second by Andrea and approved with 5 yes votes.

Andrea moved to go into executive session including only Select Board members. Second by Tom and approved with 5 yes votes.

Merrily moved to come out of executive session, second by Tom and approved with 5 yes votes.

Merrily moved to adjourn, second by Tom and approved with 5 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Spadaccini, Clerk of the Board