



**Draft Minutes**  
**Alburgh Selectboard Meeting**  
**07/08/2024**

**Public Present:** Matt Lefleur, John Clarke, Megan Ballentine, Nathan Gotshall, Alton Bruso, Sharon Wildey, Dave Mangan, Mallory (last name? – via Zoom), Micheal Frett (The Islander)

**Municipal Officials Present:** Elliot Knight (Chair), Russell Duchaine (Vice-Chair), Jim Hokenberg, Damien Henry, Alex McCracken, Alex Goddard (Town Administrator), Rodney James (Road Foreman)

- **6:00pm** – Elliot knight called the meeting order at 6:02pm
- **6:01pm** – No adjustments were made to the agenda
- **6:05pm** – Minutes from the prior meeting(s)
  - Russell motioned to accept the minutes from 06/24/24 as written, seconded by Jim, all were in favor and the motion carried
  - Alex M motioned to accept the minutes from 07/01/24, seconded by Damien, all were in favor and the motion carried.
- **6:10pm** – Public Forum - public comment will be limited to 5 mins per speaker, anyone wishing to bring a matter to the board must clearly state their name. Potential action on items brought forward during the comment period will be placed on a subsequent agenda for continued discussion or action.
  - John Clarke provided an update on the status of the Rec Committee, and his appointment as its chair. John is looking for direction from the selectboard on current action items, and funding status.
  - Matthew Lefleur spoke on the new law requiring motorists to provide space for non-motorized vehicles on the roadway. TA to contact VTRANS about their plans for signage
  - Dave Mangan spoke about the crosswalk in front of the catholic church, and the need to, at minimum, restripe the lines. State Highway, TA to engage VTRANS about previous communications concerning that crosswalk.
- **6:15 – 6:25pm** – Sharon Wildey – Spoke at length about a personal situation with a tenant of hers, and how long it took for law enforcement to arrive. GICSD was off duty at the time, and VSP was covering Alburgh. Sharon would like to explore the idea of establishing an advisory committee on the issue of law enforcement coverage to our community. Sharon also requested the selectboard to engage our county / state legislators on a solution to the landlord / tenant law issues.
- **6:25pm** – **Department and Committee Updates**

- **Town Office**
  - Alburgh Volunteer Fire Department MOU Review – Chief Kumetz unable to attend the meeting. AVFD produced a new draft after their meeting with the selectboard. Selectboard felt it appropriate to table this until the Town Attorney has had a chance to review the agreed upon draft, and the new draft to offer an opinion of counsel.
  - Alburgh Rescue Inc MOU review – similarly, the Towns Attorney to review new MOU sent over by AR Inc.
  - Update on Bell Property Testing – Testing has been completed, results are pending.
  - Delinquent Tax Collector Transition – Administrator provided an update on the transition of the DTC role to the Administrator, Clerk, and Treasurer. A second round of delinquent notices was sent out last week, totaling \$292,000. The previous DTC recommended multiple properties go to tax sale, Administrator is researching new statues approved by the legislators in recent session to get a handle on that process. TA to report back to the board at the next meeting.
  
- **Highway Department**
  - Open Highway Department Position / Application(s) received
    - Russell motioned to move this agenda to item to executive session at the end of the meeting, seconded by Damien, all were in favor and the motion carried.
  - Request to remove Ash trees located in Town ROW at 713 Truck Route
    - Road Foreman has already visited this location, and recommended removal of the trees
  - The Road Foreman presented 3 quotes for paving, no decision was made. Board to look at FY24 closeout, and potential HW Dept surplus funds before moving forward.
  
- **Transfer Station**
  - NWSWD Ops Committee MOU edits
    - Russell raised concerns about the edits and the potential impact on free dump day
    - Alex M believes the language changes do not affect the possibility of a free dump day, board to brainstorm potential revenue sources to cover this cost.
    - Administrator to set up a meeting with NWSWD staff to review the edits to the MOU
  
- **New Business**
  - Alburgh Springs Community Center – damage from windstorm
    - Elliot and Alex G visited the community center and could not pinpoint the specific damage conveyed to the Town Office. In general, the building is in disrepair. Administrator to research the historic status of building, and whether there are grants to recondition the structure. Board to brainstorm potential uses for the currently unoccupied structure.

- Russell motioned to enter executive session pursuant to 24 VSA 313(a)(3) to discuss the potential employment of a town employee, the board invited the Town Administrator and Road Foreman into the executive session, seconded by Damien. All were in favor and the board entered executive session at 7:25pm.
- Damien motioned to exit executive session at 7:50pm, seconded by Alex McCracken. All were in favor and the board exited executive session.
- Damien motioned to offer Steven Little a full time position with the Town of Alburgh, with a starting pay rate of \$24.40/hr with a 90-day probation, seconded by Alex M, all were in favor and the motion carried. Administrator to send the offer to Mr. Little.
  
- **Warrants / Financial Review**
  - The selectboard reviewed and signed the warrants.
  
- **8:30pm** – Russell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:11pm, seconded by Damien, all were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

\*These are draft minutes not slated for approval until the 07/22/24 meeting

