

REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING-THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 AT 5:30PM

Present: Steve Barrup, Richard Gosselin, Denise Daigle, Jason Willis, Ernest Choquette, Chris Donovan, Jay Knight, Ellen Fox, Mike Baraw

Steve called the meeting to order at 5:30PM and introduced those present. Rick read the ground rules for the meeting.

Rick made a motion to elect Steve Barrup as chair of the board with himself and Jerry Waterman as co-chairs, seconded by Steve and passed on a voice vote.

Rick made a motion to approve the minutes of 2/2 meeting, seconded by Steve and passed on a voice vote.

Appearances by local citizens/visitors – there was none

Yearly meeting with ATV club – Steve made a motion to approve the connector trails for this year, which are the same as last year, seconded by Rick. There was some discussion. This passed on a voice vote and the board signed the appropriate paper work. Rick made a motion to adopt the updated ATV ordinance with a minor change, which is to delete the language regarding the need for a sticker, seconded by Steve. Some discussion followed. This passed on a voice vote.

ARPA Committee presented three recommendations to the board for allocation of a portion of the ARPA funds. Steve made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$11,000.00 for fire helmets, seconded by Rick. Some discussion followed. This passed on a voice vote. Steve made a motion to allocate an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 to bring the town clerk's office up to ADA standards, seconded by Rick and passed on a voice vote. Steve made a motion to allocate an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for a pond for fire protection on town owned land on Vance Hill, if possible, seconded by Rick. Some discussion followed. This passed on a voice vote.

Road Commissioner report – Mike stated the roads are rough as the frost is already coming out of the ground. Mike will try to gather bids for 2023 paving. All is going well in the road department. The board signed the yearly highway certification for 2023.

Water/Sewer/Solar Panel/Recycling Report – Mike stated all is well with both the water and sewer. There are a couple minor issues with the water that Mike is taking care of. Steve stated that the recycling center is now able to take smoke detectors. Steve reported that there is a state law now that towns that have closed landfills are responsible for taking care of these and repairing them as well if there should be a leak. Steve reported that the town of Newport does not have any of these. Steve questioned the waste district about the town being liable for closed landfills where our trash went in the past. Paul Tomasi of the waste district sent Steve an email stating that he confirmed with VT DEC that towns are not liable for wastes deposited in landfills.

Rick reviewed the sheriff's report.

The board signed the yearly contract for the ambulance as this article passed at town meeting.

Steve made a motion to approve and sign the orders, journal entries and bank statement, seconded by Rick and passed on a voice vote. The board signed the certificate of no appeal or suit pending for the 2022 grand list.

The board signed appropriations for 2023.

Unfinished/new business – there was none.

Steve made a motion to go into executive session at 6:35PM for a personnel issue and invite the town clerk to this, seconded by Rick and passed on a voice vote. Steve made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:45PM, seconded by Rick and passed on a voice vote. No action taken at this time.

Voted to adjourn at 6:47PM.