



Regular Selectboard Meeting

April 25, 2022

Unapproved Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane O’Classen, Thomasina Magoon, and Jeff Cathcart

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Galina Chernaya, Marci Hayes, James Hayes, Vickee Whiting, Susanne George, Madine Reed, and Dave Sabatini

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER By Jeff Cathcart 7:07pm

CHANGES TO AGENDA Thomasina would like to add under old business an update regarding the Town website. 1 min

MEETING MINUTES Jeff Cathcart stated that his name needs to be corrected. 1 min
MOTION Diane O’Classen motions to accept the minutes as written with the change of Jeff Cathcart’s name, Thomasina 2nd.

NEW BUSINESS 14 min

Dry Hydrant for Abess property Marci stated that Leonard Abess is interested in putting a dry hydrant on his property. There is an application for this with a section for the Town Selectboard to sign. Marci recommends that Leonard fills out his portion of the application and submits it with the necessary information for board review and signature at another Selectboard Meeting. Jeff Cathcart agrees. Marci will let Jim Bean (caretaker of Abess property) know.

Review Town Vendor Contracts; Roadside Mowing and Cemetery/ Thomasina inquired about the contracts and if they are put out to bid when they are up for renewal, these pertain to Melvin Coddling with the roadside mowing contract and David Sabatini with the lawn/cemetery maintenance. Jeff Cathcart stated that the Town does not have a policy on



**Townlawn
maintenance**

bidding out contracts but often there is mandatory bidding process for work when grants are involved. Dave Sabatini stated that the cost of work has gone up and he has been doing the lawn/cemetery maintenance for the same cost for several years. Thomasina stated that for transparency it would be good to have a policy written regarding this and for contract work to go out to bid when it is up for renewal. Dave Sabatini stated that he was awarded the bid for the lawn contract job and since then has not been requested to bid again for 10 years. Jeff Cathcart stated this would be good especially if other people are interested, he agrees it would be good to put out all of the lawn and snow plowing (winter maintenance) out to bid. Dave Sabatini stated that he has left his price the same for 10 years and is happy with the current relationship, if the contract goes out to bid his pricing will go up. Galina inquired about the end date for Dave Sabatini's contract, being that it has been 10 years, she inquired if the contract had an end term? Jeff Cathcart acknowledged that there is much work to do with policies and contracts, these should be improved. Previously, if those with contracts did not raise their price then they were awarded the contract again. Diane O'Classen would like to do the roadside policy and the swimming policy, perhaps at the next meeting in May. Jeff Cathcart stated that the Policy and Contracts will be worked on for the next several meetings and to expect it on the agenda. Diane would like a half an hour set aside at the meetings reserved for the contract and policy work needed. Dave Sabatini inquired if he would need to get pricing up for bidding on the lawn work this year or will it be for the following year. Jeff Cathcart stated that due to working on policies and lawn work already having begun, this would likely go into effect and be put out for bid for next year.

OLD BUSINESS

53 min

**South Hill approval
of warning and set
date of hearing.**

Marci stated she can have the ad for the South Hill Rd hearing for this coming paper. She would like to be sure that the board is good with the wording and to set a date. Jeff Cathcart stated the wording was good. Diane stated that the



**MOTION FOR
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING**

**Town Hill paving
project update**

next meeting after the mandatory 30 day notice should be warned for June 13 at 7 pm. Thomasina motions for the warning for public hearing for South Hill Road, set for the Selectboard meeting of June 13, 2022 at 7Pm at the Goshen Town Hall, Diane O'Classen 2nd. This will go into the papers.

Jeff Cathcart stated that District 3 from Rutland came and looked at the project of paving Town Hill. Brian Sanderson (from District 3) stated that the bid that Markowski put in is an accurate and reasonable price for the job. District 3 gave two quotes, the first is to turn the road back to gravel, this would be approximately \$440,000.00. Option 2 is for base work and paving, this was estimated at around \$583,000.00 Brian stated that this would be a difficult job to be done in sections over time, with managing the construction, it would likely end up costing more than doing it all at once. Jeff Cathcart stated for now the bad areas will be patched. Jim Hayes feels that hot mix should be used instead of cold patch in certain really bad areas. Jim stated that he talked with the roadcrew in Leicester and they use a heater to keep the hot mix from cooling too fast. The State has a heater that they may have available to rent out as well. Jeff Cathcart would like Jim and Marci to gather more information regarding the hot mix heater.

Thomasina inquired about surpak again as she was wondering why the Town spends more money on bags of cold patch instead of buying this in bulk, she inquired what other town's do. Jeff Cathcart clarified again that the surepak does not have the binding agents necessary to fill the potholes where it adheres into the hole. Jeff Cathcart stated that if done right the cold patch will last for some time in the hole. Marci stated that there is a hole she filled at the end of the bridge across the Town Hall 3 years ago and it is still holding. Jim stated that surepak can and was used at the town garage because it is a level area, thus a good area for it, surepak packs hard. Marci stated that the surepak on a hill is not good as it will wash in the rain and it also creates a loose gravel effect while traveling which can be dangerous. Marci also stated that Brandon uses hotmix



to patch their holes. Thomasina inquired about the swails in the pavement in which water runs down. Marci stated that using a leveling coat for the swails would be effective as well as ditching to help with run off. Thomasina inquired about moving forward with grants. Jeff Cathcart stated that District 3 is aware of Goshen's needs for grants. Thomasina inquired if there is something she can help with. Jeff stated that the feelers are out already and it is a matter of waiting and applying. Galina stated that Jeff Cathcart did a lot of work, she inquired about how to get the work done without the support of the grants. She inquired about what the quotes are for if they are not anything the Town can afford. Thomasina stated one quote was at her request, as she inquired about what it would cost to take Town Hill back to gravel. Marci stated that perhaps a skim coat quote could be obtained, as both Carlisle Hill and Town Hill were skim coat jobs, people are pleased with this job and it would be less expensive and would be a good fix until a grant can be obtained. Madine stated that the Town paved Town Hill because of the mud problem in that area. Jim stated that Carlisle Hill, Capen Hill, and Town Hill were not travelable and needed to be closed during mud season thus those areas were paved. Jim stated that with ditching and a good base though, the road could be turned back to gravel and not be muddy, the road prior to paving did not have a good base. Thomasina inquired about how much is in the paving fund, Vickee stated \$40,000. Marci inquired if that money is still slated for the bottom portion of Carlisle hill. Jeff Cathcart said that yes, that was the intention. For now, Marci and Jim will look into a heater, hotmix will be used in bad areas, and bags of cold patch for other areas. The Town will be looking for grants to do the bigger paving project.

ARPA funding and projects

Diane O'Classen inquired about the funding for ARPA, Marci stated that there is \$24,000.00 that the Town has received. Diane inquired if there would be any more money coming in. Vickee stated no. Jim stated that the windows and door for the Town Hall will be around \$4,000 just for material. He got a quote from Brandon Lumber on replacing the windows to match the current original windows. Thomasina inquired about the dividers in the windows, if they will be on the



outside of the glass or will they be sandwiched inside the glass. Jim stated that either can be obtained, they can be inside, outside, and made of any material chosen. Marci stated they will be on the outside to match what is there and keep it historically accurate. Thomasina stated that she would like to have the original windows saved and used inside the building for something creative, perhaps picture frames. Galina inquired about a tax rebate for the windows as the Town Hall will be made more energy efficient, Marci will call Efficiency Vermont tomorrow to inquire about this. Marci also stated that the land records would be using a portion of the money, which was decided early on as Covid impacted access to the vault the most. Marci stated that the land records must remain accessible to the public, having them digitized makes it so that in an event like the one we had people could still access the land records. Without access to land records, property transfers can not happen. Thomasina inquired if the digitizing of land records would make the records available remotely. Marci stated that no, currently it still will only be digitized to NEMRC and remain as an internal record accessible on the public computer at the Town Office. Galina inquired about having other things taken into consideration for utilizing the funding as they have opened it up to being able to be used for more than what was originally stated.

Vickee brought up the issue with the vault, Vickee inquired about a new vault for the Town Treasurer. Vickee stated that the Town must provide the new Treasurer with a vault, as access is being denied to her with the current vault. Vickee stated that they took measurements and in order to store approximately one thousand blank checks, necessary files, and during tax time around \$30,000 worth of checks needing to be secured until they are brought to the bank, they figured that the inside dimensions need to be at least 60" high and 36" wide. Thomasina inquires why there is a trust issue with having the Treasurer have access as the Treasurer is bonded. Thomasina states that the Town Clerk has the ability to decide who is the assistant and she inquired why the new Treasurer is not made a Town Clerk Assistant. Galina inquired about the vault being the Town's



vault, and why access is not able to be given, being that the vault is for the Town. Marci stated that the vault is not the Town's, it is completely the jurisdiction and is the sole care and responsibility of the Town Clerk's, she stated again that the vault is not the Town's but the Clerk's. This is VSA, a very specific law that states the vault is the Town Clerk's. Madine Reed stated that this is so and always has been she stated that it is not a matter of trust but of responsibility, the Town Clerk is responsible for everything in the vault, thus access is not given to those other than the Town Clerk and their assistant. Vickee stated that the selectboard needs to provide the Treasurer with a vault by September, as that is when she will be done and will no longer access the vault (Vickee has access being one of the Assistant Town Clerk's). Vickee also stated this will be an expense that was not budgeted. Thomasina was concerned with this as it is causing an unnecessary expense. She also feels that access could be given to the new Treasurer. Thomasina inquired about how this worked before Vickee. Marci stated that prior to Vickee the Treasurer worked from Home. Vickee stated that when she was considering becoming the Town Treasurer she stated that she would only do so if she had office space in the Town Clerk's Office, she did not want to work from home as she did not want money at her house for security reasons. Vickee was the first Treasurer to work in the Office and she was made Assistant Town Clerk so that she had access to the vault. Marci stated that Rosie was also made Assistant Treasurer in case in Vickee's absence she could sign the checks. Jim stated that he has the old safe, which he stored dynamite in that he would donate back to the Town if they would like. Diane O'Classen also mentioned that she has a metal safe that Kevin used to store fireworks in. Jeff Cathcart thanked Jim for the offer and they will consider it but he would also like to look into safes as well. Marci stated that another option is for Susanne to work on a day that the Town Clerk works, that way the vault will be open and she would have access. Vickee objected to this as she is concerned of money and papers that the public should not be near. Marci stated that the back room where the Listers and Auditors use would be a great place to work, if the Treasurer needs a quiet place away from the public.



Marci also feels that working with other people in Town for a new Treasurer would be good with developing relationships. Susanne stated that she would be open to this. Jeff Cathcart called for an end to the discussion with the Town Clerk's decision regarding the vault. The vault is under the care of the Town Clerk, this is State law, the Town Clerk is an elected official, the board can not tell her how to do her job or who she gives access to.

**Update on the
Town Website**

Thomasina reported that the framework on the website looks good. Marci and herself are working on it and it is looking very nice. Thomasina points out that other town's have a community page, she feels that Goshen should follow suit and support the local businesses in Town. Thomasina briefly mentioned that an external server is still of interest, though she is unsure if there will be money left from ARPA funding, an estimate of cost will still be obtained.

ROADS

8 min

**Grader tires
update**

Jim Hayes said that Pete's Tires came to put new tires on the grader. He had a hard time getting the fourth tire off the grader. Three tires have been changed, one was found to still be good and was kept. The grader is ready to be used. Jim reported that the Town has six pallets of chloride. Jim would like to wait and not order any due to current prices, if it rains after he grades, chloride is not needed. He likes to use chloride at the end of the year because it helps bind up the roads for the winter. Jim will call up Mel, about roadside mowing, he inquired if this would go out to bid. Jim reported that Mel had said if this goes out to bid he would not be bidding, Mel has stopped doing roadside brush cutting, but agreed to do it for Goshen. His son does much of the work. Marci stated that if the lawn contract is not going out to bid, then Mel's should remain as well for continuity. Jeff Cathcart stated yes, to contact Mel and see if he is still interested in the roadside mowing. Galina inquired about the dust in front of her house from the roads, she stated that it is becoming very dusty at her house. Jim stated they have the chloride truck that has



chloride ready to be spread and he will put it down on the bottom of Carlisle Hill, if it doesn't rain. If it rains as it is projected to, that will take care of the dust for now.

CITIZENS CONCERNS		N/A
ANY OTHER BUSINESS		N/A
EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NEEDED		N/A
MOTION TO ADJOURN	Diane O'Classen motion to adjourn, Thomasina 2nd.	8:24pm

Respectfully submitted by Marci Hayes