



TOWN OF TOWNSHEND

Selectboard

PO Box 121 Townshend, Vermont 05353

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

DECEMBER 28, 2021 6:00 PM

Townshend Town Hall
and Zoom Virtual Meeting if possible

APPROVED 1/11/2022

Call to Order: Lake calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Present: Sherwood Lake, Haley Felker, Allison Dercoli, Rob Wright, Steve Frisk.

In Attendance: Galen Robinson - BCTV Tech, Connie Holt

Members of the Public: Helen Holt, Lynne Shea, Heidi Clawson, Stephanie Amyot, Peter Golrick, Jeanne Golrick

Approval of Minutes: Wright make motion to approve the December 14, 2021 Selectboard meeting minutes. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Additions and Deletions:

- 5(a) Correspondence: Letter from resident regarding signs.
- 5(b) Correspondence: Letter from resident regarding sidewalk dispute.
- 9(2) New Business: Annual Report printing.
- 9(3) West River SnoGoers Snowmobile Club request.

Members of the Public:

1. Lynne Shea, Townshend resident, addresses the board on the effort being made to rename Negro Brook. Shea reports that they have contacted the state regarding the process. The process is to submit a petition with minimally 25 signatures of Townshend residents. The State looks for support from the local historical society, Selectboard, and any indigenous people groups. Shea reports that they have met with Charlie Marchant who supports the name change if the name is a historical Townshend resident(s). Shea requests supports from the Selectboard in the renaming. Lake informs Sea that the Selectboard would look to Charlie for a recommendation. Frisk asks about the manner in which they are obtaining signatures from town residents. Shea and Amyot explain that they may solicit signatures at Riverbend and Town Meeting. Felker suggests posting the petition publicly.

2. Peter and Jeanne Golrick address the letter they submitted to the Selectboard requesting the resolution of a sidewalk dispute. The Golricks bring to the attention of the Board that their neighbor is blocking the sidewalk and requests that the town

maintain the sidewalk as well as other requests in their letter. Chair Lake states that the Selectboard needs to verify that the ordinance that the Golricks refer to is still active and up to date. He stated that the Town does plow but since it is on state property he will research sanding and salting. In the mean time, the road crew will clear the snow blockage on the sidewalk. Dercoli makes a motion to have the Selectboard do the necessary research on the Golricks' requests and ordinances to remediate this issue. Felker seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Correspondence: Lake refers to an anonymous letter the Selectboard received regarding the signs at the house located across from Town Hall. Lake states that there is not much the Selectboard can do about the matter. Wright states that he is not in agreement with anonymous letters being submitted to the Board. He believes that if people have issues that they want to raise they need to put their names on it for it to have legs.

Warrants: Wright makes a motion to pay Warrants 1 through 9. Dercoli seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Payroll: | \$14,686.74 |
| 2. Payroll Tax: | \$6,513.17 |
| 3. General Fund: | \$12,827.96 |
| 4. General Fund: | \$338.67 |
| 5. General Fund: | \$450.94 |
| 6. Highway: | \$12,029.68 |
| 7. Highway: | \$2,369.58 |
| 8. Highway Equipment: | \$1,237.02 |
| 9. Highway Equipment: | \$2,023.25 |
| TOTAL WARRANTS: | \$52,477.01 |

Reports:

1. Highway: Frisk reports that the Highway Dept has received a \$100,000.00 grant. That grant, along with the \$105,000.00 left in the paving fund, will allow the highway crew to finish 1.65 miles of Back Windham Road and enough leftover to do Island Road. There was an ice storm over Xmas and a possible repeat this weekend.

2. Treasurer: Lake reports on the Town accounts;

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Municipal Investment Fund: | \$640,308.91 |
| Checking Account: | \$30,000.00 |

3. Town Clerk: No report
4. Chair: No report

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Approval of Department Budget to present at Town Meeting: Lake reports that the draft budget has about a 3.9% increase but with the surplus numbers will dramatically reduce the cost t the town. Next steps;

1. Numbers have to be finalized.
2. Set the Tax rate.
3. Expect to see it at the next Selectboard meeting for an up or down

vote.

2. Printing Annual Report: Wright moves a motion to award the printing of the Town Annual Report to Howard Printers in Brattleboro. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

3. Snowmobile Club request to access town roads: Wright makes a motion to accept the request of the West River SnoGoers Snowmobile Club. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

4. Surplus Funds use: Lake points out that the Board will need to decide how to use the surplus monies in the General Fund and the Highway Fund. He also points out the notes sheet in the Selectboard packet for them to review and consider.

10. **Executive Session:** N/A

11. **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022

12. **Adjournment:** Dercoli makes a motion to adjourn. Felker seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0. The meeting is adjourned at 6:42pm.