



TOWN OF TOWNSHEND

Selectboard

PO Box 121 Townshend, Vermont 05353

Selectboard Meeting Agenda

February 14, 2023 6:00 PM

Townshend Town Hall

Approved: 2/28/2023

Present: Sherwood Lake, Steve Frisk, Rob Wright, Katie Marrow, Rob Swiger

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:** Swiger makes a motion to approve the January 24, 2023 Selectboard meeting minutes. Wright seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.
3. **Additions and Deletions:** Lake reports that there no additions or deletions to the agenda.
4. **Members of the Public:**
 - a. **Alisha Underwood** from West River Valley Thrives comes before the Board regarding her letter requesting a Town Policy of encouraging common use to be smoke free. Wright asks, to clarify, that if we put smoke free into our policy does Underwood want signs on the commons? Underwood states that her organization can supply free signage. She states that anyone agreeing to your policy would agree to having smoke free signage. Lake states that this needs to be looked into a bit more, because people have their own views on whether not they have the right to smoke. The Board will discuss this, because it is difficult to tell people what to do when they have the right. Lake further sates, that the buildings are off limits, but outdoor spaces are a trickier question. Underwood states that she appreciates the Town Hall language that says "this is a smoke free property inside and outside". She continues, that such language encourages a smoke free property, but does not necessarily enforce it. The more that the language is out there the more someone is encouraged not to smoke or to smoke somewhere else. She further states, a lot of these events have youth in attendance and that is why we encouraging smoke free, because of the second hand smoke and the impact on health. We understand that it may not be enforced, but if it is highly encouraged, it says a lot to the community. Lake finishes up by stating that the board will discus this further.
 - b. **John Evans** comments on the Town Report. He would like to commend the people who put together a really well done Town Report this year.

5. **Correspondence:** Lake announces the VTel letter about a program for free or reduced cost on internet service.

6. **Warrants:** Wright makes a motion to pay warrants 1 - 11.

1. Payroll:	\$11,038.54
2. Payroll Taxes:	\$5,636.18
3. Payroll:	\$10,601.84
4. Payroll Taxes:	\$4,361.62
5. General Fund:	\$64.98
6. General Fund:	\$23,251.28
7. General Fund:	\$420.00
8. Highway:	\$20,227.76
9. Highway:	\$288.60
10. Highway Equipment:	\$16.00
11. Highway Equipment:	\$11,001.92
TOTAL:	\$86,908.72

Marrow seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

7. **Reports:**

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

a. VTrans has put out their notice on overweight vehicles during mud season. This rule does not become effective in a particular town until it filed with the Selectboard and is posted in two locations. Frisk will also post on roads. Wright asks Frisk if the town is going with the regular rule that if the road is frozen it is good to go and if not frozen then this rule applies. Frisk confirms that is correct.

b. Roadside Mower rental agreement: Frisk reports that last year we used a new vendor, Pete's Equipment out of Morrisville, because they were substantially cheaper. That is the case again this year. If we go with this vendor we are penciled in for last week of July and first week of August at a rate of \$6,000.00 for the two weeks and a delivery fee of \$750.00. If the Board decides to go with Pete's I will email the contract to Sherwood for him to sign. Then 1st of July we will need the insurance rider and then I will give you the contract. Wright asks if the delivery fee is each way or one way. Frisk answers that it is for here and back, but Windham is going to take the mower after us, like they did last year, so we will split the delivery fee. Wright makes a motion to allow Steve to use Pete's out of Morrisville for two weeks at the cost of \$6,000.00 and the delivery fee at the date that they deliver it. Marrow seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

c. Frisk report that the garbage truck is still down. That is why we have a open top dumpster at the transfer station. Colin Nystrom has been helping us trouble shoot. We hope to have it up and running soon. We now believe that it is the fuel pump.

d. Truck 3 is now down This is the second time it is down this winter. It is a def problem and it goes in limp mode which means it only goes 3 miles per hour. It has been towed to DJ's in Guilford. He has had it for over two weeks trying to figure it out. This is not going to be a simple fix. This is the 2015 International truck.

e. Mud season has started in some spots. We were out today with the grader making repairs on Peaked Mtn Road and the Arces in the areas that we can. Some areas still frozen but with the warn weather coming in the next few days we will have thawing and will address issue as they arise.

2. **Treasurer:** Lake gives the report. He reports that the true balance of the General Fund is \$195,470.00. The bank reports \$1,325,826.75 in the municipal investment fund. The checking account is \$179,000.00. I do not think that is correct. We usually have 30,000.00 in the checking account. Lake suggests to go with \$30,000.00 in the checking account until we hear otherwise.

3. **Town Clerk:** Lake gives the report. He reports that the Town Clerk has collected \$641.50 for fees and services.

4. **Chair:**

1. Lake reports that he and Marrow attended the Sheriff's department meeting about what they can offer in services. Lakes explains the cost of services. Lake refers to the information given at the meeting and a spreadsheet of cost he put together. In summary , Lake states that the cost is prohibitive.

2. Lake asks Frisk to discuss the data from the speed signs in West Townshend. Frisk reports that the radar speed control signs were received two weeks ago. After getting them set up, this data chart is from Thursday 11am through Monday 11am. This data is the traffic going northbound through West Townshend Village. 2963 vehicles passed through the village. 1,000 vehicles passed at a speed of 36 - 40 mph. 785 vehicles passed at 31 - 35 mph. 663 vehicles passed at 41 - 45 mph. 663. Finally, one vehicle passed through the village at 56-60mph. Wright raises the issue that the position of the signs results in them reading vehicles in a 40 mph speed zone. It is not reading cars that should be going 30 mph because they are still in the 40 mph zone. Frisk recognizes the issue, but states that he can not move the signs because VTrans determines the location.

8. **Old Business:**

a. West River Valley Thrives' request for smoke free Common (see above).

9. **New Business:**

a. **Roads Certificate of Compliance:** Frisk states that this is due after Town Meeting, because he has to do the financial plan. No action tonight.

b. **Certificate - “No Appeal or Suit Pending”:** Frisk makes a motion to have the Board sign the certificate. Wright seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0. The Board signs off on this certificate.

c. **911 Coordinator’s notice of road naming:** Wright makes a motion to name the road Rattlesnake Mountain Road for the purpose E911. Swiger seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

d. **West River Valley Thrives’ request to use Common:** Wright makes a motion to allow West River Valley Thrives hold an event on the commons on April 29, 2023 with a waiving of the fee. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0. The Board approves the Chair to sign on their behalf.

10. **Executive Session:** Personnel Issue VSA 313(B).

11. **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 6:00pm

12. **Adjournment:** Wright makes a motion to adjourn into Executive Session with no report coming out. Marrow seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.