

MINUTES FROM 10/8/2019

SELECTBOARD MEETING

PRESENT: Chairman, Lee Kimball (at 6:30), Vice-Chair, Cheryl Moomey, Alton Bruso, Chuck Pease, Ken Millman

GUESTS: (Some attended the regular meeting and not the fireworks ordinance section) Danielle James Choiniere, Carol Behrman, Lee Morgan, Ron Kumetz, Randy Brock, Clay Purvis, Michael Morgan, Corey Parent, Lynn O'Neil, Jennifer Parro, Susan Smith, Terry Tatro, Tom Jacobsen, Charmaine Bouvier, Irene Clarke, State Police Sgt. Aamodt

FIREWORKS ORDINANCE REVIEW:

Vice-Chair Cheryl Moomey opened meeting at 6:17 PM.

Ken Millman shared a template and the board made a few changes upon suggestion: change "constable" to "designated official", charge \$20 for a fireworks permit, alter 15 days to 7 that permits have to be received before the event, and mirror the penalty fees from the ATV Ordinance. Fire Chief Ron Kumetz also suggested a list of all notified neighbors could be submitted with permit application. It would also be great, he opined, if the Village was off-limits to fireworks as so many houses are in such close distance. The board also talked about other options like forbidding fireworks on certain holidays, limiting 3 permits per address per year, making campgrounds/property owners apply for permits and not visitors/renters, and making applicants check to make sure there are no burn bans or dry conditions in effect. Board will meet at 6 PM on 10/18 for more review of this ordinance.

7:00 PM - OPEN REGULAR MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 7 PM by Chairman Lee Kimball.

ADJUST AGENDA (if needed):

ADJUSTMENT #1: Noise at Goose Point Campground

ADJUSTMENT #2: Resignation letter received (see executive session)

ADJUSTMENT #3: Holidays for transfer station personnel

ADJUSTMENT #4: 2019-20 Island Arts Allocation

ADJUSTMENT #5: Streetlight @ transfer station update

NEW / OLD BUSINESS UPDATES / TABLED TOPICS AND / OR WAITING RESULTS:

Broadband Internet

Clay Purvis from the Vermont Department of Public Service passed out a handout on broadband internet. Rural areas in Vermont like ours would be hard and expensive to supply with broadband. Grants are available from state and federal sources to provide broadband "boxes". There are limitations and they cost about \$1400-\$1800 per month to run. Broadband networks can be used to surround towns, like Craftsbury, where towns lease to businesses. Robert Fish from the state can come speak to Alburgh for more information and the board was intrigued.

Transfer Station

Highway crew likely too busy to brush-hog at transfer station but the brush pile can be burned in winter when there's less worry about fire. Training for transfer station personnel sorely needed. Charmaine had spoken to NWSWD for training opportunities and costs. Lee remarked training should be open to all TS employees. NWSWD member coming to visit in last 2 weeks of October to

check in. Chuck Pease suggested a training manual and board wholeheartedly agreed for current and future employees.

Larry Rosen stated to Chuck Pease the transfer station personnel should be paid for holidays that do not happen to fall on their workdays. The board said current personnel policies spell out which holidays are paid for when.

Danielle said Vermont Electric could convert transfer station streetlight to LED but Efficiency Vermont wouldn't kick in \$75 per light unless all town lights were converted. Board to check if there are 3 at the Missile Base and readdress next meeting.

Alcohol for Event @ Senior Center

The Senior Center wanted to be able to have a BYOB event on New Year's Eve but town properties do not allow alcohol on premises. Irene Clarke said the state doesn't require permits for a BYOB event and waivers can be signed to avoid the town getting sued. Sergeant Aamodt said people can still sue. Cheryl Moomey can ask town attorney.

Border Running Dogs

Ariel Brace to deliver fine #2 to Gerald Poquette on 10/9. His dogs are reported to be in Canada several times after running across border.

Bay Road Boring

The verb, not the adjective. Alton Brusco asked the board if they would mind if engineers hired by the state bored by Bay Road. No one minded.

Planning Commission & Rail Trail Improvements

The trail from Route 78 almost to the railroad bridge was recently trimmed and improved by VAST members. The town took care of its section from the Industrial Park to Route 78.

107 Lake St

More recent pics were compared to an older set. Lots of work going on there. The town formally asked via certified letter for a plan with dates and invitation to this meeting. Because it was mailed 10/3, the board was unsure if sufficient notice was given. Lee to rewrite for next meeting.

26 Lake St

A note was received offering to sell the property to the town. No price was listed. The board will review demolition costs and pursue further action in a future meeting.

328 South Main St

Still for sale. Tabled. Some audience members asked why this property couldn't be addressed simultaneously with others and Lee said feel free to tackle it.

Speed Devices

Tabled.

Car on Sidewalk

It wasn't on sidewalk but has been moved regardless. Strike from next agenda.

Goose Point Noise

Lee had received complaint about loud music and noise. When law enforcement arrives, the noise stops and people retreat into campers. When campground owners were addressed, they claimed to be too old to police the property at 3 AM. As the campground is closed, noise is likely coming from friends or family of campground owners. Sergeant Aamodt recommended for the neighbors to get video of the noise with time of day recorded and it can be brought to the attention of the county district attorney who isn't lenient with petty offenses. Quality of life issues are something the State Police are trying to address and can help towns have meetings to address certain topics at their request.

Island Arts 2019-20 Allocation

Island Arts requested their Alburgh donation. Danielle couldn't find where it was placed in budget. It was several times in the past and their on-time requests hadn't reached the board. Tom Jacobsen, a board member for IA, mentioned what the organization does for communities. Alton Brusio motioned to pay them \$1,000 if it could be found in the budget. Lee Kimball seconded, motion carried, all in favor.

Town Administrator

Tabled for now. Think about what town business is not getting done and check with other towns.

VISITOR INPUT

Carol Behrman asked about auditor update. Not much of one other than journal entries have been implemented based on outside auditor corrections.

Tom Jacobsen wanted to correct minutes, see next subject.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tom Jacobsen wanted to amend the 9/25 minutes to replace "town taking over" portions of rail trail to "town taking over maintenance of". Chuck Pease motioned to approve amended minutes. Alton Brusio seconded, motion carried, all in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Lee Kimball motioned to enter executive session for employee review at 9:57 PM. Cheryl Moomey seconded, motion carried, all in favor.

Cheryl Moomey motioned to come out of executive session at 10:30 PM. Lee Kimball seconded, motion carried, all in favor. No motions made.

ADJOURN

Cheryl Moomey motioned to adjourn at 10:30 PM. Lee Kimball seconded, motion carried, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle James Choiniere

Please note the above minutes HAVE NOT been approved. Approval or changes to the minutes will be addressed at the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 10/22/2019

DRAFT