



TOWN OF TOWNSHEND
Selectboard
PO Box 121 Townshend, Vermont 05353

Selectboard Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2022 6:00 PM
Townshend Town Hall
Approved:

Present: Sherwood Lake, Rob Wright, Katie Marrow, Rob Swiger, Steve Frisk
In Attendance: Galen Robinson - BCTV Tech, Connie Holt- Assistant to the Selectboard

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Lake calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Lake reads a Selectboard Statement prior to regular business. "On Friday, October 21, 2022, David Dezendorf, a long time resident of Townshend, who was very active in town government, died in a tragic aviation accident in Keene, NH. David held numerous positions in town government. He served on the Selectboard, the Town School Board, as Emergency Management Director, the Fire Department, and on various committees. Davids's leadership and involvement will be missed. Our condolences go out to the entire Dezendorf family. We are very sorry for your loss.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Wright makes a motion to approve the October 11, 2022 Selectboard meeting minutes. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.
3. **Additions and Deletions:** Lake goes over the addition to the agenda.
 1. New Business (9.a): VTrans permit for two radar speed signs.
4. **Members of the Public:** Laura Richardson comes before the Board to discuss the update on the repair to the Gazebo. Richardson presents a petition signed by residents to repair and maintain the Gazebo on the Commons. Richardson reads the petition. Richardson raises that the funds could come from two town funds; the Commons Fund and the Mosley Fund. Lake responds that the Town does not have the money. We need to research the purpose of the Common Fund. We know where the money comes from, but have to wait until Town Meeting to change the designation of the funds. The Moseley Fund was not for the town common. The original purpose was to support the fire department and the library. Lake reiterates that there are funds, but more research needs to be done on it. Lake points out that the petition is to request a special article be put forward for Town Meeting. Richardson states she understands it takes time and research needs to be done, but stated that it needs to be dealt and not put on

a back burner. Richardson reiterates that for safety reasons the Gazebo should be closed to the public while deciding to or repairing the Gazebo.

Marrow suggests forming a committee to repair the Gazebo. The committee could research costs, raise money, and seek volunteers to repair the Gazebo. Wright suggests names of companies that can do the work and to get an estimate of the cost. Richardson responds that she is willing to do any suggestions, but feels that the maintenance of the Gazebo is the Town's responsibility. Swiger adds that he commends Richardson for her initiative and energy on this issue. Richardson ends the conversation saying that she has taken the first steps and will continue to move forward on this issue. Richardson adds that caution tape be installed rather than applying expensive plywood. She requests a clarification of what materials will be used to secure the Gazebo. Swiger responds that addressing the safety issue would be the responsibility of the person managing the property.

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Warrants:** Wright makes a motion to pay warrants 1 - 8. Marrow seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

1. Payroll:	\$11,043.96
2. Payroll Taxes:	\$4,888.39
3. General Fund:	\$20,951.00
4. General Fund:	\$6,684.66
5. Highway:	\$4,434.38
6. Highway Equipment:	\$350.00
7. Highway Equipment:	\$1,272.60
8. Library:	\$1,278.77
TOTAL:	\$50,903.76

7. **Reports:**

1. **Highway:** Frisk gives the report;

a. Bridge 37 emergency repairs have been completed. We just need to send the final paperwork to the state. Frisk gives Holt the paper work.

b. The Highway Dept. has received two bids for salt. Carr Bill who was our supplier from last year. Carr Bill gave a quote of \$84.50 per ton. Appalache who we used two years ago gave a quote of \$95.50 per ton. Wright makes a motion to accept Carr Bill's bid of \$84.50 per ton of salt for the FY22-23 Season. Marrow seconds the motion. The motion carries 5-0-0. Frisk states that we have ordered 450 tons of salt.

c. Frisk will be attending a Roads Foremen's meeting in Dover regarding the ash bore beetle's impact on trees.

2. **Treasurer:** Lake gives the Treasurer's report. Lake reports that the true fund balance is \$966,927.00. The Bank reports that the municipal investment fund has \$1,359,572.31. There is \$30,000.00 in the checking account.

3. **Town Clerk:** Lake gives the Town Clerk Report. Lake reports that the Town Clerk has taken in \$1,295.30 for fees and services.

4. **Chair:** None

8. **Old Business:**

1. Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation request for a letter of support. Laura Silibilia from BDCC (Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation) appears before the Board to request a letter of support to have the federal government designate the Southern Vermont zone as an Economic Development District. She states that in order for this to happen they need a majority of the towns to be in support of the designation. Such designation would possibly result in more capacity and funding and prioritizes projects. Swiger asks if this would result in additional cost. Silibilia responds that the cost to towns has not changed since the start of the program in 2013. Frisk makes a motion to sign the letter of support for the designation of an Economic Development Zone. Wright seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0. The Board gives the Chair authority to sign on behalf of the Board.

2. West River Valley consent assignment agreement. Lake presents the consent agreement and describes it as an issue of M&T Bank taking over People's Bank. He clarifies that Townshend was involved in the funding process to start West River Valley Assisted Living. This consent agreement gives M&T the authority that People's Bank had. Lake asks the Board if there are any concerns about signing the consent agreement. The Board did not have concerns. Swiger makes a motion to sign the West River Valley Partnership consent agreement. Marrow seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

9. **New Business:**

a. VTRANS permit for radar speed signs: Lake presents a VTrans permit to put in two more radar speed signs in West Townshend. Frisk makes a motion to sign and submit the VTrans permit for speed radar signs. Marrow seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

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

11. **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 to be held in the Listers office.

12. **Adjournment:** Wright makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

