



Regular Selectboard Meeting

August 8, 2022

Unapproved Minutes

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Sabatini, Madine Reed, Marci Hayes, Jim Hayes, and Susanne George.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Jeff Cathcart 7:01pm

CHANGES TO AGENDA Thomasina would like to table the computers & Networking item for the next meeting. Jeff will read a letter from the Otter Creek Watershed District. 1 min

MEETING MINUTES Jeff Cathcart Motions to accept the minutes as written with no changes, Thomasina 2nd. 1 min

NEW BUSINESS 31 min

Goshen Historical Society Marci stated that the Historical Society met and they would like to recommend to the Selectboard that the \$4,000.00 in the budget for building and restoration go towards the roof of the Town Hall. The society felt that any other work done prior to the roof being fixed would not be wise to do. Thomasina (also a member of the Historical Society) discussed that she would like to invite Tim Clark to come and look at the roof and give an idea of the work necessary, this could then be put out to bid, based on his recommended scope of work. Marci stated that grants could be looked at that may help with the cost as well. Thomasina mentioned that at the Historical Society meeting they discussed using a chair lift on the stairs for handicap accessibility instead of installing a lift in the closet space, which require structural



alterations. Thomasina felt that a chair lift would have less impact structurally to the building. Diane O'Classen said that portable aluminum ramps can be purchased for the exterior. Jeff Cathcart would like to see this move further and likes the idea of focusing on the roof. Dave Sabatini stated that he did the last grant for compliance for the ramp and that there may be more with grants.

Thomasina also noted that on December 10th the Historical society will be putting on an event that will be a Civil War themed Christmas event, to commemorate the soldiers from Goshen that fought in the Civil War. Marci will invite a coworker to come and give a Christmas speech that is historically accurate to the time period, there will be information on those who fought from Goshen, there will be singing of carols, and light refreshments. Marci said the society will be filling out the necessary paperwork for the Town Hall rental agreement. This will be open to anyone who would like to attend. Jeff Cathcart stated that Addison Regional Planning may have some ideas and offer help with being handicap compliant for accessing the upstairs by the time of the event.

Vault/Safe for
Treasurer

Susanne reminded the board that Vickee Whiting will be done as Assistant Treasurer on September 1st. Susanne does not have access to the vault, Vickee does (as Assistant Town Clerk), when Vickee leaves Susanne will not be able to access things stored in the vault. Susanne is bonded but has not been given the codes for the vault. Susanne said that previously she stated that she was willing to work on Tuesday, but she can not. She will stick with Monday and Wednesdays as her office days. Susanne stated that there are a few options, she can get a little safe for the office, Susanne can use a desk with lockable drawers or a lockable file cabinet, she could also keep stuff at her house. Thomasina stated that another option would be to give Susanne the access codes for getting into the vault. Thomasina read Garretts email again, from VLCT expressing reason to give the Treasurer access to the vault, with court case backing. Marci stated that as Garret's letter said that



the board can manage things pertaining to the Town buildings provided that it is not bound by State Statute, the vault is backed by Statute. Marci stated that this is in 24 VSA §1178, where the vault is to be supplied for the records of the Town Clerk. The vault is for the Town Clerk. Marci further stated that this is not about trust issues, it is about people's duties, responsibilities, and accountability within their job. Everything in the vault is under the care and guardianship of the Town Clerk and the Assistant Town Clerk, no one else has access. It is a lot of responsibility and care to preserve and to house the records, currently the only time the vault is open is when a Town Clerk or Assistant is present. Marci continued saying that there is a lot in the vault that is specifically instructed to be kept locked and secured, and under the care of the Town Clerk, allowing other people to access the vault without the Clerks presence is not a good situation. Marci further stated that she was advised by VLCT to speak with the Secretary of State's Office, due to the nature of VLCT always backing the Selectboard. Marci was told by the Secretary of States Office that it is advisable to find a compromising solution that does not risk the safety and integrity of the Town Clerk's vault. Thomasina does not agree with spending the money and is not happy about this. Thomasina wants it known that she is not in favor and thinks that Susanne is an elected, bonded, and trustworthy person that should be able to open the vault and get her things to do her work. Susanne said this needs to happen soon, she needs a safe before September 1st. Jeff Cathcart stated that he feels that a safe should be purchased for Susanne, that way Susanne has her space and the Clerk maintains the vault. Thomasina stated that she disagrees with this. Jeff Cathcart makes a motion to have Diane O'Classen go to Rutland to look at safes from Staples, Jeff motions that if Diane O'Classen finds one she may purchase the safe and will be reimbursed by the Treasurer. Thomasina stated that as she does not agree with this she would like to request to be involved with the size and location of the safe, as that is permissible for the board to maintain the buildings, if not the vault, they have a say in the building itself. Thoamsina stated that the Town Office is a historic building and she cares about the aesthetics of the interior, she does not want

**MOTION FOR
PURCHASE OF SAFE
FOR TREASURER**



an oversized safe that is put anywhere, she would like to be involved with what is purchased and its location in the building. The board members agreed with this. Thomasina pulled up Staples website and worked briefly with Susanne with options available for a safe.

Policy Review
~Access Policy
~Special Events
Policy

Access Policy will be tabled until the next meeting. Special Event Ordinance, Marci stated that the Town may change the name to Goshen Event Ordinance, without needing to go through the lawyer, however Marci inquired with Fritz Langrock and if the content itself is changed, he would need to review the Ordinance. Diane O’Classen said as it is, as she has looked through it more, it is very clear as written.

OLD BUSINESS

30 min

Special Events
Permit Application
from Blueberry Hill
Inn

Jeff Cathcart read the letter from Shari which stated displeasure with the enforcement and clarity of the policy. Jeff Cathcart stated that until the policy changes, if it changes, Shari needs to follow through with filling out the events application and everyone needs to abide by the Ordinance. Thomasina stated that she has a hard time with the fee, a business should not be taxed on top of what they are paying already as a business. Marci said that the \$25 isn’t a tax, it is a fee, just like there is a fee for other things in Town. Marci also stated that this is not an attack on businesses, it is the nature of the ordinance, it is for people that are charging for events, Blueberry Hill is simply meeting the criteria in which they need to follow policies and procedures. Jeff Cathcart stated this is an ordinance, and it needs to be followed. Thomasina inquired about how this is



enforced. There is a fine for people that are not compliant. Marci stated that Shari has paid \$25 for two permit applications currently (these were applied late, as event already occurred), they appear to be duplicate event applications, not two separate ones. Marci also said that she did not apply for two considerable events that she put on a list earlier in the year. Diane O'Classen said to have Marci tell Shari of the duplicate permit and the outstanding two others. The \$25 can be refunded or used for the other event. Marci is to keep working on the frequently asked questions sheet for clarity.

Update on Garbage Jeff would like to have the agenda for the next meeting to have a discussion on the Future of the Town. Jeff said that the Town needs to look at what is good for equipment, man power, and future years.

Marci stated that compost from people in town can be brought to Middlebury ACSW, or Brandon dump. Marci will also work on getting a workshop for composting for people in Town who are interested in doing backyard composting. Thoamsina would like to have the message board mention composting as well as the website.

Jeff Cathcart said that when we change over, people will be paying the contractor for their garbage, the Town will not pay for the garbage of people. Jeff said that this should be kept in mind when people may be picking up trash for their neighbors, that trash will need to be paid for.

Helping Hands will be good in the winter for many in Town that may not be able to get out. Thomasina has worked on a poster for the project. Thomasina stated that the other option is for the citizen to contract a hauler to pick up directly to their house.

Otter Creek Watershed District. The Board received a letter from The Otter Creek Watershed District that stated since September of 2021, Chad Beckwith has not attended any meetings. Jeff Whiting and Ben



Lawton have been attending. The District expects all appointed and alternates to participate in the meetings. Marci will draft a letter and call Chad to see if he is still interested in being on this. Thomasina stated that a copy of the letter should go with the written one as well to Chad.

ROADS

35 min

Quote for
Bommagging

Jeff Cathcart received a quote from Pikes industry to bomag from Town garage to Leo and Galina’s property. The cost is \$12,000.00 to grind up and lay down the crumbled pavement. Jim Hayes said that they need to be sure to get the pavement all chewed up. At Flora White they left berms with full sections of pavement, which they are still pulling up with the grader. Jim said this has been problematic, he would like to be sure they remove all pavement. Jeff Cathcart said that the estimate is for a 20’ wide pavement removal. Pike is local. Jim said this is a good price. Jeff inquired if the board wants this work to be done. Diane O’Classen makes a motion to accept Pike’s Industry and have this work done by October 1st. Thomasina 2nds.

**MOTION FOR
BOMAGGING**

Jeff Cathcart stated that a letter was given to the board complimenting Jim’s work on the road.

Jim reported that grading on flora White and South Hill will be done after the rain.

Jim said that culverts need to be done. Jeff Cathcart said that Jim should buy more plywood to build forms for blocks to avoid a short load charge. Jeff said that the cylinder is being rebuilt by Windmill, the starter has been having problems so that is being worked on as well. Jeff will pick up the parts if they are ready on Wednesday.

Thomasina inquired about Flora White, Jim said that the culvert will need to be extended, this is a big project. Guardrails can not be put up until the road is widened,



which involves extending the culvert. There are two culverts on Goshen Ripton road, one by Goshen Dam, and Dutton Brook road has one that needs to be replaced. A total of four Culverts will be replaced this year.

Diane O'Classen mentioned the speed signs are up. Jeff reported that for 10 signs and 5 posts it cost \$580.00. The shipping was \$650.00. Jeff will not purchase more signs. There are some in the Garage that can be used. Thomasina would like the slow children signs taken off.

Jim inquired about brush before winter gets here. Jeff said this needs to be dealt with. Jim said that if some brush is allowed to grow into a heavy forest area, once the tall trees grow it will choke out the undergrowth and will maintain itself. However there are some spots that need to be cut, this may involve a boom mower and a brush cutter. Dave Sabatini stated that he did work in North Goshen. Jim Hayes said that Ed Hayes and Tony Gemelli did the majority of it, they worked on it every day for a month. Jeff Cathcart and Jim Hayes will mark out where is needed, they will come up with a scoop of work. This will be a bid job. Jim Hayes said that the bridges need to be done by hand as the boom doesn't work so well. Dave Sabatini stated that he can go and cut brush for the Town, a little here and there, to be paid hourly. Jeff Cathcart stated that this will go out as a single job to bid and Dave can put a bid in for it.

Jeff Cathcart reported that the trash truck can only go in reverse and needs a transmission, but he would like to try to sell it. Thomasina inquired about a price for it. Jim said that Jared Lowell can give the Town a price for the Truck and Trailer. Jeff Cathcart would like to keep the trailer and fill it up with metal and scrap the whole thing. Jim said that it is \$3,000 for a transmission for the truck, the truck needs work. Jeff Cathcart said the truck could be listed on craigslist after it is cleaned. Marci will clean it. Thomasina was thinking of asking \$4,000.00, noting the work that it needs and go from there. Thomasina will put this on craigslist after Marci lets her know it has been cleaned.



Thomasina would like to work with Marci on a newsletter for September.

CITIZENS CONCERNS	<p>Dave Sabatini said there is an Overweight permit with a fee, change of use is a permit fee, campground fee, he feels that to waive a fee requirement on the Event Ordinance is not right. Dave Sabatini further commented that bomagging, the stretch of road should have ditching done prior to, he suggests to replace the culvert before the work as well. Jim said there needs to be several inches above the existing culvert so the bomagging doesn't rip up the culvert. They will mark the plastic culverts. Jim said that the ditching and culvert replacement should happen after the bomagging, not before. It will be easier to dig after the bomagging and we would be working with an accurate height of road. Jim suggests putting 2 inch minus down after bomagging, this is heavier stone and will be needed for mud season in this area. Jim said what was on was taken out of the Goshen pit, which has a lot of silica, this is too fine of a grit for roads. Jim said the frost goes deep in this area. Jim said that two culverts need to be replaced after the bomagging. Jeff said that this will give the road a good base. Jim said that this is a class 2 road so there is grant money if the Town decides to pave this area in the future. Diane inquired about putting chloride down before winter, if that is recommended. Jim said yes, the chloride will help, chloride is binding and keeps things together during mud season. Jim said that we have 6-8 pallets left of chloride.</p>	<p>18 min</p>
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Madine stated that events at Blueberry Hill, as far as needing a permit, would also pertain to Ethan West or the Beckwiths (two other businesses in Town), or for anyone with an event and charging for it, Blueberry Hill sticks out because they are the only ones in Town doing events. Madine stated that the Ordinance came about mostly because of issues with the parking along the road due to events. Madine stated that the appraisal in the 80's was a hassle to do for businesses, they would have had to count towels and tea cups. This has



not been done from a lister standpoint, the Inn just gets charged for a big house, not a business tax. Jeff Cathcart stated that the Town has problems with houses being used as an Airbnb. Madine inquired who deals with this matter. Marci said that it falls under the Health Department.

**ANY OTHER
BUSINESS**

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION IF NEEDED**

**MOTION TO
ADJOURN**

Diane O'Classen motion to adjourn Thomasina 2nd.

8:57pm

Respectfully submitted by Marci Hayes