



Regular Selectboard Meeting

November 14, 2022

Unapproved Minutes

Members Present: Bill Mathis, Thomasina Magoon, and Tammy Walsh

Others Present: Dave Sabatini, Timmi Moffi, Carol Fjeld (guest), Galina Chernaya, Marci Hayes, Jim Hayes, Madine Reed, Susanne George, Fran Viko, and Chad Chamberlain.

Call Meeting to Order

7:14 pm

Bill Mathis called the meeting to order.

Changes to the Agenda

None made

Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes of
10-24-2022

Thomasina noted corrections for minutes of October 24th, regarding the garbage situation. Thomasina clarified there were many weeks where Marci was to get quotes, which was not happening. Thomasina then requested from the Board to take over and do the work, Thomasina wants this reflected in the minutes. Thomasina then contacted Goshen's Addison County Solid Waste representatives, Annina Seiler and Dave Sabatini. Thomasina spoke with Addison County Solid Waste District, scheduled meetings, and was looking at several options. The proposal was received from Dave, due to the broken truck and inconsistent time of garbage drop off, the proposal was considered. Thomasina is concerned that it has been presented that due diligence was not done by the Board. Thomasina explained that Dave's proposal was an option that would work temporarily and satisfy their obligation to the taxpayers, going with Dave Sabatini was the best option to not have drop off in the winter. Thomasina requests that this be reflected in the minutes. Bill had asked Marci for the information regarding the garbage options. Marci stated she sent in an email to the selectboard, however Bill did not receive the email. Thomasina confirmed that she received the email. Marci inquired if Bill was added to the selectboard email. Thomasina confirmed that he was.

**Motion for
minutes**

Thomasina makes a motion to approve the minutes of 10-24-2022, as amended, Tammy 2nd.



Minutes of
11-01-2022
**Motions for
minutes**

Thomasina makes a motion to accept the minutes of 11-01-2022, with no changes, Bill 2nd.

Minutes of
11-07-2022
**Motion for
minutes**

Thomasina makes a motion to approve the minutes of 11-07-2022, Tammy 2nd.

Thomasina asked Marci to add at the end of the minutes that the audio is available. Marci stated written minutes are a permanent record and the audio is kept only a year, so perhaps mentioning this would be good. Thomasina stated to add that audio is available for one year. Thomasina offered to help Marci, as she has the acrobat reader that allows linking the reader directly to the audio on the pdf.

Bill would like agenda topics discussed at the end of the meeting for the next meeting.

Public Comment

8 minutes

Galina inquired about the fire on the 6th of November, if it was an authorized burn or a wildfire and what caused the fire. Bill stated the Fire Marshall has performed the investigation and is filing paperwork with the State. Bill stated that it falls into the category of negligence. Susanne inquired if this was in reference to the Clark fire, Galina stated that this was another fire. Galina stated that 3 acres were burned, she heard it from the newspaper, it took 25 firefighters and 3 ½ hours to extinguish. Dave inquired about Galina's fire. Galina stated that it was much smaller, not 3 acres. Galina and Leo chose not to pursue payment from the contractor that was hired to do the burn. They paid for the cost of Brandon Fire Department services. Bill stated that many trucks were onsite, firefighters stayed as is protocol to be sure that the fire will not start up again. Bill also stated that this fire was on his own property and did not go onto the neighbors or on National Forest property. He stated it got rid of undergrowth and dead pine trees. Galina expressed that this fire reinforces concerns with the proposed hut at Silver Lake, which would be in a more difficult location to access if something happens with the hut in regards to a fire, it will take longer and would burn more acres of National Forest. Dave clarified that the proposed hut is to have a gas heater, concern of fires should be from campfires from the current campsites. Bill inquired about the status of the huts. Galina stated Chris Mattrick is the sole decision maker. He has delayed the decision until January due to high priority projects. Galina mentioned her commentary in VTDigger,



which is regarding an analysis of the Forest Service policies around analyzing special use permit proposals. Galina stated that this is a problematic proposal. Bill inquired if the decision is overdue. Galina confirmed that the decision is overdue, but as Chris let it be known, there are currently other projects that are taking his time. Chris has a lot to go through with the information and comments, of which were approximately 400 comments submitted to the Forest Service regarding the hut proposal. Bill thanked Galina for the update. Dave added that Chris is currently out west fighting fires. Galina stated that he is due to be back on the 21st.

Susane stated that Francis Clark had a fire on his property, \$3500 was charged to the Town for Brandon's response. The Town has billed the homeowner twice but has not received payment. Susanne spoke with Mr. Clark today, who confirmed that he is in contact with his insurance company, if payment is not received this becomes a matter for the Selectboard to handle. This payment is currently outstanding two months. Tammy inquired about taking this to small claims. Susanne stated it is up for the board to decide how to handle the matter. Tammy inquired if the Town has paid for this. Susanne said yes. Marci explained that this is routine, the Town receives the bill then the Town bills the homeowner. Timmi inquired what the cause of the fire was. Susanne stated it's the private matter of the homeowner.

Old Business

31 minutes

Trailer assessment and action	Tammy reported that Green Mountain Garage estimated repairs to the trailer to cost \$4,600 this includes; suspension, four tires, axle, brakes on one axle, and rust repair on sides and floor. Bill inquired about the market value. Tammy stated that a new trailer would be \$6,000-\$6,500. Tammy does not recommend putting money into this, she would like to eliminate the trailer. Tammy stated the tires were flat, she also had a hard time with the jack. Timmi inquired if it was inspected. Tammy stated no, and that there are also no plates and inquired why. Jim removed the plates. Tammy would like the Town to get the plates back. She inquired why she was not informed that there were no plates on the trailer when she brought it to Green Mountain Garage. Marci stated that the municipal plates were removed as the trailer was to be sold. Rosie, who handles insurance, registrations, and plates for all Town vehicles requested the plates be taken off. Tammy would have liked the Board to be notified of this. Bill Mathis suggests putting the sale of the trailer out to bid. Tammy suggests offering the trailer to Dave Sabatini first, as he is doing the garbage for now. If the trailer is put out to bid there is still an issue with how the garbage is being
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done until June. Tammy reiterated she is not in favor of putting \$3,000-\$5,000 into the trailer. Tammy said it could be sold out right, she received two offers today for the trailer, Gerad has also put an offer in at \$1450 for the trailer. Tammy would like to have Dave have priority, he is currently taking the garbage and is making two trips (one for recycling and one for trash), she would like to offer it to him, if he is interested, before putting it out to the highest bidder. Thomasina stated that the proposal presented by Dave requested the use of the Town recycling trailer, this was accepted by the Board. Thomasina stated after the Board accepted the proposal, it was presented in the meeting minutes that the insurance company was not in favor of this, and that the acceptance of Dave's bid would need to be amended, Thomasina stated that this is not true. This created a situation where in the last two weeks, Dave has had to use his dump truck and make two runs, his initial proposal was to use the trailer, which again was accepted by the Board.

Tammy stated that the Board's responsibility is to the people, to pick up garbage or have drop off. Tammy stated that Dave is willing to do curbside, at a less cost then what the Town has been doing the run for, by \$10,000. Tammy said currently it is up to the Board to make a decision, the issue has been going on for two months and she disagrees with this.

Bill inquired what was voted on by the people. It was voted by the people to have curbside pick up. Bill stated this is the Town's responsibility until July 1st. Thomasina would like to motion to sell Dave the trailer. Tammy inquired if Dave would like to purchase the trailer. Dave expressed interest as he offered to do the trash. Dave was unsure if the Town would continue to do the garbage or if they would like to keep the trailer and use it. Dave stated that an option was for the Town to allow him to use it, which he found out is a reasonable option, temporarily until next June. Dave wanted the trailer to be looked at by the Town mechanic, in regards to it being safe to use. Bill agreed that unsafe equipment should not be on the road. Dave stated he would pay for the trailer being looked at by the Town mechanic, he also wanted to get a figure of how much it would cost to have it fixed. Dave stated he will buy the trailer and maintain it with his money, no more money to be spent on maintenance from the Town, he will do what it takes and have it safe. Dave inquired if he is to make an offer. Thomasina stated a price should be made for the trailer. Tammy proposed to sell the trailer to Dave for \$600. Thomasina requested Tammy to reiterate what one of the mechanics offered for the trailer. Tammy stated that Mike at Green Mountain, who looked at the trailer, offered \$300. Marci inquired about



**MOTION FOR SALE
OF TRAILER**

Gerad's offer. Tammy stated that Gerad offered \$1400, but the Board is not looking at the highest bidder rather looking at who is taking the garbage immediately. Timmi stated that Gerad admitted he has not seen the trailer in two years. Tammy wants this offer to go to Dave because he is currently doing the garbage, this is not about making an extra \$600 for the Town. Tammy motions to sell the Town trailer to Dave Sabatini for \$600, Thomasina 2nd, one nay, Bill stated he does not agree, but is overruled by the majority. Dave stated that he will need a vin number and a plate put on the trailer. It will need to be permitted to haul trash/recycling in the State of Vermont, which he stated it never was. He will need to permit this, which will cost him \$50, he will have it added to his insurance. He would love to pick up the trash and recycling with the trailer, rather than driving around town twice again. Thomasina stated that a vin number and bill of sale will be needed. Marci stated that everything is in the vault with Rosie. Bill clarified that the trailer has been sold for \$600 and that Dave is responsible for carrying out the contract until June 30th, 2023. Tammy will work with Rosie to obtain the vin and registration.

Sheriff Patrol
update
0h31m15s

Marci spoke with Sheriff Elmore, who quoted the price of patrolling as \$37, an hour plus mileage, or \$51 an hour for both time and mileage. They will not indicate where or when they are in Town. The Town can determine how many hours, for example 6 hours a month for a few months to start. It is by contract and can be as little or much as needed. Marci further stated that the town would receive a portion of any tickets, the Sheriff believed that 20% of the ticket goes to the Town and the rest goes to the State, the Sheriff department receives no portion of tickets. Marci stated it would be good to have a presence in town as she has received many complaints regarding speeding vehicles and since roads are being improved, cars are going faster. Marci continued that there is a need and this is an option. Bill inquired if there were comments or questions regarding this matter. Fran inquired if it would be cheaper to call the people to have them slow down. Marci stated that she has spoken with specific people numerous times, it does not do much good. Galina inquired if this happens, if there is a way to let the residence know. Marci stated the public can be notified that patrolling will occur. Galina thought that this would be beneficial for people and may have an effect on their driving. Galina stated that she was almost hit while on Carlisle Hill Rd, she was running up and there was a high speeding car of a resident. Galina inquired what the speed limit is. Marci stated 35mph, town wide. Marci stated that the town can decide to reduce the speed in certain areas, it is not up to the State or for the Department of



Transportation. Bill inquired if there was more discussion on this. Galina inquired if there will be a decision on having the Sheriff in Town. Thomasina stated no decision is being made. Galina inquired if this will be tabled. Galina is in favor of having the Sheriff be in Town. Marci stated that the cost of this can come out of the miscellaneous line item, until there is an official line for the next fiscal year. Thomasina would like to have a specific line item for this. Susanne stated there is no problem making a line item. Galina wanted to clarify that until July 1st of next year, nothing would happen with speed limit enforcement, she inquired if this is the conclusion from this conversation. Fran inquired what the duties are of the constables in Town. Marci stated that unless she goes to the Police Academy she can not stop traffic/make arrests. She would have to go to the academy to perform certain law enforcement actions. Marci stated that other duties of the constables are to make recommendations to the board by informing them of safety issues in Town, serving papers, collecting taxes, and keeping the peace at Town meetings, as well as other duties. Marci stated that there are many people that speed in Town. Fran thought that if people speed and have accidents as a consequence then they will slow down. Marci stated that it would be more responsible to get a sheriff in Town to stop speeders before accidents occur. Thomasina stated she is not in favor of having a sheriff in Town. Chad inquired with what reason. Thomasina stated this is not something she thinks warrants spending money on. It is unnecessary and she does not agree that the tax base should pay for a sheriff due to a couple people speeding in Town. Thomasina, stated she understands and has herself been out running on the roads and almost hit by vehicles, but it is up to the person on the road to pay attention and listen. Galina inquired as to how many complaints Marci gets. Marci stated that she gets many complaints and people often stop in the Office on Tuesdays to complain about vehicles, she also gets phone calls. Complaints come predominantly from those that live close to the road, people with livestock, hikers, people that walk the road. Speeding is throughout Town and especially on Hathaway, Goshen Ripton, and Carlisle Hill Rd. Marci stated this has been a constant issue, which is why she is speaking up. It has gotten to a point where speeding is a daily issue that people are experiencing. Timmi inquired if these complaints are all in a file that can be presented to the Selectboard. Marci stated that she can file complaints to be presented. Thomasina stated this would be valuable to have and she would like proof. Bill stated that a line item is not in the current budget, Thomasina stated that if this was to be done, a line item could be added at tonight's meeting for this purpose. Bill stated this will be revisited while discussing the budget. Thomasina inquired about an annual cost, Marci



stated it could be as little as three hours a month, so this would cost the Town \$153.00 a month. Thomasina approximated this to be about \$2,000.00 a year. Marci is not recommending a lot of hours or daily patrolling, but just enough to be in Town occasionally. Thomasina stated that patrolling is not necessary in the winter, Marci disagrees, she would still have patrolling in the winter. Bill inquired how many accidents happen in Town, this is unknown. Dave stated regarding winter patrolling, there will be limited areas where the patrol cars can be, Town Hall, Blueberry Hill, or private property, where they would need to get permission. Dave continued to say that there are only so many places available in the winter, where they themselves would not be a hazard.

Culvert
Inventory
update
0h44m01s

Tabled until the next meeting, Thomasina is still working on this.

Waterways
Grant Update -
Signature
needed by chair
0h44m15s
MOTION FOR
SIGNATURE

Thomasina stated that she has the paperwork for Vtrans and Mark Winslow, everything is ready to go, she needs to get Bill Mathis (the Chair) to sign. Tammy motions Chair to sign the grant paperwork, Thomasina 2nd.

FLAP Grant
Update
0h45m04s

Marci reported that she sent the Board an email with the cost of engineering, she has the map finished, the letter of recommendation has been obtained, she is only waiting on the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) document. She will have all of this ready for Board review for the next meeting. Thomasina inquired if the grant submission needs to be signed. Marci stated that information is on the application, which has a glitch while opening it. She emailed Richelle regarding the application glitch. Thomasina would like to have a copy of the paperwork and all the attachments. Marci will be sure the board has a copy of everything.

30k loan to
Town from
Roads -

Susanne put a note in the orders to have this done. Susanne stated that Vickie left a note which indicated that on November 28th, the transfer should be done. Susanne stated that there is money now to do this.



Treasurer
0h46m38s
**MOTION FOR FUND
TRANSFER**

Thomasina makes a motion to transfer \$30,000.00 from the Town Account to the Road Account, to repay the loan that was made at the end of June of 2022, Bill 2nd. All ayes.

New Business

1hr 33 min.

Brandon Public
Library Capital
Campaign
0h47m49s

Carol Fjeld presented information on the capitol campaign for the Brandon Free Public Library. Carol thanked the board for entertaining the campaign as an option. Carol stated the Brandon Library is the Town library for Goshen, of which half the people in Goshen have library cards. The library has not had a renovation in 60 years and needs major updates involving energy efficiency and increased capacity space. Carol is going to each selectboard to request help with the campaign. Carol acknowledges that in Vermont, penny's are worked hard for. Money would not be asked for, if it wasn't for the ARPA funds. Carol stated that they are requesting earmarking \$4,000.00 of the ARPA funds for the Libraries renovation. This represents about 10% of the ARPA funds, this is what they are requesting from each town's selectboard. Thomasina inquired, if ARPA funds were not used, if the Town can pay over time and have the amount to be raised on the ballot for the voters. Thomasina inquired if this has to be committed in whole initially or be done annually. Carol said the total donated amount can be decided annually and they are accepting fundraising over 5 years. Carol stated that they have raised over 1.5 million, 2.5 million is needed. They are putting in a lift, redoing the basement, and there is asbestos to contend with. Carol mentions that they have matching grants, if Goshen decides to spread out the spending they can say a certain amount will be raised over the five years, the grant will match that declared donated amount. Thomasina inquires if money is currently in the miscellaneous account, there is \$2500 budget for 2022-2023. Nothing has been spent. Thomasina stated she is a big advocate for literacy. Thomasina suggested having the Town's people vote on it. Marci stated that this is typically how donations have been done, to have this as an article and voted on the floor, either as lump sum, or voted to allocate a certain amount each year for x amount of years. Susanne stated that there is a list of donations that the Town has made at the end of the fiscal year. Carol inquired when this would happen. Susanne stated the vote is in March, the funding would be available in July. Marci stated she can't speak on behalf of everyone, but she feels this would get a positive response from people, it is for a good cause. Dave suggests writing the article now that proposes what the people are voting on. Carol



**MOTION FOR TOWN
MEETING ARTICLE
PROPOSITION FOR
LIBRARY CAMPAIGN**

inquired if the board would like her to write the article or if the board would be doing that. Thomasina stated that currently there is \$2500 for miscellaneous, the Town could add \$1500 in there next fiscal year and add a line item for the library, which would be voted on. Bill motioned, for a total amount of \$4,000.00, of which \$2,500 would come out of the current year's balance brought forward with \$1500 to be voted on by the public on the coming budget, Thomasina 2nd. All ayes. Carol stated there will be a historic grant preservation utilized for doing the facade. Bill inquired the reliability of the total price of the project, Carol said that 2.2million is a realistic cost, but they are budgeting for 2.5 million for built in contingencies. Thomasina inquired about having information for the people. Carol offered to be at the Town meeting. Bill thinks this would be good. Marci stated this is at 7pm, March 6, there is a potluck before the meeting, which Carol is welcomed to come to. Thomasina would like it reflected in the minutes the proposed article. *Proposed article will be drafted and worded based on Bill's motion and presented at the next meeting for approval*

**Conflict of
Interest Policy
1h01m33s**

Thomasina stated the Board currently has this policy, signed earlier this summer. It will be tabled for now, anytime the board wants to review the policy they can, it is on the website. Bill stated this is one of the more important policies and would like to review it. Thomasina will send a copy his way.

**Letter of interest
for Auditor
Appointment
position
1h02m17s**

Minutes are to reflect that there is a letter of resignation received from Fran Viko due to conflict of position. Bill inquired of the conflict. It is a conflict of Auditor and Selectboard positions. Thomasina read aloud the letter which addressed the issue of the conflict and further stated that Fran would be happy to fulfill the role of Auditor in the future. Thomasina thanked Fran for her service. Tammy read aloud the letter of interest from Lori Lovell, where she indicated that she will fill the position of Auditor until March, she has experience and is suited for this position. Thomasina makes a motion to accept Lori's consideration and appoint Lori Lovell as Auditor until the position is up for election in March, Tammy 2nd. All in favor. Tammy inquired what Charlotte's duties are as Auditor. Marci stated that she was elected as an Auditor and has the full capacity to perform Auditor duties and responsibilities. Fran stated that she was only elected to do the report, Tammy disagrees with this, if she was elected to do a position then that position needs to be filled 100%. Tammy

**MOTION FOR
AUDITOR
APPOINTMENT**



expressed concern that Barb has not been able to audit for a month as two auditors are needed. Thomasina inquired whose responsibility it is to contact Charlotte as she is elected by the people and not appointed by the Board. Marci suggested that it would be up to the Chair, or the current Auditor to contact Charlotte and invite her down to the Office to fulfill the elected position. Tammy will notify Lori Lovell of her appointed position.

Review/Approve
of Heat Pump
Bid Specs -
Revision to
acceptance date
1h06m13s

Thomasina drafted heat pump bid specs for the Town Office, to be advertised in the papers. Bids will be due Dec. 9th. The meeting is on the 12th. Thomasina is happy to meet with the contractors to do a walk through. Bill inquired how the interested party would get a hold of Thomasina. Thomasina stated she could direct the email to her instead of to all the Board members. Thomasina would like the specs put in the papers that Goshen uses, she will put it on the website, as well as contact five contractors to notify them of the bid request. Thomasina will email the bid specs to Marci. Tammy inquired how the furnace is running. Marci stated it is working fine. Susanne stated that it was serviced and is working however they said it is not very efficient. Thomasina makes a motion to approve specs as read, with correspondences coming to her for those interested, and sealed bids are due Dec. 9th. Tammy 2nd, all ayes.

*Motion for heat
pump invitation to
bid*

Town Budget
1h09m10s

Susanne stated there are the budgeted and actual numbers for the past two years on the spreadsheet given to the Board. Susanne recommended going line item by line item. The road budget is not being done this meeting but next. Bill inquired about when the grant award will be known. Marci stated that she is unsure when the grant award decision will be. Thomasina inquired about a signature needed, Marci is unsure but so far there has been no need or place for required signatures at this time. Thomasina would like to see the FLAP paperwork. Dave inquired about a deadline, Thomasina stated she does not have the information.

SETTING OF THE TOWN BUDGET

Board went through line item by line item. All items remain the same unless noted below. Additional information is needed on some line items. The Town Budget was not finalized and will be revisited next meeting for further review.

Discussion on selectboard salary, the board received a raise last year per recommendation from the auditor. Auditors are the only ones that can



give a raise to the Selectboard per State law.

Thomasina inquired what the special project Admin Costs is. Thomasina inquired about having another column added to the report that shows what has been spent for the current year. Susanne stated that this report is a fiscal report, it shows the actual for the total year that was budgeted and for the total that was spent. Susanne stated that she can run a report on any of the line items to see what has been used so far this year, she stated that if they would like to know something to ask or come to the office.

Thoamsina stated the Selectboard Clerk amount was a little over budget, Marci stated as the board is doing the agenda and perhaps more work, she is anticipating not doing as much so the amount could be left as budgeted and not raised.

Town office supplies were over the budget. Susanne stated there has been considerable inflation. Thomasina recommended an **Office Supplies line item increase from \$5,000 to \$5,500.**

Postage line item increase from \$500 to \$600, due to increased cost of postage.

Thomasina will inquire about insurance and bonds, for projected costs. Marci clarified that the Town is not insured through VLCT as many other Town's are but rather the insurance is through Kinney Pike. Thomasina would like to add to this budgeted line item due to the economy, **Insurance and bonds line item increased from \$27,000 to \$29,000**

Interest Note on Loader line item decreased from \$444 to \$150

Question raised from the Board about principal on note for loader, this has been budgeted for the past several years but nothing was spent. Susanne will inquire with Vickee as to what this is.

Principal on Note for Grader, Bill thought perhaps this line item can disappear, Susanne will speak to Vickee regarding this as she leaves line items in. Bill said that line items are carried for a little after they are no longer used before they are removed.

Town Hall Renovation fund, Thomasina reported that this typically



receives \$4,000 annually. Tammy inquired if it is needed. Thomasina stated yes. Bill inquired what the needs are for the Town Hall. Thomasina explained that the Selectboard has agreed to take recommendations from the Historical Society on how to use the money. Thomasina reported that the Historical Society is getting bids on fixing the roof as this is the first need, painting, a lift for upstairs, are other things being considered. Madine clarified that the money remains with the Town and Board, the Historical Society makes recommendations on what it would be good to be used for regarding the historic building. This line item was not here last year.

Printing the Town Report, Thomasina inquired if this should increase or stay. Madine stated that this varies depending on what the Auditors want printed and for the cost from the company that does the printing. Thomasina stated that with the website there will be a report available for download. Madine stated the printed report is important to have available. Thomasina suggested **Printing Town Report line items increase from \$700 to \$1,000.**

The board would like to know more about the miscellaneous line item.

Board had questions regarding the Education Property Tax Credit, Susanne will find out more.

Constable Purchased Services Line item is currently set at 0, Marci stated this could be a potential area to allocate funds for having a Sheriff in Town. Thomasina stated she will not add to this line item, but if Bill or Tammy would like to they can. Timmi suggested that Thomasina can revisit this after Marci shows forth complaints filed and has a recommendation from the constables. Thomasina would like to see that there is validity. This will be reconsidered.

Garbage Pick up line item, Thomasina reported that Marci submitted numbers for options of monthly cost of garbage. Bill suggests budgeting for the highest amount. Thomasina reported the highest one is \$2,367.00 a month, figure on annually costing \$28,400, tipping fee removed this would be \$21,000. Timmi stated that \$33,000.00 was the cost of last year, Marci clarified that this was an estimated number. Bill inquired what instruction the bidders were given. Marci stated that she inquired with them how much their services would be if they were to provide Goshen with service for waste collection. Timmi inquired if this is for curbside or



drop off. Thomasina stated this line item will cover whichever the voters choose, for now it needs to be an amount that could cover either. **Line item Garbage Pickup increased from \$14,000 to \$24,000.** Thomasina stated that this could be changed to contracted services for garbage.

Mosquito District Purchase Services, Bill reported that this should be a hard number requested from the District, until a number is received it will stay the same as budgeted.

Otter Valley Unified School District, Bill inquired with how many children are in the Town, Marci gave a guess of maybe under 10 total, but will confirm for the next meeting. Susanne stated this number changes based on property tax, this is a figure that the School District requests from the Town, they have the number. Susanne will inquire with Vickee about this.

Ballot Clerk line item, Marci reported that Rosie requested this number to be reduced to \$1,000, this is due to there only being one election next year, whereas this year there were three. **Ballot Clerk Line item decrease from \$1,950 to \$1,000**

Line item Supplies, Marci reported that Rosie is recommending an increase to \$200. **Supplies line item increase from \$120 to \$200.** This is due to inflation of supply costs.

Thomasina inquired about Assistant Treasurer Salary, Susanne reported that there is currently an informal Assistant who is Marci. Susanne stated that this has been discussed with Marci to become the Assistant, Susanne would like to have someone be able to sign a check if she is absent and for someone to sign her checks. Marci stated that this is a requirement from the State, every Town Clerk and Treasurer is mandated to have an Assistant. Susanne stated she has tried to find one and has not been successful, she has advertised in the paper, on Front Porch Forum, and by word of mouth. Susanne stated that Marci offered to fill this role. Marci clarified this to satisfy the State requirement for Susanne to have an Assistant. Marci further stated she made the offer to do this in the interim and if Susanne finds someone who is interested or someone who she would like as an Assistant, Marci will then no longer fill the position. Thomasina inquired if this is a conflict with other positions Marci holds. Marci stated she believes it is not, there is a compatibility chart for offices. Marci stated that if she were the Treasurer or the Town Clerk, then there are more conflicts, but as Assistant there are less. Susanne stated this



position is paid hourly, \$15 an hour. Thomasina suggests **line item Assistant Treasurer decrease from \$3,000 to \$1,000** this is due to there not being the intense training that occurred while Susanne was in training as assistant, to become Treasurer. Bill inquired if Susanne is finding the job easier or harder. Susanne stated that it is very repetitive, once learned it is routine. She enjoys doing the work.

Lister line item, Madine stated during Covid there was less done, since then there has been an increase. Madine further stated that during Covid, one person was often working rather than three, now the three are working together, as they should be for the position, which will reflect a higher amount. **Line item for Lister, increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000**, for the purpose of this item being over budget last fiscal year.

Thomasina inquired about what the special reappraisal line item is for, Madine stated that this is what is paid for each parcel, which is put into a fund to be saved for a reappraisal. Marci stated that the Town was checked for needing a reappraisal and we do not need a reappraisal done at this time. This line item will stay.

Line item Restoration & Preservation Res. the board inquired what this item is. Marci thought perhaps this is for the vault, which is State required. **Line item Restoration & Preservation Res. decreased from \$1,800 to \$1,500** as nothing has been spent last fiscal year.

Thomasina inquired regarding the line item of Network Administrator and how that is different from the Computer Services line item. Susanne thought perhaps, computer services covers repairs on computers, network administrator is assistance with network.

Line item, Town Clerk Purchased Services, Marci reported that Rosie requests \$500 for this line item. Thomasina would like to know what the increase would be for. Marci will find out.

Training Salaries have been at zero for several years, Madine stated that training during Covid was non-existent or on line.

Line item for VLCT, increased from \$1,288 to \$1,300, as this may go up.

Marci inquired about the line item of the Board of Adjustment, she thought that an amount should be here as they have expenses. Perhaps,



\$500 should be allocated as there has been more activity with the Board of Adjustment. Thomasina inquires who gets the money, Marci stated it is money received by the applicant, to the Town of Goshen, for the purpose of Board of Adjustment costs. Madine stated that the Board holds hearings and needs to post ads in the paper, there has been an increase in this activity. Dave commented that he previously paid the Board of Adjustment, \$130 fee, he is unsure what that covers. Dave paid the fee for both the Zoning and the Board of Adjustment. Dave made this payment on June 18th, nothing was received from the Board of Adjustment. Madine stated that the Board did not hold a hearing in the time that they should have. Thomasina stated this would be a permit by default. Madine clarified that the permit can only be what he requested, not deviated from that. **Board of Adjustment line item increase from 0 to \$500.** Thomasina inquired if there is an expense line item. Marci will find out more about this.

Line item for Supplies, Thomasina inquired what this is for, more information will be needed.

Line item Renovations Expense, Thomasina inquired what this is for, more information is needed for this as well.

Line item for Diesel, Gas, Oil and Grease doubled over the past year. **Diesel, Gas, Oil and Grease line item increased from \$12,000 to \$17,000** due to increase of fuel cost.

Line item for Cemetery Maint.-Supplies, Madine stated that the Cemetery Committee would like to address this issue, if the Board does not adjust this it will be petitioned. Madine reported that the supplies would go for repairing things for the cemetery, which by State law the Selectboard for the Town is required to do, this has not been done for many years. Susanne mentioned that there is a bank investment fund for the Cemetery. Thomasina inquired how much Madine recommends. Madine stated that there are repair materials; cement and brackets that are needed as well. Tammy inquired who was the person that came up years ago to clean stones. Madine stated it was Arthur Hyde from the Vermont Cemetery Association. Tammy would like to have an experienced person doing the stones and repair due to their age and fragility. Madine reported that Arthur has since passed away. Susanne inquired about raising the line item, Thomasina suggested an increase, **Cemetery Maint.-Supplies Line item increase from \$100 to \$500.**



Madine stated that the line item of Purchased Services would be the part where previously discussed to be raised due to the desire to put this contract out to bid again, it has not been out to bid in 10 years. **Purchased Services line item increased from \$5,500 to \$6,000.**

Line item for Addison County Tax Assessment, increased to \$1,600. The Board is unsure what this is for. Madine stated that this is what Addison County charges different towns per population to run Addison County.

Bill would like to have these new numbers be reflected in an updated spreadsheet. Susanne will have this done for the next meeting.

Marci stated that there is one more line item which she is unsure where to allocate funds. Marci reported the vault door was checked by the vault people and was found to have worn hinges, the service person stated that new hinges would be needed. The cost of this will be \$3,000. This is something that needs to be done, if the hinges continue to wear then the door will not open. Tammy inquired if there are others that can give a quote. Marci will inquire about this. Marci stated that Rosie had thought this could be reflected in a line item for building maintenance. Bill inquired with the age of the vault. Marci thought perhaps 2014. Madine said the vault originally was done in 1975, but the door is new.

Roads

22 minutes

Report of Road Foreman

Jim reported sand and salt has been delivered and they are good until January. Gerad is still working on the Green Truck. Plow will be put on the black truck as there is snow coming tomorrow. Dave stated that he spent a lot of time trying to find the markings that Jim did on the tree. Jim invited Dave to go with him and he will show him the marked trees. Tammy stated that she has taken care of the tree on Leonard Abess's property. She took care of it as Jim Bean stated that he only wanted Tammy on the property and no one else. Thomasina inquired about the dip in the new pavement patching that was done by Pike. Thomasina suggested calling Pike. Jim will give them a call. Dave inquired if there is still cold patch that can be used. Tammy inquired about the shoulders of Carlisle Hill Rd. Jim recommends waiting on the edges as during the winter this will fill up. Jim said that if the board wants to spend more money on filling in the shoulders they can. He puts 8-10 loads of gravel on the hill a month during the winter, the shoulders will fill in more. Jim stated that if this is hired to be filled in, it will fill in more through the



winter, then it may need to be taken out for the shoulders would then be higher than the road. Jim stated that currently there is a shoulder which drains the water off the road. He does not recommend filling this in as it will over time. Carlisle Hill gets the most sand then anywhere else. Tammy does not want someone to catch a tire on the edge of the pavement and get into an accident. Tammy thinks that something should be done with this. Tammy inquired about other areas around town that have no shoulder such as where Steady put in the culvert on Capen Hill. Dave stated that the compacting of edges gives strength to the pavement, so it does not break. Jim said come spring this will be filled in, he does not recommend spending money on this. Marci reminded the Board that after the new pavement was done, Jim filled in the edges with gravel and compacted them, Tammy said it should have been surepak and at least 2ft wide on both sides. Tammy doesn't disagree with what Jim is saying, but something needs to be done because if someone's tire catches the edge of the road it could be bad. Jim stated that this is up to the Board, they can do what they wish. Tammy received three complaints already on this. Tammy would like this to be bid out on the few places that need shoulders around town. Tammy inquired with Jim regarding other places in Town, such as where Steady did the work. Jim said that he looked at it and it was good, some areas could use some work, some areas are not conducive to shoulders due to the location. Dave stated that hand work then tamping will need to be done on Carlisle Hill. Tammy makes a motion to have a couple bids put out for this for anyone who would like to bid on it and have it done by the end of November. Thomasina stated that there is time needed for doing bids. Tammy stated that someone in the Town could do the work, perhaps work with Jim on it. Dave inquired if the grader can be used to scrape the edge of Town Hill Rd where it is higher than the pavement. Dave questioned whether the grader is equipped already to run with the blade off the edge of the road to do this work. Jim stated that the Town grader can not be used to do this work. The Town grader has teeth, not a flat blade. Dave inquired if there is a wing on it. Jim said no. Marci stated that Brandon has a fancy one. Dave stated that water is running down the road even after the paving. Tammy inquired about getting a small tractor to scrap and compact the edge of the road. Jim said the edge of the road will break easily. Marci stated that Pike only was hired to put a skim coat on, the problem that existed before is still there, just under a layer of new pavement. Thomasina inquired about doing the shoulders. Tammy stated that the residence could just take care of this, Thomasina is unsure how to do this. Bill stated that there is not sufficient time to put this out to bid. Tammy inquired if the Board would



like for her to do the work on this, she stated that she has a tractor, dump trailer, compactor, and can do the work Tammy will charge for material and labor. Thomasina proposed to do a not to exceed amount, she inquired with Tammy as to how long it would take to do the work. Tammy will drive around and assess. Bill recommends that Tammy come up with a cost of doing the work and give the Board that amount. Tammy offered to go around with Jim to look at the problem areas. Bill would like to have a cost estimate of the project, and there could be a special meeting for this. Jim is concerned with how much this will cost the Town, if this is going to cost the Town too much, then the road crew can do it for less. Jim said if a person has equipment, material, and men working, this cost adds up for the Town, furthermore he does not see where the issue is critical enough to warrant the expense. Tammy inquired what she should tell people that are complaining about this. Jim said that the Board is looking at spending money to fill in on the top of the hill while looking at spending money to take out fill on Town Hill, he disagrees, but Jim said it is up to the Board. Bill said that Tammy can do the research and an emergency meeting can be called. Tammy asked if Jim will go around with her. Jim said he can do that.

CDL Backup
Drivers for
Winter-Update

*Motion for
added backup
driver.*

Marci stated that she spoke with Francis Clark who does not have an interest in driving for the Town as a Town employee, but he did say that he has a CDL and owns a tandem truck and would consider being hired as a purchased service, to haul material and gravel, which could be helpful. Tammy inquired about Will Mathis, he called her today inquiring about Jeff who had resigned and what the status is with drivers. Thomasina would like to make sure that plowing is happening before the school bus goes out. Thomasina would like to have another driver as a back up. Thomasina makes a motion that the Board add Will Mathis for the Town as a CDL backup driver and that the Town receive all necessary information from him to do so, 2nd by Tammy. Bill Mathis abstained from the vote. Marci suggested that the Board look into the agreement that the Town entered along with other Town's where Towns agreed that in an emergency they would provide assistance pertaining to road work to other Towns. Marci is unsure if this was just during Covid, or if this is still an agreement in effect, but it may be worth looking into. Thomasina inquired who to contact for this, Marci believes it is Addison Regional. Thomasina will contact Mike Winslow regarding this.

Dave inquired about the last meeting where it was mentioned in the minutes on having someone do the turnarounds, he has been doing this



for a while at \$25 dollars for two turnarounds and at the Town Office and Hall he has done this for \$35 dollars each time. He inquired with the Board if they hired someone or is putting this out to bid. He wants to know if he should be plowing this winter. Dave stated that he was never a Town employee for this work. Bill stated that unless he hears an objection he would like this on the next meeting's agenda.

Items to be added for the next meeting agenda

- Dave Sabatini plowing of turn around, Town Hall, and Office
- Francis Clark Fire
- Culvert Inventory
- FLAP Grant update
- Article wording for the donation to the Library Campaign
- Finish Town Budget
- Road Budget

Executive Session if Needed

Any Other Business Legal and Proper to do at this time

Motion to adjourn

9:56pm

Bill Mathis motioned to adjourn, 2nd by Thomasina.

Respectfully submitted by Marci Hayes

Audio is available for 1 year after the meeting date, www.goshenvt.org.