



# TOWN OF TOWNSHEND

Selectboard

PO Box 121 Townshend, Vermont 05353

## Selectboard Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2022 6:00 PM

Townshend Town Hall  
and Zoom Virtual Meeting if possible

**Approved: 9/27/2022**

**Present:** Sherwood Lake, Steve Frisk, Rob Wright, Rob Swiger, Katie Marrow (via Zoom).

**In Attendance:** Galen Robinson - BCTV Tech, Connie Holt - SB Assistant.

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Lake calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Frisk makes a motion to approve the August 23, 2022 Selectboard meeting minutes. Wright seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.
3. **Additions and Deletions:**
  - a. Correspondence (5.a): Letter from the Fire Truck Committee.
  - b. New Business (9.a): Town Hall Use Request: Community Hope & Action.
4. **Members of the Public:**

Bob DeSiervo asks questions about the ARPA Funds. He asks if the town has gotten any further on spending the funds; are there any projects? Lake responds that the town has until 2024 to spend the money and until 2026 to return the money if we have not spent it. Lake continues that there is a cyber security project currently. After that there is a group that that is interested in meeting to discuss how to spend the money.
5. **Correspondence:**
  - a. Fire Truck Committee Letter: Lake directs the Selectboard attention to a letter from Fire Chief, Glen Beattie, regarding the purchase of a new fire truck. Lake asks the Selectboard to review the letter and discuss at the next Selectboard meeting.
6. **Warrants:** Wright makes a motion to pay warrants 1 through 13.

1. Payroll:	\$11,413.08
2. Payroll Taxes:	\$5,020.01
3. Payroll:	\$11,671.95
4. Payroll Taxes:	\$5,009.95

5. General Fund:	\$384.19
6. General Fund:	\$24,966.27
7. Highway:	\$10,000.00
8. Highway:	\$16,500.00
9. Highway:	\$30.00
10. Highway Equipment:	\$4,175.31
11. Highway Equipment:	\$4,604.18
12. Highway Equipment:	\$3.07
13. Library:	\$2,452.84
Total:	\$96,230.85B

Lake mentions that there are some questions about a \$50.00 warrant for Craig Hunt. He suggests holding this warrant until some questions are answered. Swiger moves to amend the motion to hold the \$50.00 warrant and modify the #6 warrant to \$24,916.27 and the total warrants to \$96,180.85. Frisk seconds the amendment. Motion carries 5-0-0.

**7. Reports:**

**1. Highway: Frisk reports;**

a. The VTrans grant work on Hall Road is completed and the paperwork is being submitted.

b. Better Back Roads Grant work continues. Deer Ridge and Deer Valley Roads are completed. They are now doing the three sections on East Hill Road and should be done by the end of the week.

c. We received the grant reimbursement for the Jay Road culvert work. Because we are in compliance with Act 64 our portion of the work will be 10% instead of 20%.

d. Within the next two weeks the town will be transitioning back to the purple Townshend trash bags.

**2. Treasurer:** Lake reports that there is \$1,452,978.00 as the true balance in the General Fund.

**3. Town Clerk:** Lake reports that the Town Clerk brought in \$1,341.00 for fees and services.

**4. Chair:** Lake reminds the Selectboard that we are about to start the budget process and, therefore, there will be special meetings set up concerning the budget.

**8. Old Business:**

a. Orin Stiles plowing request: Lake asks Frisk to update the board on his research. Frisk states that the length of road in question is 6.5/10th of a mile. It would cost about \$1500.00 in materials. Frisk reports that he spoke to Glen Beattie at the Firehouse who said that they would not use that portion of the road., They use Peaked Mtn. Road. Frisk reports that he spoke to some residents on East Hill who said that if the road is plowed and sanded they would not drive that section of the road.. Frisk

reports that he also spoke to Irv Stoll who said they have never plowed that portion of East Hill due to safety concerns. Irv mentioned to Steve that Orin approached the Selectboard a few years ago to plow the portion of East Hill and the Selectboard denied the request. Irv Stoll states that he spoke with the state about the matter when he was Road Commissioner. The state told him as long as there is two roads open in and out there is no need to plow a third.

Stiles asks if the issue is money or safety. He raises the comparison to the plowing up to the "Hippie House" on West Hill. He stated that the town is plowing up there when no one has lived or worked up there in years. A discussion ensued about where and why the area is being plowed but not sanded. Lake concludes the discussion by stating that the issue is a safety concern and the cost to a very tight budget for this fiscal year. Lake states that he will call for a vote and we will have to live with it until the next budget season comes around. Wright makes a motion to plow and sand the top of the steep section of East Hill Road. Motion fails 0-5-0. Swiger clarifies that during the budget meetings members of the public can attend and make requests. Lake confirms that they can.

b. Bob DeSiervo request for center line on Dam Road: Frisk reports that the section of Dam road is 2900 feet long. One company is willing to bid on the project. Ginger Cat Paving said they can do it at a cost of \$2,200.00. DeSiervo points out that there may be a local guy who is willing to do it, Lake requests that he get the name to Connie Holt for her to reach out to him. DeSiervo says he will. DeSiervo asks if there is money in a reserve fund to use for the painting. Frisk replies that potentially there is.

9. **New Business:**

a. Town Hall Use Request: Community Hope & Action: Wright makes a motion to allow Community Hope & Action to use Town Hall on October 22nd from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. The fee will be waived and they will be expected to clean up. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0. The board approves the Chair signing the request.

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

11. **Adjournment:** Wright makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0. The meeting is adjourned at 6:26pm.

12. **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022