

**GUILFORD SELECTBOARD - MEETING**  
**Wednesday, 14 October 2020, 6:30 pm, 236 School Road, Guilford, VT**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Richard Wizansky, Verandah Porche, Michael Becker, Zon Eastes, Rusty Marine

**OFFICIALS/ STAFF PRESENT:** Peder Rude (Town Administrator)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Recognition of Public: Austin Rice (BCTV)
- III. Rules of Procedure
- IV. Additions
  - a. Executive Session to discuss potential legal matters
- V. Changes to Agenda Order
- VI. Approval of Minutes (5 minutes)
  - a. Regular Meeting - 28 September 2020
    - i. **ACTION** Verandah moved to approve the minutes as written. Zon seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. No one abstained. Motion carried.
- VII. Highway
  - a. General Update
    - i. Peder spoke with Dan earlier today. He and the Road Crew have been getting ready for winter. They are still replacing a few culverts in various parts of town and have started cleaning ditches of leaves, although the wind of recent has hampered that work. Other than that, they have been repairing some equipment.
- VIII. New Business
  - a. Grants-in-Aid Letter of Intent
    - i. Each year for the past three years, the state has provided an opportunity for grant funding to assist towns in coming into compliance with Act 64, Vermont's Clean Water Act. This has come through the Grants-in-Aid funding, administered by the Regional Planning Commissions. After a several month delay, we were notified that it will be made available again this coming year. To participate, the town needs to submit a letter of intent by the end of the month. Guilford's grant for 2021 would be \$30,000 plus a 20% share by the town.
    - ii. **ACTION** Rusty moved to approve the letter of intent to participate in the 2021 Grants-in-Aid program. Verandah seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. No one abstained. Motion carried.
- IX. Discussion/Updates
  - a. COVID-19

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- i. Until last week, the National Guard had been doing COVID testing on Tuesdays in Brattleboro. This is now being handled by local VDH office. The number of families requiring emergency housing has decreased slightly in Windham County. However, there is still an overall housing shortage in Windham and Windsor Counties which has been compounded by COVID. Free meals are still available for families impacted by COVID in any way and can be picked up at 80 Flat Street in Brattleboro, Monday – Thursday. Additional resources available for individuals or families that need to self-isolate and do not have an appropriate location to do so can be provided by VDH.

There have been several additional new outbreaks in the state that VDH is currently investigating. Whilst VT numbers are still the lowest in the country, other states that previously had similarly low numbers have seen a dramatic increase in new cases. This has been attributed primarily to travel. Almost all cases have occurred between family members and close friends. VDH reminds folks to not let your guard down thinking it is safe with family and close friends and to continue to use established practices of social distancing, wearing masks, and washing your hands often.

b. DV CUD Update

- i. The name has changed to DV Fiber.
- ii. WRC has a business plan for a 100% coverage business for DV Fiber, on the WRC website.
- iii. DV Fiber is like a fast moving start-up and a lot is happening. There are numerous granting partners at this time.
- iv. There is a timeline for when each town can expect coverage. The organization is working on the basis that every residence will receive service.
- v. Zon is writing an article for the Gazette and discussing with Michael the idea of creating a local fiber board for Guilford.

c. Tax Revenue Update

- i. Peder spoke with Penny this afternoon and here is where things are at right now.
  - 1. To date: \$4,876,113.25.  
Required education tax payment: \$3,369,993.87  
Town balance: \$1,506,119.38  
Approved combined budget: \$2,182,956.00  
Balance need: \$676,836.62

X. Finance

a. Warrants

(5 minutes)

Payroll – WE 10/04/20	\$6137.07
Payroll - WE 10/11/20	\$5780.39
Expense Warrant #2007	\$50,539.33
Expense Warrant #FW07	\$51.50

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<b>TOTAL</b>	62,508.29
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**ACTION** Verandah moved to pay finance warrants as read. Zon seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. None abstained. Motion carried.

- XI. Executive Session - Potential legal matters
  - a. **ACTION** Richard moved to find that premature general public knowledge of a potential legal matter could place the Town at a substantial disadvantage and invite Peder to join. Rusty seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. None abstained. Motion carried.
  
- XII. Action Summary from Previous Meeting
  - a. Peder to add information on break-ins to website.
  - b. Peder to email a reminder to SB members about the change of meeting date and add it to the website.
  - c. Verandah and Richard to draft a memo to be submitted to the Gazette about the diversity and inclusion guide.
  
- XIII. Actions Taken
  - a. Approved the Grants-in-Aid letter of intent to participate in 2021.
  
- XIV. Actions to be Taken
  - a. Peder to update Selectboard on tax collection to date.
  
- XV. Adjournment
  - ACTION** Zon moved to adjourn. Michael seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. None abstained. Motion carried.

Next Selectboard Meeting: 10.26.20 at 6:30 pm

Richard Wizansky \_\_\_\_\_

Verandah Porche \_\_\_\_\_

Rusty Marine \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Becker \_\_\_\_\_

Zon Eastes \_\_\_\_\_