



Selectboard Meeting

December 12, 2022

Unapproved Minutes

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

Others Present: Jeff Whiting, Vickee Whiting, Bill Mathis, Dave Sabatini, Timmi Moffi, Doug Perkins (non-citizen), Galina Chernaya, Jim Hayes, Marci Hayes, and Will Mathis.

Call Meeting to Order

7:05pm

Meeting called to order by Bill Mathis

Changes to the Agenda

2 minutes

Galina inquired about the Town Hall Roof being noted as being discussed last meeting, however it is not on this agenda. Thomasina stated that it will come up at a future meeting.

Meeting Minutes

8 minutes

Motion for Minutes

Thomasina clarifies that the budget is currently reflecting items that the Board added for garbage, nothing has been taken out. Bill reminded the board of needing to write the annual report. Thomasina motions to approve meeting minutes as written, Tammy 2nd.

Dave Sabatini mentioned concern, minutes do not accurately reflect what is heard on the recording, things have been added and things left out, an example when Jim said the roof had a hole in it, Dave stated this was not said. Board gave Marci a time to respond. Marci stated it is permissible to add for supplementary purposes, minutes are not a transcript, and the recording at times is hard to hear due to interference or when multiple people are talking. Jeff Whiting confirmed that Jim mentioned the hole in the roof. Galina stated that a more efficient method of taking minutes could happen. Minutes have been lengthy. The added recording of minutes makes this job more difficult. Jeff Whiting stated that the VLCT is specific for what minutes should consist of. Marci stated she will try to edit down the minutes where she can, while maintaining a true account of what happens and in keeping with [1 V.S.A. § 312\(b\)\(1\)](#).

Public Comment

6 minutes

Galina stated the Goshen Historical Society held their first event, a Civil War event that was attended by 30-40 people. There were reenactors and it was a good outcome and very positive things were stated by those in attendance. Galina stated that the next move will be focusing on

the roof and making the building handicap accessibility. Galina added that some in attendance pointed out both of these things. Thomasina would like to first address the roof. Galina thought both should be addressed as currently the building is in violation of being ADA compliant.

New Business

18 minutes

Insect
Control
District
Report

Doug Perkins from Otter Creek Insect Control District is present with Jeff Whiting and Will Mathis. The annual report was sent to all Town Clerks. Doug stated that the dry conditions last year attributed to low numbers of mosquitos. Insect district uses an algorithm for an equitable redistribution of expenses. Due to 2020 census data, the algorithm has been updated, this resulted in a non-equitable distribution of the expenses. A 5 year pesticide permit was obtained. In the past this was part of the lawsuit case, this time no public comment was received during comment time. Doug will be Chair for another year, treasurer will be resigning this year. Budget will increase by 5% due to inflation. Ticks are becoming the biggest health issue in this area. Ticks are carrying more diseases than just lyme disease. The CDC would like for insect districts to take more initiative regarding ticks. This may affect the future of what the District offers. Vermont has a tick surveillance program. Will stated the same chemical family is used for mosquito and ticks but a different spray. Doug stated pesticides are last resort, first methods include; remove the habitat for the pest, modify the environment, and treat the deer and animals that are carrying the disease. Tammy inquires about Salisbury. Doug stated in 2021, Salisbury voted to not pay their assessment, due to the nature of the grant, they continued to do larvicide, but no spraying in Salisbury. In 2022 Salisbury voted to pay the full assessment. The Lake Association requested the mosquito district to spray around Lake Dunmore, Salisbury is funding, Salisbury is full member and has paid their assessment this year. Some citizens have petitioned once again to not pay the mosquito district. If Salisbury votes just for the larvicide program they will only receive larvicide. Money paid from towns go to three areas; adulticide, larvicide, and overhead expenses. Towns need to have larvicide per State requirement. It was estimated that for the six towns in the district there were 6,000 acres of class 2 wetlands; this has been found to actually be 16,000 acres. Doug stated road miles, number of dwelling units in each town, equalized education grand list, and acres of wetlands are factors in treatment and funding thereof. Tammy verifies that each town pays according to what they receive, Doug said yes. Timmi inquired if the algorithm takes in account how many households opt out of being sprayed. Doug said no as this is very little and has no effect. 10 opted out in Goshen, 87 residences in total opted out throughout the 6 towns.

RECESS

At 7:40 there was a 5 minute recess taken for the Board to retrieve/print information from the Town Office for the meeting.

Report from Garbage Contractor

Selectboard inquired with Dave Sabatini on how he is doing with the waste collection. Dave reported he is not using the trailer as it needs considerable work, it is at Thunder Towing and is being worked on. He is doing two trips around Town for waste collection (5-6 hours total). Some people are not getting trash out early enough, trash should be out by 8:30. Dave picked up oops stickers from the transfer station to address issues with recycling and garbage confusion. Dave reported that not many people are putting tickets on extra bags. Dave stated that information should be out as people do not seem to know or be informed. Thomasina stated that information has been on the website regarding waste collection.

Charlotte finds it difficult to navigate and find certain information on the website, she stated it would be helpful for sections with news and updates. Thomasina stated that the front page has been updated and is more of a bulletin style with pertinent and relevant information. Thomasina encouraged Charlotte to view the page and let her know of areas needing improvement.

Submittal of Selectboard Initiatives document for minutes

Bill stated the Board would like to have a systematic way of doing business in Town with who does what. A spreadsheet was handed out with a timeline, (attached), Galina commented that the goal columns are mostly blank. Galina encouraged the Board to set goals first, then have strategies for actionable items. Thomasina stated this is just a start, it will expand and improve. Bill stated that this is a list, if people have suggestions on importance he would love to hear from people. Galina is happy to see the Board create this spreadsheet.

GMNF Adventure Racing Association Recreation Event Letter

January 8th is the deadline for public comment for this event. Event is an adventure race. Thomasina inquired about posting this for people’s awareness of the event. Galina stated that there is a document regarding scoping. The area affected will be Silver Lake. There is projected to be around 195 participants that will be in the area, going in the woods (off trails), swimming around Silver Lake and doing orienteering. Four cars will be permitted to drive down to the lake, the spectators (estimated total of 15) will park in the parking lot. Event will be going through the night. The comment period was extended at Galina’s request. Friends of Silver Lake, Saving Trees, and other organizations are working on a letter to be submitted during the comment period. Adjacent property owners are to be notified, not all landowners have not been notified. Charlotte inquires what the potential problem is regarding the event. Tammy thought liability could be a concern. Galina stated that it also involves the

wildlife habitat, specifically loons on Silver Lake, which are not accustomed to almost 200 people swimming around their habitat, they are sensitive and would easily vacate the area. Tammy felt this concern warrants further information. Loons were at Goshen Dam and left when construction happened. This will be added to the agenda. Galina stated that participants will be arriving on bikes. This will be September 16, 2023. Will inquires about patrol, outhouses, and trash. Galina stated nothing has not noted anything regarding outhouses, and trash is carried in-carry out. Bill Mathis inquired if they are bonded. US National Events Race Association, the event will bring about \$20,000 revenue for them. Board inquired if some of this could go to waste, patrol, and restroom management.

Brief discussion occurred on Town Reports. Lori Lovell in the past would send a letter to everyone stating that reports were due at a certain time. Charlotte was present and stated that she will be handling the Town Reports this year. Thomasina inquires if Charlotte would like her own email, Charlotte stated she would. Thomasina inquires about confirming the potluck before Town Meeting and gathering to verify Christmas Eve service time. Marci stated potluck will be happening and she will confirm with Madine regarding service time and get back with Thomasina.

Heat Pump
Bid
Opening
Motion to
accept bid
for heat
pump

Thomasina reported one bid was submitted from Fischer Electric. Heat pump installation in the Town Office total cost is \$3,977 rebates included. The outside condenser will need a little roof, which is not included in the price. Tammy makes the motion to use ARPA funds to pay \$3,977 for the heat pump, Thomasina 2nd with the understanding the Town will be paying additional to whom they chose, for a roof over the unit outside. Galina inquired about having ARPA money left to go to the lift. Thomasina stated that a balance of what is left needs to be obtained and perhaps could be enough to use. Balance brought forward is something that Bill would like to see. Vickee stated that it is unknown what comes in for income. Projection can not be done, as there is an unknown and it is not good practice.

Old Business **30 minutes**

Town and
Road Budget
Changes/
Approvals

Garbage decisions will not be reflected in the budget unless voted on. \$24,000.00 would come out, the tipping fees will be left in. This will be written as a warning. Discussion on budget. With new changes, the amount of money needing to be raised \$129,863.00

Dave inquires that \$24,000.00 is to be voted on, this doesn't show the gas or maintenance on the green truck. Labor was \$14,000 that was taken out. Contracted services eliminate maintenance, insurance, gas, labor, etc. Tammy inquired what was being done with the old green garbage truck. Thomasina

would like to put it out to bid. Tammy would like to sell it. It will be added to the agenda to accept bids to be opened for purchase of Town garbage trucks. The trailer was registered to 2027, Tammy is seeing about getting some of that money back as the Town no longer has the trailer. Dave Sabatini noted that the plates were removed from the trailer that was sold, however plates are still on the garbage truck not being used.

Vickee stated if the Townspeople vote for garbage to be collected, this will be added to the expenses and property tax to be raised. Selectboard would like to have this voted on by ballot. Taxpayers will have the option to do curbside, drop off, or leave it completely to the people. Thomasina would like the townspeople to know what the options are and the costs are. Tammy would like flyers to be sent out. Petitions are due soon for articles. Bill will speak with VLCT regarding garbage, budget, and wording of warning. Marci stated monetary votes customarily are done on the floor at Town Meeting, as that is when the budget is voted on and numbers can be discussed, altered, and voted on. Budget items should not go on the ballot the day after the budget is voted on by the people. Bill makes a motion for an article for Garbage pickup either; door to door, central pickup, or none to be voted on the floor, Thomasina 2nd.

Motion for article for waste collection

FLAP Grant, Marci stated nothing will be heard until January or February.

Community newsletter Thomasina reported she would like a newsletter available by mid January for the website.

Roads 11 minutes

Cold patch Marci stated the area has not been fixed due to inclement weather. Tammy would like this done by the next meeting. Marci stated if it is wet or snow covered it should not be done as the material used will not hold. Tammy stated if this area (Town Hill bump) is not fixed by the Town road crew, the Board will bid this out.

New Employee Schedule, Tammy inquired if Will could be used. Bill recuses himself during the conversation and leaves the meeting for the evening. Tammy would like to see Will have a set couple days a week where he is guaranteed work. Marci expressed concern with this as work is weather dependent and based on need, not fulfilling hours, there may not be work. Tammy wants to be sure Will will be used and not put on the crew and never get called. Jim stated that Will

needs to do necessary things prior to working. Thomasina received an email from the Town Clerk and is working with Will on these items that are needed. Jim stated that Will rode around with him years ago when he was put on the crew, he knows how to drive the truck. Marci and Jim will work with Will and get a schedule with days that Will is able to assist.

Vehicle Maintenance Update – Plow Trucks The green plow truck is still being worked on. Tammy will contact Gerad at Thunder Towing regarding the status of the truck.

Snow Maintenance Contract: Parking & Turnaround Areas Thomasina stated last year Dave Sabatini was paid \$600 for his contracted plowing services in Goshen. Thomasina motions that the Town pay Dave Sabatini an amount not to exceed \$800 for the plowing of the Town Hall, Town Office (both include hand shoveling), and turnarounds noted; South Hill, Silver Lake, and Cape Look Off for this winter, Tammy 2nd. Pull Off area is not included. Dave stated that there is a Moosalamoo Association Board Meeting tomorrow night, in which he will attend.

Any Other Business Legal and Proper to do at this time **1 minute**

Dave inquired if other prices were ever obtained for garbage options other than his, Thomasina stated no.

Motion to adjourn **8:57pm**

Thomasina motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tammy 2nd.

Future Agenda Items mentioned from this meeting include;

- Race at Silver Lake Area
- Garbage Truck Sale
- Roof Repair

Reminder the next Regular Meeting has been moved from December 26 to December 28th. The next meeting will be Wednesday December 28th, 2022

Submitted by Marci Hayes

Click Here to view attached [Selectboard Working Agenda](#)