



REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

Monday, May 8, 2023 6:30pm

Meeting held at Goshen Town Hall

Unapproved minutes

Members Present: Bill Mathis, Thomasina Magoon, Tammy Walsh and Timmi Moffi, Selectboard Clerk

Others Present: Chad Beckwith, Jeff Whiting, Bob West, Will Mathis and Ben Lawton

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:35

No changes to the agenda

Thomasina moves to approve the meeting minutes from 4/24. Bill seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Public Comment: Chad states the importance of being mindful of invasive species being brought into town from equipment used for roadside mowing. Chad requests that equipment be power washed.

Bob requests the allocating of the awarded \$4000 MERP mini grant be added to the next meeting's agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District: Ben states that the town of Proctor has petitioned to join the mosquito control spraying. In order to add Proctor each existing town in the agreement needs to vote in favor of Proctor joining.

Thomasina moves to add Proctor to the OCWICD. Discussion on whether this will change the cost to each town. The cost should remain the same to Goshen. Bill seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Humane Society Contract: The selectboard had previously discussed going with the lowest tier in the contract.

Thomasina moves to approve the Humane Society contract at a rate of \$450 a year. Bill seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Email from Town Clerk Paperwork Needed: Bill states that the laws regarding the Town Clerk responsibilities are ambiguous and not very clear but that, as elected, the Town Clerk is beholden



only to the public. Likewise the Selectboard members are also elected positions and beholden to the public. Bill feels there has been a tradition of continuing to expand the Town Clerk's view of things. The Town Clerk has emailed back and forth with the selectboard on many issues and it's led to a bad climate. Bill states it is necessary to repair this relationship between the Town Clerk and the Selectboard. The other selectboard members agree with this.

Thomasina reminds all boards and committees to organize. These entities also need to post agendas and minutes for their meetings. All agendas and minutes can be sent to the Selectboard Clerk who will then post them on the website. The email address to send items to is selectboardclerk@goshenvt.org

Open Appointments: Thomasina states that there are currently 3 open positions; 2 positions for Trustee of Public Funds and the alternate for OCCUD. Any one interested in either of these positions can contact the selectboard.

Green Up Day: Timmi stated that Green Up Day trash has been collected and taken in to the ACSWD. The totals were 48 bags of trash, 2 bags of recyclables and 12 tires. People enjoyed the BBQ at the Town Hall and overall it was a successful community event. Thomasina took pictures and there will be a write up in the town newsletter and posted on the website.

Road Mileage Certification: The email from Rosemary, the Town Clerk stated that because the Road Milage Certificate had not been signed and turned into the State, this means no road grants for 2023. Timmi was unable to connect with Kerry Ally to verify this as she was out of state for training. Timmi was able to confirm with Kerry's supervisor, Jonathan Croft, that Rosemary's statement is not accurate. The town's ability to receive grant money in 2023 is not affected by the State not having received the certificate on time. The State uses the previous years's mileage if no certificate is received. The hold up on sending this to the State was the ongoing issue of South Hill Rd. The Selectboard will get this signed and sent to the State. Further discussion on this subject and how best to address when misinformation is passed along to residents.

BBH Campground Permit Request: Timmi gave a brief overview to the Selectboard on the Campground Permit requirements for both the Town and the State. The State allows two sites without a permit and the Town of Goshen only allows one site without a permit. Shari Brown is considering going before the Planning Commission to request that the number of unpermitted sites the Town allows match the number the State allows. Currently there is no action needed by the Selectboard but there may be, once the Planning Commission meets with Shari. Further discussion on this subject.

Technology: Thomasina has met with two different IT/security people and did a complete walk through with each. Thomasina explains the updating to the computers, servers and Wi-Fi that



would be included as well as the installation of security cameras. Further discussion on this subject.

Thomasina moves to approve a not to exceed amount of \$3500, using ARPA funds, for updating technology and security for Chris Morse. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Thomasina moves to purchase Office licenses that will come out of current Office Supplies line item. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

ARPA Funds: Thomasina states the total amount Goshen received in ARPA Funding is \$48 736.46 Funds have been spent on air purifiers for Town Office and Town Hall, a heat pump for the office, new windows for Town Hall and digitizing the land records. Discussion on additional spending of this money. There are needs for both the Town Garage/Road Crew and Town buildings.

Thomasina moves to spend \$600 for chainsaws, \$600 for torch heads, \$500 for roadside tools and also a man door for the Town Garage, not to exceed \$2500 of ARPA funds. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Thomasina moves to spend \$1000 on bulletin boards, \$800 on a PA system, \$450 on desks, not to exceed \$2300 of ARPA funds. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Town Hall Rental: A point person needs to be appointed and a way to get the renter the keys needs to be finalized. More details need to be thought through and added to the Rental Policy. A person is also needed to clean the Town Hall on a regular basis. Thomasina will give some more thought to these points and get back to the Selectboard with some ideas.

ROADS

Grants: GMNF has awarded Goshen \$20K for this coming fiscal year and also expanded the roads approved to include Flora White Rd. Chris Mattrick will be attending a selectboard meeting in June and will be available to answer questions. Additionally Thomasina has submitted the grant in AID which is a water runoff grant with ACRPC. This amount is typically around \$8K and is a 80/20 match. Thomasina met with Brian Sanderson regarding paving grants using the Capital Plan, which would include Town Hill Rd. Thomasina stated we have a high chance of receiving a 200K grant that would need to be spent by the end of calendar year 2024 and the Town would need a \$40K match. Further discussion on grants, projects and road budget.

Tammy states the intention for the roads is to add a crown back to the roads and mentions that the damage done to Ben Lawton's property still needs to be fixed. Ben is requesting it be filled and seeded. Tammy states that several bags of chloride were ruined from being left out and had to be thrown away. The remaining bags were moved into the shed out of the weather.

Thomasina moves to let Tammy strip the chloride truck and then get rid of it. Bill seconds, all in favor, motion carries.



Tammy states that both trucks need to be inspected and repairs done in order to be safe for employees to drive. Andrew Atwood gave a quote of \$3000 to repair the green truck and get it inspected.

Thomasina moves to approve spending a not to exceed amount of \$3200 to Andrew Atwood to fix the green truck. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motions carries.

Thomasina moves to approve spending \$400 to get a new piston for the grader. Bill seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Tammy states the Town Garage has been completely cleaned out down to the concrete floor. One issue that has been revealed during this job is that there is rot along the bottom of the boards where the dirt has been piled up. Tammy recommends using composite boards that won't rot. The V plow that George Walsh had is going to be repainted and new lettering added before being placed on a pad by the Town Garage. All equipment will now fit in the garage and nothing needs to be left out. Tammy states that the ballot box should be moved to the other side of the office to accommodate handicap residents. Further discussion on road budget and projections for road projects.

OLD BUSINESS

Job Descriptions: Road Foreman position has not yet been posted but Thomasina will post. The ZA has been given to Chad Chamberlain.

South Hill Rd Re-route: Timmi stated she was told by Jonathan Croft that it is too late to finalize this now. It will have to be done next year. The Road Mileage Certificate still needs to be sent in.

Bill moves to adopt the Town highway mileage. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Policy and Ordinances: Thomasina will add one to each agenda and keep working through them.

Emergency Services: The auditors presented copies of outstanding Emergency Fire Dept Services invoices.

Thomasina moves to appoint Rick Towman as a liaison to work with the board to help with collections of invoices. Bill seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Thomasina moves to adjourn. Tammy seconds, meeting adjourned at 8:29pm