



Select Board

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
802.482.2281 | hinesburg.org

Meeting Minutes – December 16, 2020

- Draft -

Attending the Meeting: Phil Pouech, Merrily Lovell, Mike Loner, Maggie Gordon, Joy Dubin Grossman, Wayne Elliott, Jeff Forward, Erik Bailey, Philip Stolz, Chuck Reiss, Michael Mainer, Maureen Barnard, Kathy Newton, Rachel Kring, Roberta Soll

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

Additions / Deletions and Public Comment

Phil said there is potential for executive session at the end of the public meeting.

Phillip Stolz, Hinesburg Health Officer, asked the Board about instituting a stricter mask policy in Town. He has received some calls about non-compliance and has also witnessed non-compliance. Phil said the Board has discussed enforcement but has no specific policy. Phil S said he emailed Chief Cambridge but has not heard back. Joy said she had heard from Chief Cambridge who said he is doing some enforcement. Joy will work with Phil S. and Chief Cambridge on this.

Town Administrator Report

- Continue to work on budget preparation
- The LGER Grant to cover COVID related expensed from March 1 to December 30 has been submitted.
- Joy shared the Community Outreach Flyer from the Howard Center that will be distributed to Hinesburg businesses.

Select Board Forum / Correspondence Received

Phil is working on the Fire and Ambulance budgets being separate this year.

Phil has had some discussion with Al Barber about the resolution to make the Fire Department an official Town Department and that is moving along.

Phil noted the article in the Hinesburg Record which was not fully accurate. He said the Board wants to be as open as possible but at the same time be represented as honestly as possible.

Phil had a discussion with a member of the Richmond Select Board member about exploring the possibility of combining the two Fire Departments.

Consider Approving the State Revolving Loan Fund Application

Wayne Elliott reviewed the State Revolving Loan Fund Application along with amendment number 4.

Maggie asked Wayne if there are any concerns regarding the ACT 250 permit? Wayne said the State is driving the project and it is in everyone's best interest to move the permits along smoothly.

Phil moved to approve the State Revolving Loan Fund application as presented in the Select Board packet for phase 1 of the wastewater treatment plant project. Second by Mike and approved with 4 yes votes.

Consider Approving the Amended Wastewater Owner Engineer Agreement

Phil moved to approve the Amendment to Owner - Engineer Agreement number 4 and authorize the Town Administrator to sign. Second by Merrily and approved with 4 yes votes.

Consider Approving an Additional Solar Proposal by VIEC

Phil said the proposal is similar to what has just been done on the Highway Garage.

Jeff Forward reviewed the VEIC proposal with the Board agreeing with Phil it basically is the same deal as was done on the Highway Garage.

Jeff Forward advised the Board some issues have cropped up with water treatment facility solar. Green Mountain Power (GMP) may require \$7,200 in interconnection fees, they are working with GMP to hopefully solve this. Also, they are working on getting the needed documentation from an engineer that the roof can handle the load of the solar panel.

Phil said though not the best pay back this is still a good investment for the Town.

Chuck Reiss said the Energy Committee supports the proposal for the Police Station.

Phil moved to have the Town Administrator sign the agreement on behalf of the Town after the final information is determined with regards to Green Mountain Power and the engineering documentation for the roof. Second by Maggie and approved with 4 yes votes.

Consider Approving an Amended Schedule of Reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions

Joy explained her suggestion to change the reappointment schedule. Board members agreed the change is a good idea.

Phil asked Joy to look at the current policy to see if it indicates when reappointments need to be done and to contact volunteers and let them know the reappointment date is changed to February.

Reappointment of DRB members was discussed, as that is a quasi-judicial Board.

Merrily moved to approve the amended schedule of reappointment to the end of February for Committees, Boards and Commissions. If the DRB cannot be changed, those reappointments will be done at the first Select Board January meeting. Second by Phil. Approved with 4 yes votes.

FY 22 General Fund Budget Review

- **Town Administrator** – Joy noted the wage increase is due to anticipating the change to a Town Manager. Capital transfer is increased for stormwater work.
- **Select Board** – level funded.
- **Energy Committee** – Chuck Reiss reviewed the request for \$1,600. He noted the \$400 for the electric vehicle charging station is to acknowledge the Town's interest.
- **Tree Warden** – Merrily reviewed the \$4,800 request. Included is continued treatment for 2 large Ash trees and funding for eventual removal of dying Ash trees in the Village.
- **HCRC** – Rachel Kring expressed the Resource Centers gratitude to Town support. They are asking for the same amount from the Town.
- **Agency Request Review Committee** – Kathy Newton said they received 9 applications and are supporting 8 at the full amount requested. The Board discussed with the Committee the request from UVM Health Network which came in about a month after the cut off date. Joy noted the request did not come in the form of the usual application but was in an email so she is not sure if there was some other reason for the missed deadline. It was suggested that perhaps the data breach that happened played a part. Merrily moved the Board approve the request from UVM Health Network this year as it may be possible there were extenuating circumstances causing the delay, and send a letter noting the deadline will be respected in future years. Also that they be notified through the Town Administrator of the Board's decision. Second by Maggie. Phil does not support this; he would want to have more information of why they did not meet the deadline. If we do go forward, he would want it clearly noted they will not be supported if they miss another deadline. Mike supports this and agrees it needs to be clear they can't miss another deadline. Motion voted and approved with Merrily, Maggie and Mike in favor, Phil opposed.
- Discuss January **budget review schedule**. The next meeting will be January 6, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.
- **Lake Iroquois** – the Board reviewed the expense sheet Chris Conant provided. Phil moved to level fund them at \$7,500 with the stipulation funds will not be used to support any of the herbicide program costs. Second by Merrily and approved with 4 yes votes.

- **Fund Balance Utilization** – though the actual amount is not finalized Joy said there will be some fund balance the Board can apply if they decide to do so.

Review Minutes from December 9, 2020

Phil moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Merrily and approved with 4 yes votes.

Consider Approving Warrants

Phil moved to approve the warrants, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer. Second by Merrily and approved with 4 yes votes.

Consider a Motion to Enter Executive Session Under Provisions of 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(a)(2)&(a)(3)

Phil said executive session is appropriate to discuss a personnel issue and public disclosure could put the Town at a disadvantage and disclose personal information.

Phil moved to go into executive session including Joy to discuss a personnel issue. Second by Merrily and approved with 4 yes votes.

Phil moved the Board can go into executive session under Provisions of 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(a)(2)&(a)(3). Second by Merrily and approved with 4 yes votes.

Phil moved to come out of executive session, second by Merrily and approved with 4 yes votes.

Merrily moved to adjourn, second by Mike and approved with 4 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Spadaccini, Clerk of the Board