

MINUTES FROM 11/26/2019 SELECTBOARD MEETING

PRESENT: Vice-Chair, Cheryl Moomey, Alton Brusco, Ken Millman, Clerk, Donna L. Bohannon

GUESTS: Ariel Brace, Danielle Choiniere, Lynn Blair, Charles Garfield, Jen Hebert, Chris Hebert.

6:30pm – TRANSFER STATION TOPICS - use of “resident” stickers, price changes, and other Transfer Station topics as needed.

- Meeting called to order at 6:35PM by Vice-Chair, Cheryl Moomey.
- The discussion began with the topic of recycling.
- Alton indicated that he discovered that the Town CAN charge for recycling if they choose to but questioned if that should be done.
- It was agreed by the three members present that this topic should be discussed with the full Board.
- There will be a special meeting in the near future to address this and other Transfer Station topics.
- The next topic briefly discussed was the scales at the Transfer Station.
- Farnham Scales picked the scales up and brought them to their shop on 11/21 and returned them on 11/22, repaired. They re-installed and tested them on site.
- There has been some discussion in the past about possibly purchasing a drive on scale for weighing the C&D, which is a large portion of what gets hauled to the landfill in New York.
- There was a question of the possibility of a grant through VLCT, but it is unknown if VLCT offers grants for this type of purchase.
- The Clerk will research this and report back to the Board at a future meeting.
- The final topic that was covered was the need for several more keys for the Transfer Station gate.
- The original keys for the gate have been assigned to vendors, Selectboard members and the Transfer Station attendants. There are other vendors that should have a key.

- *Alton Brusco motioned that 6 more keys should be ordered and kept in the possession of the Town Clerk to assign to other vendors as needed – seconded by Cheryl Moomey – all in favor – motion carried.*

Transfer Station topics tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.

- Fireworks Ordinance review – If time allows.
 - This topic will be added to the end of the 12/10/2019 agenda.

PRESENT: Vice-Chair, Cheryl Moomey, Alton Brusco, Ken Millman, Clerk, Donna L. Bohannon

GUESTS: Ariel Brace, Danielle Choiniere, Lynn Blair, Charles Garfield, Jen Hebert, Chris Hebert, Jen Parro, Susan Millman, Neil Christopher, Russell Duchaine, Dave McFadden, Rachael McFadden, Tom Jacobsen, Paul Civetti, John Goodrich, Terry Tatro

7:00pm - OPEN REGULAR MEETING:

- Meeting called to order at 7PM by Vice-Chair, Cheryl Moomey

ADJUST AGENDA (if needed):

- Two additions were made.
- **ADDITION #1:** Set a date for next budget meeting.
- **ADDITION #2:** Informing about AT&T – Verizon phone cell provider switch.

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

- 107 Lake Street – Update.
 - Selectboard member working on this was not present.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.
- 26 Lake Street – Update.
 - Selectboard member working on this was not present.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.

- 328 South Main St. – Update.
 - Selectboard member working on this was not present.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.
- Property on Industrial Park Road.
 - Charles Garfield was present to talk to the Board about the trailer (mobile home) that is on his property but is not being lived in.
 - Charles asked the Selectboard why he received a letter stating that the trailer is in violation of the Nuisance Property Ordinance.
 - Ken explained to him that the Board received a complaint and they had to respond to the complaint.
 - Charles explained that he uses the trailer for storage of materials, which would indicate that it is not abandoned.
 - He explained that he will fix the bottom of the trailer, clean the trailer and put new tires on it, as these are the things that seemed to make it a nuisance property.
 - The Board agreed that if he accomplishes those things as soon as possible, weather permitting, that would eliminate the violations and no other action would be needed.
 - They agreed to give him until the spring to accomplish the work.
 - The Selectboard will monitor the progress.
 - This will be removed from the agenda.
- Health Officer issues: 49 North Main
 - Selectboard member working on this was not present.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.
- New Year's Eve event at Senior Center – alcohol allowed? - Update
 - The Clerk read the response from VLCT.
 - Their opinion is that if the Senior Center has their own coverage, including an alcohol clause, that it would be okay for them to hold a B.Y.O.B event provided they provide a copy of the policy to the Town.
 - They also said that if the Town had an existing regulation about no alcohol on Town property, then the event should not be allowed.
 - Memory of all present was that there is a clause in the lease agreement that there not be alcohol on the property.

- The Clerk will review the lease agreement and forward it to the Selectboard members for their review as well.
- Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.
- Comcast access as an option.
 - Ken explained that Comcast is being required by the State to add 350 miles of cable in Vermont to satisfy a previous agreement between them.
 - He suggested that the residents of Alburgh that are interested in highspeed internet rally together to ask that Alburgh be a part of that 350 miles.
 - Ken suggested that different groups in the town; the library, the school, Village, Town, businesses and anyone interested in this as a possibility, write a letter of intent to be signed by the interested parties.
 - He is willing to “spearhead” the effort and would like to get a list of people that would be willing to help with the effort. ie: Selectboard, Village Trustees, The librarian and library trustees, business owners, the Planning Commission, the school and any other groups willing to sign a letter or petition.
 - Ken will continue to work on this.
 - Interested parties can contact the Town Clerks office for more information.
 - Tabled until further notice.
- Town truck – Old F550 – sell or ???
 - Alton Brusio talked with Jason Reynolds and John Beaulac about the value of the truck.
 - Both men told him that it is worth between three and five thousand dollars as is.
 - The Board agreed to place the truck for bid with a minimum bid of \$3,000. The bidding will be by sealed bid, all bids must be turned in to the Town Clerk by 5PM on 12/10/2019 and the Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
 - The truck will be placed at the Town Clerks office.
 - The Clerk will advertise it for sale.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.
- Animal Control topics:
 - Ordinance needs revisions – set a date.
 - The Board agrees that this needs to be addressed but it can wait until after budgets are done.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.

- How to dispose of dead animals unclaimed.
- Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.
- Other topics if needed.
- The Highway department is switching from AT&T to Verizon due to service.
- The Clerk went to Verizon to make the switch and because of the price difference (\$20 extra a month), got phones for the Animal Control Officers.
- It was explained that neither of the ACO's has good service with their phones and that if the phones are used for animal cruelty investigations, they can be confiscated.
- The Clerk explained that there is a fourteen-day window to return the phones if the Board disagrees with the decision.
- The three members present agreed that \$20 more per month is acceptable.
- The Board will budget into the ACO portion for the phones.
- Alburgh Family Clubhouse – Update if any.
 - Ken Millman explained that Taylor Newton has been working with him and the Clerk but there are no new updates.
 - Tabled until further notice.
- Village Sidewalk agreement discussion.
 - The Clerk explained that the Village Trustee would like a Selectboard member to attend their meeting on 12/03/2019 to hear what the history of the sidewalk agreements is.
 - The three Selectboard members that were present agreed that it would be better if all members of both Board met to discuss the issue.
 - The Town Clerk will ask the Village Clerk if the Trustees would be willing to attend the 12/10/2019 Selectboard meeting.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.
- Town Administrator – discussion – pros and cons.
 - Cheryl Moomey explained that the other Island Towns do not have a TA, but that they do have Zoning Administrators, that likely take on some of the tasks that a TA would be responsible for.
 - The Board talked about what duties a TA would have if the Board decided to ask the voters if they approve one.
 - No decisions were made at this meeting, but the discussions will continue.

- Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.

VISITOR INPUT:

- Several members of the Planning Commission were present to talk to the Selectboard about possibly applying for a grant to improve the recreation trails.
- Tom Jacobsen explained that there is a grant available through the State of Vermont that is specifically for the improvement of rec. trails.
- The grant is available to Municipalities and non-profit groups and the deadline is December 17th.
- The information was given to the Board.
- Several members of the Alburgh Sno-Springers, snow mobile group were also present to express their concerns and disagreement with requesting a State grant.
- The Sno-Springers concern is that they will lose the main trail if the State becomes involved.
- Tom clarified that the grant application is a two-step process. The first step is to present a proposal to the State and the second step would be to ask for the grant.
- The Sno-Springers explained that they already have authority from the State to maintain the trail and are willing to continue with that maintenance. They were not aware of problems with the trail.
- The Sno-Springers will give the Town Clerk contact information for several of the members so they can address any problems as they arise.
- The Selectboard members will review the information provided by Tom and will discuss this more at the next regular meeting.
- Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.

- **APPROVE INVOICES / SIGNATURES NEEDED.**

- **11/12/2019 – SELECTBOARD MEETING**

- *Alton Bruso motioned to accept the minutes from 11/12/2019 as written – seconded by Cheryl Moomey – all in favor – motion carried.*

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION** for the purpose of negotiating or securing of real estate purchase or lease options (RS149); 1 V.S.A. § 313 - Update

- Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION** for the purpose of negotiating or securing of real estate purchase or lease options (LS004); 1 V.S.A. § 313 - Update
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 12/10/2019.

- **ADJOURN:**
 - *At 8:50PM Cheryl Moomey motioned to adjourn – seconded by Alton Brusco – all in favor – motion carried – meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted, Donna L. Bohannon Alburgh Town Clerk

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 12/10/2019