

Minutes of July 11, 2016 Regular Selectboard Meeting.

Present: Board Members Carl Russell, Lisa Hill, Chris Jarvis, Vanessa Brown, and Moe Brigham. Others present: Town Manager Keith Arlund, Assistant Town Manager Abbie Sherman, Geneva Gaiko, Jose Lazo, Kristen LaFromboise, Kristy Roussel, and Lisa Campbell for the "Herald of Randolph."

Chairperson Russell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Public Comment or Inquiry:

1. Kristen LaFromboise and Kristy Roussel were present to inquire of the Board as to why the pool closure date isn't later in August as well as why the pool is not open on Sundays. At Carl Russell's request, Sherman explained that the decision of the pool closure date was discussed at a Recreation Committee meeting and takes into consideration when the pool staff might be returning to college. It was acknowledged that the season was shortened by 1 week (7 instead of the usual 8) due to delayed opening from construction of the bathhouse. Jarvis suggested requesting the Recreation Committee to look at keeping the pool open for longer. Hill advised that staffing concerns rest with the Town Manager and that the reason for closing on Sundays was numbers driven. She suggested LaFromboise and Roussel find a way to show that the public has an interest in the pool being open on Sundays via a petition or other means. LaFromboise also inquired as to why there is no swim team this year. Sherman advised that since the Recreation Committee pushed for Red Cross Swim Team training of the lifeguards, even though it is not the training offered through the Vermont Swim Association. Town management found the Town could not afford to offer more trainings so the program was cut. Russell suggested LaFromboise and Roussel find other means than through the Town to have an instructor lead the swim team. Use of the pool may be available dependent on any liability issues.
2. Jose Lazo was present regarding the Energy Committee and to ask if the Town is following a comprehensive energy plan. Russell advised that the draft plan has not made it to municipalities yet and the Selectboard had not yet been briefed on it. Regional Planning Commissions are to provide guidance to towns which would then be incorporated into Town Plans. Lazo would like to prepare a presentation for the Selectboard at a future meeting. Russell advised Lazo to make contact with Chris Sargent at Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission.

Reports, Motions, and Ordinances:

1. Discussion re. Capital Improvement Planning. The Board was provided with copies of a 2013 cost estimate for a new town garage and information from 2002 regarding the Town Office Study Committee. Hill noted mention of a matrix in the Town Office Study Committee's minutes. Russell will reach out to those members about getting a copy of the matrix. It was noted that the Town Hall was once considered a potential site for new Town offices, but the space was not large enough. New offices are needed to address a number of issues including lack of parking, vault space, office space, and meeting space. Discussion ensued about possible combining the Town Office space with either the Town Garage or Fire Department. Russell would like to have a matrix created so that any work the Board does now will be carried forward to future Boards.
2. Consideration of Loan Documents with Mascoma Savings Bank for Highway Equipment Purchases. Arlund advised the new backhoe the Town is purchasing will be delivered soon. Financing is needed to pay for it. Motion to authorize Keith Arlund to enter into a loan in the amount of \$125,000 with Mascoma Savings Bank was made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, and passed unanimously.
3. Review of Employee Compensation Schedule. Arlund provided the Board with a copy of the Town's Annual Salary Increase and data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics that shows the cost of living to have increased by less than 1 percent. A 3 percent increase has been budgeted for the current fiscal year but it is up to the Board to determine the cost of living and incentive portions. Brigham inquired as to how much insurance has gone up. Arlund advised that the employees will begin paying 100 percent maximum out of pocket amounts starting in January and the Town will be eliminating the health reimbursement account. Russell noted that traditional pay increases were 3 percent, however the Board wanted to incentivize exceptional employment with the expectation that all employees would obtain the 3 percent level. Motion to have a cost of living adjustment of 1 percent, with an additional 2

percent being incentivized based on employee evaluations, made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, and passed unanimously.

4. Town Manager's Report:
 - a. FEMA Alternate Projects Update. Arlund noted there is a crack along the edge of the shallow end of the pool that will be fixed later in the week. It will require the pool to be closed to make the necessary repairs. There is a pre-construction meeting Wednesday morning for the Old Route 12 project. The State right of way permit is still in process but should be approved soon. It's anticipated to be a 6-week project, with completion no later than August 31, 2016.
 - b. Constable's Report. The Board acknowledged the Constable's updates and Arlund advised the Constable is on vacation for the current week.
 - c. Status Update of Action Items.
 - i. Arlund requested consent from the Board to award the paving bid for Camp Brook Road to Pike, who was the low bidder. Motion made to award the bid to Pike made by Moe Brigham, seconded by Lisa Hill, and passed unanimously.
 - ii. Arlund has been in contact with Vermont Historic Preservation regarding painting of the Town Hall tower. It was noted that there is also a conservation easement.
 - iii. Arlund has received a request from Steve Neron for the Randolph Area Special Olympics to conduct a coin drop on August 6 in the vicinity of the bandshell on Church Street. Motion to allow the coin drop, so long as it does not interfere with another potential event in town, made by Carl Russell, seconded by Lisa Hill, and passed unanimously.
 - iv. Hill summarized the Better Block Grant Meeting, which was also attended by Arlund. It was noted that the town does not presently have any handicap spaces and that since it is class 1 town highway it is in the Town's authority to place them.

Minutes and Communications:

1. Selectboard Minutes of June 27, 2016. Motion to approve the June 27, 2016 Selectboard minutes made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, and passed unanimously.
2. Committee Minutes. The Board acknowledged receipt of the following: (1) June 14, 2016 minutes of the Conservation Commission; (2) June 20, 2016 minutes of the Bethel Community Forward Festival Committee; and (3) June 20, 2016 minutes of the Town Meeting Committee. The suggestion of holding Selectboard meetings at the Town Hall was noted in the Town Meeting Committee minutes. It was agreed that a future meeting would be held there and perhaps thereafter.
3. Other Communications. The Board acknowledged the White River Partnership's water quality results for June 29, 2016.

Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board.

1. Geneva Gaiko inquired about the dollar store proposed for Bethel. Arlund advised there has been some studying, surveying, and a preliminary meeting with Development Review Board. Arlund also just received a request for water and sewer allocation.
2. Russell passed around letters received from the Public Service Board advising that the net metering cap had been extended and those projects that had been in the queue can now reapply.
3. Russell discussed with the members of the Board the idea of giving the Recreation Committee the charge to review the placement of structures on the ground at the Recreation Center versus the Master Plan and take appraisal. Russell noted that a prior Board had accepted the Master Plan, however funds were not available at that time. Russell will contact the Chair of the Recreation Committee to discuss.

With no other matters to discuss, at 7:46 PM the motion to adjourn was made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, and passed unanimously.

Carl Russell

Lisa Hill

Vanessa Brown

Chris Jarvis

Moe Brigham