



TOWN OF TOWNSHEND

Selectboard

PO Box 121 Townshend, Vermont 05353

Selectboard Meeting Agenda

January 10, 2023 6:00 PM

Townshend Town Hall

Approved: 1/24/23

Present: Sherwood Lake, Rob Wright, Rob Swiger, Katie Marrow (via ZOOM).

Not Present: Steven Frisk

In Attendance: Brian Guerino - BCTV, Connie Holt - SB Assistant

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Lake calls the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Lake begins meeting by reading a memorial statement for Dick Lucier.

The Selectboard has become aware of the passing of former Board member and long time Town Lister, Dick Lucier. Dick was member of the Selectboard in the 1970's and remained as such for 10 years. He rose to the chairmanship before leaving the position and becoming a lister. He remained a member on the board of Listers for 12 years. Dick spent over 22 years serving the Town and its residents. Dick was a fixture in Townshend and will be missed. The Selectboard thanks Dick for his long service and has placed a black mourning crepe over the main entrance of Town Hall in his honor. We send our condolences to his family.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Wright makes a motion to approve the December 27, 2022 Selectboard meeting minutes. Swiger seconds the motion. The motion carries 4-0-0.

3. **Additions and Deletions:** Lake announces additions to the agenda.
Correspondence (5a): Letter form Nate & Robin Patnode regarding Taft Road.
New Business (9b): Request to sand and salt Common Road.
New Business (9c): Grace Cottage Town Hall Use request.

4. **Members of the Public:**

1. Andy McPhail addresses the Board about the road conditions on Hazel Hill. He states that in the last storm his road was not plowed for 16 hours and his son went off the road resulting in damage to his car. He states that he has talked to Steve and do not know what else to do. He believes the roads are dangerous and not being maintained. Lake responds that he spoke to Steve and the Board would like to have the concerned residents put their concerns in writing with details that can be used in a road plan review discussion. McPhail states that he will do that.

2. Christina Sarone: She states that she is just here to observe and does not wish to address the Board.

3. Sharon Hauman from Bushway speaks to the conditions of the roads. She states that she has lived here for 12 years and the first 6 years there was never a problem because the roads were always sanded and maintained. She says that the past six years something has changed because the roads are not safe. She finishes by saying that calling Steve has not helped.

5. **Correspondence:**

Letter from Nate and Robin Patnode: Lake makes the same suggestion to Robin Patnode to put details of her concerns in writing for it to be used in the road plan discussion. Wright points out that her letter concerned more than just the road conditions and that she should receive a response on the other issues. Lake responds that Steve Frisk has been elected to the Selectboard with the knowledge that he is also the Road Foreman. Lake states that this is not uncommon in Townshend and in other towns. Lake continues that he does not see a conflict in interest, and she has every right to address this at Town Meeting. Patnode responds that she has not had luck getting ahold of Steve at the Town Garage. Lake points out that during the big storm the garage lost power which meant they lost their phone. Patnode states that she will have her husband write up a statement and that they just spent \$3,000.00 replacing the culvert at the end of they driveway because the town road culvert is blocked.

6. **Warrants:** Wright makes a motion to approve Warrants 1 - 6.

1. Payroll:	\$11,288.17
2. Payroll Taxes:	\$4,801.75
3. General Fund:	\$2,636.00
4. General Fund:	\$35,765.48
5. Highway:	\$13,588.89
6. Highway Equipment:	\$4,758.98
TOTAL:	\$72,839.27

Swiger seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0-0.

7. **Reports:**

1. **Highway:** None

2. **Treasurer:** Lake gives the Treasurer's report. He reports that the True Balance in the General Fund is \$227,728.00. He says that the M&T statement shows a balance in the Municipal Investment Fund of \$1,304,746.59 and \$30,000.00 in the checking account.

3. **Town Clerk:** Lake gives the Clerk's report. He reports that the Clerk took in \$608.50 in fees and services.

4. **Chair:** None

8. **Old Business:** None

9. **New Business:**

a. Approve Warning for Town Meeting: Lake reads the draft warning to the Board. Wright makes a motion to approve the Warning. Swiger seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0-0.

b. Request to sand and salt Common Road: Lake asked Wright what his recollection is of sanding and salting Common Road. Wrights states that it was recommended to them to not salt the road because of the damage to the trees and the Common. He states that the Selectboard decided to no longer salt. He does not know about the sanding. Lake suggests that the request be added to the road plan discussion.

c. Grace Cottage Town Hall Use request: Swiger makes a motion to approve Grace Cottage's request to use the Commons for Fair Day from 7/28/23 through 8/6/23. Marrow seconds the motion. Wright asks what the policy is for the maximum duration of use. He raises a concern about maintaining the common if it is being used for a long period of time. Lake suggests that the two requests from Grace Cottage be tabled until the next meeting so that the Board can review the policy.

10. **Executive Session:** None

11. **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 6:00pm

12. **Adjournment:** Swiger makes a motion to adjourn. Marrow seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0-0. The meeting is adjourned at 6:31pm.