



Regular Selectboard Meeting

May 23, 2022

Unapproved Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane O’Classen and Thomasina Magoon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Cathcart

OTHERS PRESENT: Galina Chernaya, Marci Hayes, Madine Reed, and Dave Sabatini

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	Diane O’Classen	7:02pm
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CHANGES TO AGENDA	Thomasina would like to add Town Hall windows. Thomasina inquired about the spam from Diane in the email, Diane stated it was better. Also to be added is cold patch under roads.	3 min
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MEETING MINUTES MOTION	Diane motioned to accept minutes as read with no changes, Thomasina 2nd.	7:05pm
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NEW BUSINESS		7:05
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Dog Census MOTION	Thomasina’s address will be corrected on the dog census. Diane O’Classen motions to accept census with correction of address, Thomasina 2nd.
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Flap Grant	Table until the next meeting as this is something Jeff Cathcart was to discuss. Galina inquired what FIAP is, Thomasina stated it was forest grant money for roads.
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OLD BUSINESS		7:12
Vermont Rural Fire Protection	Board reviews application from Leonard Abess regarding the installation of a dry hydrant, Thomasina makes a motion to	



Task Force
Application for
Abess Property

accept and approve the application, Diane O'Classen 2nd.
This is agreed to be for Town use and will be maintained in the
winter to keep the road open by the landowner.

Continue the
work on Policies

Diane O'Classen stated that there were some grammatical
changes done to the Dog Ordinance. Thomasina will print out
this for Marci to have for the next meeting to be signed.

Payroll policy tabled until a full board is present, Thomasina is
still working on Town Access Policy.

Regarding the Town Report Dedication Policy, Madine stated
that it originally was the auditors that picked the person who
the Town Report would be dedicated to, it now is anyone that
can nominate and all elected Town Officials then vote on
choosing a person, this will be tabled. Jeff is working on the
Equipment Maintenance Policy, the Special Events will be
tabled. Regarding the Records Policy, the Vermont statute will
be added back in.

Galina inquired about the difference between ordinance vs.
policy. Marci stated that the difference is law and the other is
a procedure or best practice. An ordinance is law, it has
repercussions and must be followed. A Policy is an in-house
procedure. Thomasina requested to maybe have one policy
for the next meeting to be worked on.

Town Website

Thomasina presented the website with a screen for those
present to view. She stated that she has been building up the
framework with input from Marci. Thomasina stated that she
would like to have this go live this week as it is close to being
finished. Thomasina went through the pages, there will be a
landing page for the historical society, a page for forest
service, Thomasina would like Galina to help with the GMNF
and trails information. The Town Clerk page will be the hub of
the site. There will also be an application page, treasurer
page, taxes due information, and an election page (with State
information). There will be a section for minutes, Galina
inquired about having the approved minutes listed. Marci
stated that the only minutes that are posted are the unofficial,



they become official at the following meeting, and any changes would be reflected in those meeting minutes. Diane O'Classen mentioned Diane Mott should be changed under Justice of the Peace, as she is no longer in Goshen, Marci stated this is a State position, Madine added that they are elected by the Town but work State wide, therefore her name remains until her term ends. Thomasina further presented the page for elected and appointed positions. Marci will contact Ted Shambo for the Town Report, each report will have the front page image on the website. Thomasina stated that the date of adoption on each policy will be reflected. There is a calendar, a place to submit news, photos, stories, an event, and to subscribe to a newsletter. The Goshen News is a blog, with a disclaimer that public addition is pending approval by administrators of the website. Thomasina advocated that there should be a community page with local business, no plug-ins or advertising for them, just a list and contact information. She stated that other municipal sites do this as a support to the community. Galina inquired about making the wifi available at the Town Hall/Office a hotspot, Diane was concerned about legalities with this, Thomasina will look into this further. Galina inquired about the Freedom of Information Act. Thomasina makes a motion that this website goes live, when Marci and herself are finished with this, pending Jeff Cathcart look at this and approves, Diane O'Classen 2nd.

MOTION FOR WEBSITE

Town Hall Windows

Thomasina stated that she spoke with Laura from State Preservation, she stated a historical contractor does not need to be hired as it is not a grant project. Anderson Finelights were the recommended windows from Laura. Quote given is good for 30 days. Thomasina makes a motion to go up to the Anderson Finelights and Thomaisna will order these tomorrow, Diane O'Classen 2nd. Galina inquired if they are energy star and if the Town could get a tax rebate for using efficiency windows. Diane O'Classen stated that as a municipality they would more than likely be exempt from a tax break.

MOTION FOR WINDOWS

ROADS Thomasina stated that she would like to manage the roads

8:05pm



better, she once again expressed concern with the cost of the bags of cold patch from Brandon Lumber vs. the surepak from Wilks. Thomasina stated she compared the ingredients and they are the same, one ton would cost \$125-\$130 from Wilks, as opposed to \$879 for a ton of cold patch bags from Brandon Lumber. Thomasina does not feel that it is responsible to purchase the same material at a higher cost. Thomasina stated that this is not an attack on the way the road crew is doing the work but she feels that she, as a Selectboard member is responsible for managing the finances and the work being done. Thomasina added that it is the board, as Road Commissioner, to ultimately be responsible to and answer for any issues with the roads. Diane O'Classen reminded everyone that the road crew is part time only, they are not hired to be a full time road crew. Thomasina would like to track spending on the roads, what is being done by who and where, for example she wonders about the cleaning of the town garage for many hours. Thomasina would like access to the Town Garage, she feels that the Selectboard should have access to all Town Buildings. Marci stated that it is very difficult to project expenditure and budget for a small amount of time. There are so many unforeseen variables that occur, for example herself and Jim spent all day, when they could have done other road work, but had to clear many trees from the windstorm from the previous night, which took unexpected time not foreseen. The attention goes to the highest need at the time. Road work is a constant, and herself and Jim work very hard to keep within the budget and do multiple levels of things needed, not just filling potholes. Thomasina stated again this is not about an attack on the current road crew but more about budget. Diane O'Classen stated that before Irene was a summer of rain constantly, 3 beaver dams broke on hogback, came down and washed out Goshen Ripton and Dutton Brook rd, this was not factored and the Town paid for repairs on the road. This is an example of what can happen that is not budgeted or thought of, allowances must be made for the unknown. Diane O'Classen further stated that there already is a budget, the Road Budget is broken into two, Summer Budget and Winter Budget. Diane also stated that micromanaging is not a good way of working with others in Town. Diane O'Classen stated that this is a conversation to continue, Thomasina wants to do



better regarding the roads and management. Thomasina made a motion for the Town to no longer purchase bags of cold patch from Brandon Lumber and instead purchase from Wilks at a lower cost. Diane O'Classen opposed this motion and will look into this further. Thomasina has information from Wilks that she will send to the other board members so they can see it as well. Thomasina would like it known that she is not in favor of the cold patch being purchased at a high price from Brandon Lumber.

CITIZENS CONCERNS	Galina inquired about a previous meeting when Jeff asked about a vehicle counting study, Jeff stated to Chris Mattrcik that he never got results from the last count, Galina inquired if this had been collected. Galina would like access to this report, which was done in 2019, she would like to have the report available for the public. There is an interest to conduct a citizen vehicle account. Galina stated that the increase of traffic on Silver Lake road is a concern. This would all be volunteer. Diane O'Classen wants to know what this is for. Galina stated that this will show the data of what the count on the vehicles were, are, and moving forward the potential for more vehicles if a project was to occur that would increase traffic on Silver Lake Rd. Galina wants the report from 2019. Marci will follow up with Jeff regarding this.	8:31pm
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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NEEDED

MOTION TO ADJOURN	Diane O'Classen motion to adjourn , Thomasina 2nd.	8:38
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Respectfully submitted by Marci Hayes