



REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

Monday June 12, 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: Phil Bowman, Vickee Whiting, Aaron Todd, Galena Chernaya, Leo Zhelmin, Bob West (with guests), Chris Mattrick (USFS), Luci Stevens, Chad Chamberlain, Dave Sabatini, Madine Reed, Al Gionet, Kathy Mathis, Emilio Gomez, Dave McKinnon and Will Mathis

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:32

Tammy makes the suggestion to move Citizens Concerns to the end of the meeting to accommodate Chris Mattrick's presentation on GMNF projects.

NEW BUSINESS

GMNF- Chris Mattrick confirms that the road agreement for \$20K with the Town has been processed. Chris gives a rundown on GMNF maintenance projects that are currently underway as well as recently completed. This includes grading roads in MNRA, brushing and ditching, road sign replacement, replacing toilets at Moosalamoo Campground and Silver Lake picnic grounds, new seating at Voter Brook and expanded seating at Silver Lake, paving the parking lot at Falls of Lana, work to Widow's Clearing, the horse site at Silver Lake, etc. Further discussion on projects. There is currently no Host at the Moosalamoo Campground this year, the position is open. The water is currently off at the Campground temporarily due to failed tests last year. A well company did some work and they are getting testing done to reopen. There are 3 new Recreation Technicians this year and a new Recreation Planner/Specialist position starting in August. There are a couple of proposed projects that remain under analysis, the Moosalamoo Connector trail which would be between Moosalamoo Campground and Silver Lake Campground. Waiting to hear back from the State Office of Historic Preservation. Also the Silver Lake site improvements which would be building steps down to the water to stop erosion at the beach and at one campsite, is waiting for sign off. Through funding for the MNRA, an agreement with ACRP has been secured to develop a Master Plan for the Recreational Area. There is currently no timeline for this but Chris will let the towns in the MNRA know when this starts moving forward. There will be a Goshen Timber sale this fiscal year. They have a five year window but with a small sale like this it anticipated to be done within a couple years. A Hut site is still being explored with an informational meeting being held at BHOC on June 24th to examine what the planning process would look like and visit some sites. The Rainbow Gathering



is looking at Brooks Rd as a possible spot but nothing is finalized and Chris feels they are more likely to be at another location. This would be the first week in August and he will let the Selectboard know if any plans solidify. Earth First is meeting over in Granville. Bill asks if there is any chance of getting the pit opened back up for use. Chris states that the pit is played out as far as material extraction. Bill has concerns regarding the shooting range. Chris states that the signs that were there disappeared and will be replaced. Currently there is no law enforcement officer. Galina asks where to find info regarding the timber sale. Chris states on the GMNF Website under approved projects. Galina has questions regarding the Hut sites listed which are; Romance Header, Voter Brook Rd, Sucker Brook Historic Trail and Brooks Rd. Chris states these are just locations to visit as sample sites not as proposed sites. There currently is no proposal for a Hut site. Further discussion on this subject. Galina would also like people to be aware that rerouting of Hogback trail is now open for comment.

Phil Bowman is building a house at 1861 Goshen Ripton Rd. Phil would like to run the conduit for his power under the road instead of cutting the tree canopy. This would entail burying a 30 inch primary line. He is unsure of the process with the Town on this and inquires with the Selectboard on how to proceed. Further discussion on this subject. Phil is meeting with GMP on 6/13. The Selectboard requests that Phil ask GMP for a proposal with the specs for the project that the Selectboard can review. Phil will request this information from GMP and submit it to Bill.

MERP Grant Meeting- Bob West states that the MERP Grant representatives will schedule a meeting at the Selectboard's discretion. Kathy Mathis speaks to the need for a quote for the lift for ADA compliance. Discussion on possibly putting in the lift sooner than the MERP Grant funding would be available. Kathy states there may be additional grants that would enable this to happen.

Thomasina moves to authorize the Goshen Historical Society to collect quotes for installing the lift. Bill seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Thomasina moves to approve the minutes from 5-22-2023 Selectboard Meeting. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Open Positions- Thomasina states that all open Town positions are posted on the Town Website.

HR Systems- Bill is currently working on developing personnel files and processes for employee hiring, evaluations etc. The Town will be adopting policies from VLCT templates.

ROADS



GMNF 20K needs to be allocated, which now includes Flora White Rd. Vickee will keep grading and gravel separate for the roads included in the grant. Grading the entire town takes approximately 20 hours and will now be done monthly and sooner if needed. Dutton Brook Rd also needs gravel added. The Town has 2 pallets left of bagged chloride that the Road Crew will be using up before making a decision on switching to liquid chloride. It will take the mechanic about another week and a half to finish getting the repairs to inspect the green truck. Until then the Town has no trucks available for use due to neither truck having been inspected. After the green truck is back in service the mechanic will diagnose the black truck for inspection. A culvert near Galina and Leo's house on Carlisle Hill Rd was blown out as it was clogged solid and is now working fine. Another culvert on South Hill Rd was also blown out successfully. Blowing out the culverts is more cost effective to the Town. Work is also being done to South Hill Rd and the bridge has been cleared of excess gravel.

Grant in Aid- Thomasina has met with Brian Sanderson and the recommendation for using the \$10K awarded to the Town is to put in a culvert up near Lawton's and Ice House Farm. This would ensure no farm runoff is going into the stream. Thomasina questions whether this would be done by the Road Crew or bid out. Tammy states if the Town has the rental excavator then the Town could do it. The Selectboard agrees that this is where the grant money should be spent. Thomasina will do some research on this project.

Town Hill Update- Awarded \$200K grant that is a 80/20 match. Decisions need to be made on logistics of sections and timeframe for allocating this money on Town Hill Rd. Thomasina will be working with Jeff Whiting and Brian Sanderson on this project.

Roadside Mowing- Tammy spoke with Len Palmer and Will Mathis who were interested in doing the roadside mowing. \$3200 is what it previously cost the Town. If both parties are interested then it should be put out to bid. Vickee reminds the Selectboard that a Certificate of Insurance needs to be on file before work begins. This needs to start soon as it is getting dangerous at intersections. Tammy states Len can start next week, Will agrees that the Town should go ahead and hire it out to Len.

Thomasina moves to contract Len Palmer in the amount of \$3200 for the roadside mowing. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Machinery Update- Grader and loader also need to be fixed but the Town doesn't have the money to spend on these fixes currently. The order of importance is the inspection of the trucks and then the grader. Tammy is working on purchasing the torches, tools and chainsaws from the estate of Ron Richards.

Christmas Tree will be planted at the end of next week and will include a raised bed garden around the well head.



Town Office Renovations-Thomasina received another quote for refinishing the floors for \$2600 and will continue to collect additional quotes. A new desk has been installed in the office that fits the historical feel. A fire proof filing cabinet for the Treasurer is also needed. The Selectboard will keep chipping away at these needed items using the ARPA funds. Thomasina is working on a floor plan for the Town Office that will be presented for feedback before moving other things around.

Plow Logo- Thomasina is working on getting the Town logo and lettering applied to the V plow but it is weather permitting.

Technology Update- Last week Chris Morse installed 2 cameras at the Town Office, one inside and one outside. Another camera will also be installed at the Town Garage this week. The video footage will be on a 30 day loop. The Selectboard is working on writing a policy for how this footage will be viewed. Chris updated the computer system and will be working on building out electronic files that can be accessed at least by the Selectboard so that there is a working network that doesn't need to be rebuilt when there is a new Selectboard. Kathy wants to make sure there will be signs for the public so people know they are being recorded. Thomasina confirms there will be signs.

ZA Update- The planning commission is interviewing Keith Arlund at the July Planning Commission meeting.

Town Hall Rental Policy- Thomasina confirmed with VLCT that alcohol can be permitted at the Town Hall with the proper insurance. This was questioned during discussion at a previous Selectboard Meeting.

Thomasina moves to approve the buildings and grounds policy changes to Town Hall Rental that include a \$50 refundable deposit for Goshen residents and also having non resident renters take away their own garbage after events. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

ARPA Funds Spending Updates- Still money available from the \$48K received. Money has been spent on town building renovations, technology upgrades etc. Discussion on spending to upgrade the tables and chairs for the Town Hall.

Emergency Fire Dept Services- Rick Toman is working with residents on outstanding bills for emergency services. Rick is assisting the Selectboard in trying to navigate through the process of being able to provide these services to the Town residents without such large invoices. Currently the Town has no control over how many people are sent in response to an emergency call nor how long these people stay at the site. Thomasina states Rick has a background in Search and Rescue.



Thomasina is currently working on a new issue of the Town Newsletter and hopes to have it out soon.

Thomasina would also like to thank Vickee Whiting for returning to the position of Treasurer. Many thanks to Vickee from the people present.

CITIZENS CONCERNS

Luci states that she has some concerns regarding IT issues but notes that the audio from the 5-22 Selectboard meeting hasn't yet been posted. Timmi informs her that the reason is due to the recorder not being turned off and having residents private conversations inadvertently recorded. Thomasina will get the recording cleaned up and it will be posted.

Kathy would like to start the painting in the Town Hall. She is donating her time and paying for the paint as discussed at a previous meeting. Thomasina and Tammy feel that the doors and trim should be white to stay true to the historical feel. More discussion on the painting colors and areas.

Galina would like to donate some hanging baskets for the Town Office. Tammy will purchase and install some hangers for the baskets. Vickee volunteers to water the planters.

Thomasina points out that she and Aaron have donated a bulletin board in the hallway of the Town Hall. Thomasina states that Bill attempted to remove the sign from the Town Office and it is rotten. This needs to be cleaned up, repainted and reinstalled. Thomasina is working on a mock up of the Town Office to scale to show where the new bulletin board should be installed.

Installing it under the covered porch not only protects it from weather but also the motion detecting light will be activated for someone trying to read it in dim light. This could be an official posting board and there could also be one for posting other items. The other purchase would be a more historic light fixture such as a black gooseneck light. Aaron has offered to donate his time to do the wiring for this.

Kathy inquires about installing window boxes for flowers that had been done historically. Vickee states that this cannot be done as it was causing rot on the building.

Thomasina would like to pressure wash the Town Buildings as they look caked in dirt, especially the Town Office. Vickee suggests waiting until August.

Kathy would like to clean the monument as well. This could be included in the pressure washing.

Thomasina would like to give Barb Walsh recognition for all her service to the Town. The decision is made to spend \$150 for a gift certificate for a hair appointment and lunch for Barb and also \$150 for a gift certificate to Cafe Provence for Jim Hayes.

Dave McKinnon would like to state his concern as a taxpayer about the frivolous spending by this Selectboard and he'd like a couple questions answered. Dave states that the Selectboard took out a professional quality camera system and bought another camera system and installed it.

Number two is the upgrade and installation of a file server. Dave feels that there is no need for a file server. Dave questions why the Selectboard is being so frivolous with his tax money.



Bill responds to the first question, that the reason for the new cameras was because the Selectboard was denied access to the camera footage even though this is required by law. Dave responds that is a lie, that is a mistruth. He states that it is in the minutes that he said he would give the Selectboard access to it and that Thomasina stated she wanted control of it. Dave states that the two Constables said no, they were not going to give you control over it because too many things disappear. When the camera came out stuff is going on in the Town Office. Stuff is missing, filing cabinets are rifled through. Dave states to go back to the minutes and listen. Tammy states that the conversation took place upstairs in the Church and that Dave and Marci told them they could not have access to it. Dave denies this. Bill uses the gavel. Bill states he cannot speak to the technology upgrades. Dave states that he gave access but didn't like the idea of it because he doesn't trust a couple of the Selectboard members. Dave states that he thinks this Selectboard just likes to spend money. Bill states to let the minutes reflect that David expressed his opinion.

Luci has some concerns about general IT security as it relates to the roles of officials. Luci states this is a conversation that can wait and she is open to discussion. Bill responds that the Selectboard will continue with this agenda item and that it isn't complete.

Dave Sabatini expresses to the Selectboard that they are doing a good job and thanks the Selectboard.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:11

Respectfully submitted,
Timmi Moffi, Selectboard Clerk



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