

Townshend Select Board Virtual Meeting

Minutes-approved September 8th, 2020

August 25th, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

Present: Crystal Mansfield, Steven Frisk, Rob Wright, Irv Stowell, Sherwood Lake

In Attendance: Karla Lumbra, Richard Melanson (BCTV), Bob Thibeault (Leland and Gray), Helen Holt, Kristina Wright, Meghan (West River Valley thrives)

1. **Call to Order:** Mansfield called the meeting to order @ 6:31p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Lake motions to approve the minutes for the Select Board Virtual Meeting August 10th, 2020, Frisk seconds, carried by all present
3. **Additions and Deletions: NB:** Reorganization of the Select Board, Transfer Station Update Report

Lake motions to take the agenda out of order to accept Members of the Public first, Frisk seconds, carried by all present

4. **Members of the Public:** Meg Gonzales, Director of West River Valley Thrives, speaks to the Town about the relationship between the Town, schools, and their youth program that promotes healthy, chemical free lifestyles

Lake motions to take the agenda out of order to accept Bob Thibealut from Leland and Gray under New Business query to use the Gazebo for their restart program, in place due to being impacted by Covid-19, Frisk seconds, carried by all present

9. **b.** Leland and Gray request Gazebo use for the start of hybrid / virtual school. The Board reiterates that the Common has remained closed through the Covid-19 pandemic. Kristina Wright weighs in to say that the Common has to have a charter that states the Common needs to hold one public event per year for the town to maintain the rights to the Common, there is opposing views on this. Lake motions to allow Leland and Gray to use the Common for the Virtual purposes of students and parents to get appropriate tools to start the school year virtually, Mansfield seconds for discussion amongst the Board, motion fails to insufficient votes.
5. **Warrants:** Wright motions to pay warrants 1, 2, Lake seconds, carried by all. Wright motions to pay warrants 3, 4, Frisk seconds, carried by all. Wright motions to pay warrant 5, Lake seconds, carried by all. Wright motions to pay warrant 6, Frisk seconds, carried by all present

#1	Payroll	\$9,829.42
#2	Payroll Taxes	\$4,118.26
#3	General Fund	\$42.50

#4	General Fund	\$9,395.97
#5	Highway	\$11,383.09
#6	Equipment	\$566.73
	Total	\$35,355.97

6. Reports:

Highway: Frisk reports that roadside mowing machine broke down, with a loss of days, working with HP Fairfield to recoup the lost days. Bazin Brothers RT 35 paving is complete. Frisk would like to put in another order of Calcium Chloride. Ditching projects with hired contractors, Grants in Aid and Better Roads are completed, a few more things that the Highway needs to do to close out the grants. Frisk has put out bids for Hydroseeding, has received one so far, expecting two more, states that between the grant money and highway budget, there's enough to cover the project. Stowell motions to form quorum to accept bid, Lake seconds for discussion. Lake questions that if there's already funding approved, to give Frisk the authorization to choose which company to accept, motion fails. Frisk was given permission by the board to make the decision to choose which company according to budget

Town Clerk: n/a

Town Treasurer: Sweep Acct: \$703,715.12, and Checking Acct: \$30,000.00

7. Correspondence: River Valley Credit Unit outlining details of merger, ballot sent to members

8. Old Business:

a. Covid-19 Town Updates- Lake states that there's nothing much new to report. Very few new cases in Vermont.

b. Mowing Taft Meadow / Ball Field bids and update- Stowell motions to repost the bid for mowing the fields due to failed motions the previous meeting

c. Veggie Van Go Truck Update- Jordan from USACE has received permission to give the town the option to hold the Veggie Van Go event at the Recreation Area at Townshend Dam for September event, Mansfield has reached out for further communication. Discussion revolves around whether the Recreation Area will be open as it usually closes after Labor Day, and whether it will be plowed.

9. New Business:

a. Town Hall Document Shredding scheduled for September 8th, 2020

c. Comcast buying out Southern Vermont Cable, alternative internet/phone companies with lower rates research for comparison.

d. Tax Rate Setting Update – board asks for clarification of numbers presented and input from previous Chair Kathy Hege for support.

10. Executive Session:

11. Meetings: Meeting September 8th, @ 6:30p.m

12. Adjournment: Lake motions to adjourn at 8:08p.m, Frisk seconds, carried by all present

13. Zoom Meeting Information:

Topic: SB Regular Meeting August 25th, 2020

Time: August 25th, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91632673269>

Meeting ID: 916 3267 3269

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