

GUILFORD SELECTBOARD - MEETING
Monday, 28 December 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), Lesley Malouin (resident), Maryann Parrot (resident), Wendy Redlinger (resident), Karen Murphy (resident), Sheila Morse (resident), Barry Aleshnick (resident)
- III. Rules of Procedure
- IV. Additions
- V. Changes to Agenda Order
 - a. No warrants this meeting due to previous Selectboard action.
- VI. Approval of Minutes (5 minutes)
 - a. Regular Meeting - 14 & 22 December 2020
 - i. **ACTION** Verandah moved to approve the minutes of both meetings as written. Michael seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. No one abstained. Motion carried.
- VII. Highway
 - a. General Update
 - i. Peder spoke with Dan last week. The road crew has been hauling sand, keeping roads clear, and repairing a lot of equipment. They had quite a few breakdowns during the big snowstorm almost two weeks ago and have had to do a bit of work to repair that. Of particular note was the radiator on the grader blew out. Thankfully, it was still under warranty until the end of the month. There was no significant damage during the rainstorm over Christmas.
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Radar Speed Feedback Signs 10 minutes
 - i. Karen Murphy shared with the Selectboard how and why she brought the topic to the attention of Guilford Preservation Inc. Wendy has spoken with Windham & Windsor Housing and with Friends of Algiers Village. Maryann shared that near where she lives on Partridge Road it is very difficult to pull out because of the speed of traffic. There was a brief discussion with those present.
 - ii. **ACTION** Verandah moved to purchase 8 of the radar speed feedback signs to be paid from the Selectboard Reserve Fund. Zon seconded. Verandah approved. Rusty, Michael, Zon, and Richard were opposed. Motion failed.
 - iii. There was an extended discussion with those present.

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- iv. **ACTION** Zon moved to purchase 2 radar speed feedback signs for use on Route 5 with funds to come from the Selectboard Reserve Fund. Rusty seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. Motion carried.
 - b. Recreation Commissioner Appointment 5 minutes
 - i. **ACTION** Verandah moved to appoint Mary Collins as a Recreation Commissioner. Michael seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. Motion carried.
 - c. Front Porch Forum & Gazette funding increases 5 minutes
 - i. Richard shared the background to these services.
 - ii. **ACTION** Verandah moved to increase support for FPF to \$75 annually and for the Gazette to \$150 annually. Zon seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. Motion carried.
 - d. Policy or Procedure on Annual Employee Raises 10 minutes
 - i. Richard gave a brief background to the topic. In short, VLCT recommended hiring a consultant to review the situation. Additionally, it was suggested that an annual raise based on the SS COLA. Sheila added several points from her experience on the Selectboard. There was a brief additional discussion. Richard suggested a committee be formed to review the topic and make a recommendation. Zon and Rusty volunteered to do this work and get input from the FAC.
 - e. Communication Plan for Town Meeting Day 2021 & Australian Ballot 15 minutes
 - i. Richard shared that he was writing an article for the next version of the Gazette to share the facts about what will happen for Town Meeting Day. He listed a few of the details of that article. Richard also shared parts of this information will be put on the town website, on FPF, and sent to all residents via postcard. He noted that the Selectboard will encourage all voters to "Vote Safe, Be Safe". There was a very brief discussion. Michael suggested using the digital highway signs to spread information.
- IX. Old Business
- a. Dog Complaint 5 minutes
 - i. Peder shared with the Selectboard about another dog complaint. Attempts to gather additional information on the complaint were met with little to no response. VLCT recommends to the Selectboard to hold a dog hearing as one final and public opportunity to speak on the topic. If the complainants do not appear, it is grounds to drop the complaint. There was a brief discussion.
 - ii. **ACTION** Richard moved to hold a dog hearing on the complaint from Great Blue Heron Drive on 11 January 2021 at 6:00pm. Verandah seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. Motion carried.
- X. Discussion/Updates
- a. DVFiber
 - i. The group is now up to 20 towns. There is also conversation in process with 15 additional towns in the southwest part of the state and the idea of creating a larger partnership. A pole study has been completed in Readsboro and surrounding towns as one of the first steps towards laying the groundwork for fiber installation. The next step would be to have pole studies completed in all 20 towns with an overall analysis of the existing capacity and resulting data. There was a brief discussion that followed.
 - b. COVID

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- i. In short, Vermont cases have had a bit of a plateau over the past week, which is a positive sign. Despite that, the state is concerned about another spike in cases after the holidays. Sadly, as with the rest of the country, Vermont has also seen a spike in deaths recently. As always, please continue to maintain social distancing, wear your mask, and wash your hands often.

XI. Communications

- a. None.

XII. Action Summary from Previous Meeting

- a. Moved to adopt Australian Ballot for Town Meeting Day 2021.
- b. Informally agreed to 3 means of town-wide communication relating to state COVID recommendations and requirements.
- c. Informally agreed the road crew should continue plowing the Community Center and begin plowing the Playscape parking area.
- d. Moved to send a letter of support for the DRWA to pursue the National Wild & Scenic River designation.
- e. Moved to transfer commission reserve balances to respective reserve funds.
- f. Moved to retain the GVFD capital funds in the Selectboard Capital Fund and budget.
- g. Moved to fund each Town Commission 50% from their reserve funds and 50% through appropriation for FY22.
- h. Moved to discontinue law enforcement services with the Vermont State Police for FY22.
- i. Moved to retain 3% salary increases for employees for FY22.
- j. Tabled two updates until the next meeting.

XIII. Actions Taken

- a. Purchase 2 RSFS for use on Route 5, north and south of Algiers Village.
- b. Appointed Mary Collins to Recreation Commission.
- c. Increase annual budget support to FPF and Gazette.
- d. Zon & Rusty to review and make recommendations on personnel pay increases.
- e. Hold a dog hearing on 11 January.
- f. Verandah to contact BB Grange about plans for Pre-Town Meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

ACTION Zon moved to adjourn. Verandah seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. None abstained. Motion carried.

Next Selectboard Meeting: XX.XX.20 at 6:30 pm

Richard Wizansky _____

Verandah Porche _____

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Rusty Marine _____

Michael Becker _____

Zon Eastes _____