

Town of Bethel
Selectboard Agenda
Monday, May 9, 2022
6 pm @ Bethel Town Hall & via Zoom

[Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 813 8656 2280 Passcode: 005210 Dial: 1-646-558-8656

6 pm: Call meeting to order and approve agenda.

6:05 pm: Chuck Davis, interested in Health Officer position

Public Comment

Olyfisher, LLC (d/b/a Cockadoodle Pizza Cafe), 1st Class Liquor License
Motion to approve

Request to increase cemetery plot prices \$50, per Cemetery Commissioner
Motion to approve increase

Update on Pinello Bridge Design
Discussion only

Board of Listers request for retroactive pay increase for Board Chair
Motion

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money discussion
Discussion only

Minutes and Communications:

1. Town Manager's Report
2. Selectboard Minutes from 4/25/2022 & 5/2/2022
3. Other Communications
4. Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board

Motion to enter executive session to discuss the evaluation of the Town Manager per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a) (3) and to discuss negotiating or securing the real estate purchase of the property at 69 Church Street, per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a) 2).

Town Manager's Report for 5/9/2022 meeting:

- **Chuck Davis is interested in the Health Officer position. His letter of interest is in the packet and he will be here in person to discuss it.**
- **Jenn and Jeff Staff are upset their liquor license was not approved sooner. I had spoken with Jeff regarding outstanding utilities and taxes when he came in the office in March/April. I had not realized he had left his liquor license with the Clerk. I thought he was going to submit it later after making a payment. I spoke with Jenn on 5/5/22, apologized for the oversight, and she agreed to a \$500 per month payment plan to get caught up. The lack of liquor sales is affecting their business.**
- **Cecil would like you to increase cemetery plot prices, see packet for additional information.**
- **I have met with VHB regarding Pinello Bridge, so would like to update you on the design and cost.**
- **Please see the packet for the Lister's pay increase request, as well as a copy of their current budget.**
- **As we discussed, ARPA money will stay on the agenda for a bit. I would like to see the generator and sewer pumps purchased for the Sewer Department and the rest of the money put into repairing gravel roads.**
- **David Phair 5/5/2022 email resignation from the Recreation Committee. I did inform Ele.**
- **We will be finalizing goal setting and discussing the possible purchase of 69 Church Street in executive session.**

April 25, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

The purpose of this letter is to express an interest in applying for the position of Town Health Officer.

As you know, I am a retired physician with more than 30 years experience in health care in a variety of settings, including clinical, administrative, and corporate. I have familiarized myself with the Town Health Office Manual which is published by the Vermont Department of Health, and feel capable of managing any and all of the issues which were described herein.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chuck Davis

2022 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
FIRST CLASS RESTAURANT/BAR LICENSE TO SELL MALT AND VINOUS BEVERAGES

6609-001-1RST-001
Page 1

License Year Beginning May 1, 2022 ending April 30, 2023

Fee: \$230.00 of which
\$115.00 is paid to town/city
\$115.00 is paid to DLC
Town: 14020 - BETHEL

MISREPRESENTATION OF A MATERIAL FACT ON ANY LICENSE APPLICATION SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE, AFTER NOTICE AND HEARING

Applicant: Review all of the information presented on this form, indicating any changes in the spaces provided.

Applicant: Olyfisher, LLC

Licensee # 6609- 1

Doing Business As:

Cockadoodle Pizza Cafe
235 Main Street
Bethel VT 05032
Telephone: (802) 234-9666

Mailing Address:
PO Box 146
Bethel VT 05032

PLEASE INCLUDE EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Description of Premises:

Restaurant/Pizza place in a two story brick constructed building located at 235 Main Street, in the Town of Bethel, Vermont.

Lessor:

Emerson Block Real Est. LLC
Bethel VT 05032

Last Enforcement Seminar: 11/12/2020

Filed Articles of Organization: **Yes** Date Filed: 07/03/2007

Federal ID Number: 83-2226922

Majority of Members are US Citizens: **Yes**

ATTACH AN ADDITIONAL SHEET TO THIS APPLICATION NOTING ANY NECESSARY CORRECTIONS OR CHANGES AND UPDATES THAT HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE PAST YEAR.

Limited Liability

Company	Name	Address	Town/City	State	Zip Code
Member	1. Staff, Jennifer	1022 Thayer Road	Braintree	VT	05060
Member	2. Staff, Jeffrey	1022 Thayer Road	Braintree	VT	05060

Has any person been convicted or pleaded guilty to any criminal or motor vehicle offense in any court of law (including traffic tickets by mail) during the last year? Yes No

If yes, please attach the following information: Individual's name, court/traffic bureau, offense and date

In the past year has any person held any elective or appointive state, county, city, village or town office in Vermont (See VSA, T.7, Ch.9, Sec. 223)? Yes No

If yes, please attach the following information: Individual's name, office and jurisdiction

Vt. Dept. of Health Food License No.: 13939

Vt. Dept. of Health Lodging No.:

Vt. Tax Dept. Meals & Rooms Cert./Acct. No.: 440-208939295F-01

Disclosure of Non-profit Organization?: Yes XX No

ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE AND SIGN

The applicant understands and agrees that the Liquor and Lottery Control Board may obtain criminal history record information from State and Federal record repositories.

I/We hereby certify, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that I/We are in good standing with respect to or in full compliance with a plan approved by the Commissioner of Taxes to pay any and all taxes due the State of Vermont as of the date of this application. (VSA, Title 32, Section 3113)

I/We hereby certify that I/We are not under an obligation to pay child support or that I/We are in good standing with respect to child support or are in full compliance with a plan to pay any and all child support payable under a support order. (VSA, Title 15, Section 795)

In accordance with 21 VSA, Section 1378(b), I/We certify, under pains and penalties of perjury, that I/We are in good standing with respect to or in full compliance with a plan to pay any and all contributions or payments in lieu of contributions due to the Department of Employment and Training.

I/We have registered the trade name of these premises with the Secretary of State.

Continued on next page

2022 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
FIRST CLASS RESTAURANT/BAR LICENSE TO SELL MALT AND VINOUS BEVERAGES

6609-001-1RST-001
Page 2

I/We hereby certify that the information in this application is true and complete.

Dated this 25 day of March, 2022

Signature of authorized agent
of corporation, company, club or association

Signature of individual or partners

Oly Fisher LLC
DBA Cockadoodle Pizza Cafe

[Signature]

(Title)

Are you making this application for the benefit of any other party? Yes No

----- LOCAL COMMISSIONER SECTION BELOW -----

Upon being satisfied that the conditions precedent to the granting of this license as provided in Title 7 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, as amended, have been fully met by the applicant, the commissioners will endorse their recommendation on the back of the application and transmit it to the Liquor and Lottery Control Board for suitable action thereon, before any License may be granted. For the information of the Liquor and Lottery Control Board, applications shall carry the signature of each individual commissioner registering either approval or disapproval.

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

Approved by Board of Control Commissioners of the City or Town of _____.

Total Membership _____, _____ members present Attest, _____, Town Clerk

TOWN OR CITY CLERK SHALL MAIL APPROVED RENEWAL DIRECTLY TO:
DIVISION OF LIQUOR CONTROL
13 GREEN MOUNTAIN DRIVE
MONTPELIER, VT 05602

If application is disapproved, local control commissioners shall notify the applicant by letter.

No formal action taken by any agency or authority of any town board of selectmen or city board of aldermen on a first or second class license application shall be considered binding except as taken or made at an open public meeting. VSA T-1, Sec.312

Cemetery Prices include 4 corner stones and perpetual care.

Resident	<u>Current Price</u>	<u>Requested Increase</u>
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Single Plot	\$350	\$400
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Double Plot	\$550	\$600
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Out of Town	<u>Current Price</u>	<u>Requested Increase</u>
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Single Plot	\$550	\$600
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Double Plot	\$950	\$1,000
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The Cemetery Commissioner, Cecil Washburn, asks for the rate increase to be effective immediately. He explained the price for corner stones has increased, along with the cost of perpetual care.



1

Executive Summary

The purpose of this Alternatives Report is to evaluate options for the replacement of Bridge 52 on Pinello Road in Bethel, Vermont over the Gilead Brook. This report provides a detailed discussion of the existing conditions, replacement alternatives, and recommendations.

Bridge 52 is located on Pinello Road approximately 72 feet from the intersection of Pinello Road and Gilead Brook Road and services a single residence. The Gilead Brook, which flows west to east, is located along the south side of Gilead Brook Road. See Figure 1 for a Location Map.

A temporary bridge was installed as an emergency response to the failure of the north abutment and subsequently the superstructure due to significant scour during a 2019 flood event. The temporary bridge, which was not intended as a permanent solution, was installed downstream of the existing bridge on shallow concrete waste blocks to maintain access to the single residence. Site photos of the original bridge, roadway, and channel are included in Appendix A. Site photos of the temporary bridge, existing roadway, and channel are included in Appendix B.

The three feasible alternatives are:

1. Do Nothing
2. Precast/Prestressed Northern Extreme Tee (NEXT) D Beams
3. Steel Girder with Cast-In-Place Deck

Each of these alternatives utilize the same substructure alternative, a concrete abutment supported on a single row of steel H-piles driven to bedrock.

Alternative 3, replacement of the existing bridge with Steel Girders and Cast-In-Place Deck, which includes integral concrete abutments supported on a single row of steel H-piles, is the recommended alternative as it meets the scope of the project per FEMA PW #113467 to restore the bridge to pre-disaster conditions, while meeting the current applicable Codes and Standards and providing a vertical clearance above the streambed that accommodates Gilead Brook through all appropriate flow events in accordance with the VTrans Hydraulics Manual.

Environmental impacts and right-of-way needs have been conceptually considered and will be further evaluated and defined during the design phase of the project.

2.2.2 Alternative 2 – Precast/Prestressed North Extreme Tee (NEXT) D Beams

This alternative would replace the existing bridge with two (2) Precast/Prestressed NEXT D Beams and a rapid set concrete closure pour between the deck flanges. The bridge railing would be galvanized 2 rail box beam mounted to a bridge curb and will meet the TL-3 crash rating. TL-3 crash rating is a higher test level than required for a 25 mph speed limit, but VTrans State Standards include only fascia mounted TL-2 crash rating bridge rail, which is not feasible with this bridge type. Approach guardrail and W-Beam guardrail would be used beyond the bridge. The proposed total bridge width for this alternative is 16'-0" using 8'-0" wide NEXT D beams with 2'-0" curbs, for a curb-to-curb width of 12'-0". To prevent leakage at the closure pour between the NEXT D beams, membrane and pavement would be required on the superstructure, and the approaches to the bridge would need to be paved. The anticipated design life for this alternative is 75 years.

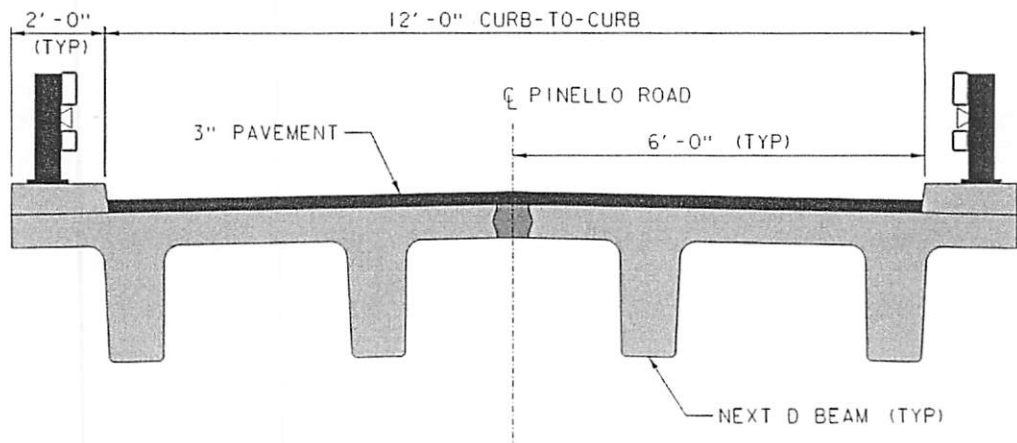
Advantages of Alternative 2:

- Largest hydraulic opening
- Greatest vertical opening
- Accommodates all legal highway loads
- Rapid construction

Disadvantages of Alternative 2:

- Heaviest pick weights
- Membrane and pavement required with rapid set concrete closure pour joint
- Requires paved approach sections to the bridge
- Long lead time for NEXT D Beams
- Future maintenance of membrane and pavement on deck and approaches

Below is a Typical Section of this superstructure alternative:



2.2.3 Alternative 3 – Steel Girder with Cast-In-Place Deck

This alternative would replace the existing bridge with a steel girder beam superstructure and cast-in-place concrete deck. The bridge railing would be fascia mounted railing that meets the TL-2 design criteria which is appropriate for the 25 mph speed limit. Approach guardrail and W-Beam guardrail would be used beyond the bridge. The proposed total travel way width for this alternative is 12'-0". The anticipated design life for this alternative is 75 years.

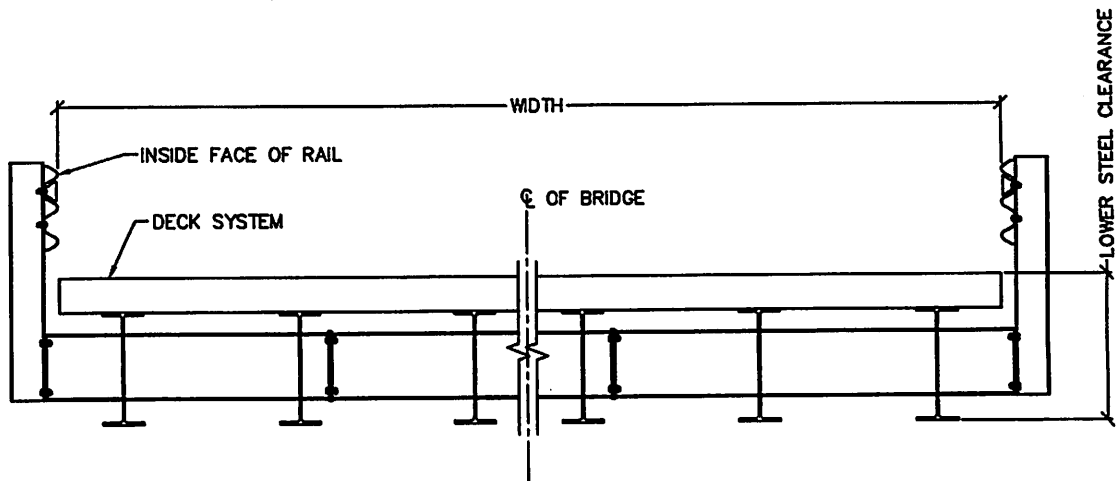
Advantages of Alternative 3:

- Construction familiar to many contractors – tried and true method
- Accommodates all legal highway loads
- Quick production time
- Uses a bare concrete deck so pavement and membrane not required – less future maintenance
- Lighter pick weights (as compared to other alternatives)

Disadvantages of Alternative 3:

- Future maintenance for potential corrosion of steel members

Below is a Typical Section of this superstructure alternative:



2.2.4 Recommendations Review

The alternative summaries above present a brief summary of advantages and disadvantages of each alternative, and the Alternatives Cost Matrix (Figure 2) includes an order-of-magnitude cost estimate.

Figure 2 Alternatives Cost Matrix

Evaluation Matrix	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Do Nothing	Precast/Prestressed NEXT D Beams	Steel Girder with Cast In-Place Deck
Construction Component Subtotals:			
1. Superstructure Total	\$100/month	\$337,000	\$304,000
506.50 Structural Steel, Rolled Beam (Metalized),	N/A	N/A	\$205,932
507.11 Reinforcing Steel, Level I (Epoxy)	N/A	Incidental	\$10,000
510.26 Prestressed Concrete NEXT D Beams	N/A	\$235,280	N/A
514.10 Water Repellent, Silane	N/A	\$1,575	\$630
519.10 Membrane Waterproofing, Spray Applied	N/A	\$15,000	N/A
525.33 Bridge Railing, Galvanized 2 Rail Box Beam	N/A	\$47,600	N/A
525.44 Bridge Railing, Galvanized HDSB/Fascia Mounted/Steel Tubing	N/A	N/A	\$33,000
621.72 Guardrail Approach Section, Galvanized 2 Rail Box Beam	N/A	\$32,000	N/A
900.608 Special Provision (Concrete, High Performance Rapid Set)	N/A	\$4,400	N/A
900.608 Special Provision (High Performance Concrete, Class PCD)	N/A	N/A	\$54,000
900.680 Special Provision (Bituminous Concrete Pavement, Small Qty)	N/A	\$600	N/A
2. Substructure Total	N/A	\$209,000	\$209,000
3. Earthworks Total	N/A	\$43,000	\$43,000
4. Roadway Total	N/A	\$16,000	\$16,000
5. Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control (EPSC) Total	N/A	\$8,000	\$8,000
6. Removal and Return of Temporary Bridge	N/A	\$115,000	\$115,000
Construction and Design Subtotals:			
Construction Subtotal (Categories 1 thru 6)	N/A	\$728,000	\$695,000
Mobilization/Demobilization (10% of Construction Cost)	N/A	\$72,800	\$69,500
Incidentals & Contingency (20% of Construction Costs)	N/A	\$145,600	\$139,000
Engineering (20% of Construction Costs)	\$0	\$145,600	\$139,000
Project Total:	\$100/month	\$1,092,000	\$1,042,500

VHB Recommends Superstructure Alternative 3 – Steel Girder with Cast-In-Place Deck superstructure. The reasons for this recommendation are as discussed in Section 2.2.3 of this analysis and as summarized below.

- The steel girder option provides a cost competitive superstructure alternative with estimated total construction and design costs approximately \$50,000 less than Alternative 2 – Precast/Prestressed NEXT D Beams.
- While the NEXT D Beam alternative offer rapid construction, this accelerated construction comes with increased costs. As there is an existing temporary bridge already installed, there is little need for accelerated construction.
- Though initial design and construction costs are essentially the same order of magnitude, future maintenance costs for the steel girder alternative are less as there is no membrane and pavement to maintain. While there is potential for

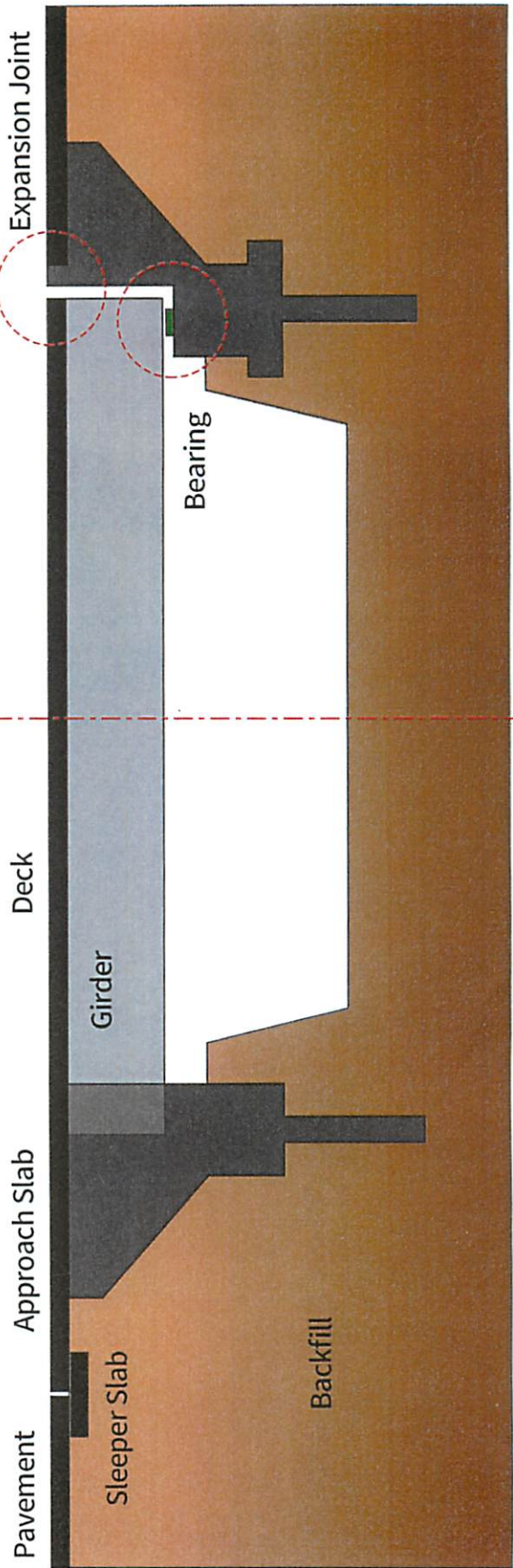
corrosion of steel members, this is not as likely as the integral abutments prevent any leakages through the joints, and the rural road will require less salting during winter weather than a more heavily traveled road, reducing exposure to corrosive materials.

The advantage of this design includes the reduction in both initial construction costs and maintenance costs, and the increased rigidity of the fully integral bridge with piles founded on ledge will result in a more robust structure able to withstand future high rain events.

using this design

INTEGRAL BRIDGE

CONVENTIONAL BRIDGE





Town of Bethel, Vermont

Incorporated

1779

Bethel Listers Office
134 South Main Street
Bethel, Vt 05032
Phone 802-2349340
Fax 802-234-6840
bethellisters@comcast.net

Town Manager
Selectboard Members

May 6, 2022

RE: Lister Chair

The Board of Listers met last June and voted Judi Brigham in as Chair of the Board of Lister effective July 1, 2021.

As chair, retroactive to July 1, 2021, the chair receives an extra dollar per hour due to the extra responsibilities of the position.

Respectfully,

Louise Ferris-Burt
Moe Brigham
Bethel Listers

Louise Ferris-Burt
Moe Brigham

Account	Budget	Actual	Actual % of Budget
10-7-45 LISTERS			
10-7-45-01.00 Salaries	-14,500.00	16,216.38	111.84%
10-7-45-02.00 FICA	-899.00	1,005.41	111.84%
10-7-45-03.00 MEDI	-210.00	235.13	111.97%
10-7-45-06.00 Workers' Compensation	-214.00	0.00	0.00%
10-7-45-27.00 Computer Upgrades	-2,800.00	3,044.70	108.74%
10-7-45-51.00 Supplies	-850.00	509.08	59.89%
10-7-45-62.00 Mileage	-500.00	94.96	18.99%
10-7-45-63.00 Assessor Services	-10,000.00	0.00	0.00%
10-7-45-64.00 Mapping Services	-2,800.00	2,675.00	95.54%
10-7-45-70.00 Training	-900.00	215.00	23.89%
10-7-45-80.00 Memberships	-300.00	275.00	91.67%
10-7-45-95.00 Other	-100.00	0.00	0.00%
Total LISTERS	-34,073.00	24,270.66	71.23%
Total Expenditures	-34,073.00	24,270.66	71.23%
Total GENERAL FUND	-34,073.00	24,270.66	
Total All Funds	-34,073.00	24,270.66	

Current salaries
 Judi 18.00 (last increase was 1/1/21 from 15-18)
 Louise 16.83
 Moe 16.00

Selectboard Minutes

Monday May, 2, 2022

Present: Dave Eddy, Chris Jarvis, Gene Kraus, Paul Vallee

12:10 pm – Call the meeting to order and approve agenda.

Chris Jarvis called the meeting to order. Paul Vallee moved, Gene Kraus seconded, to approve the agenda.

No Public Comment

Paul Moved, Gene seconded, to approve 1st and 3rd class liquor licenses for Toziers Inc. Unanimous Approval.

Chris commented on setting a precedence.

Paul Motioned to Adjourn, Dave seconded.

Adjourned at 12:12 PM

Selectboard minutes for the April 25, 2022 meeting:

Present: Chris Jarvis, Lindley Brainard, Paul Vallee, Dave Eddy, Gene Kraus, Therese Kirby, and Lenny Meek.

Chris called the meeting to order at 6 pm. Therese added awarding the roofing bid to Bob Conniff to the agenda. Lindley moved to approve the agenda as amended. Paul second, so voted.

Public Comment: Lenny Meek wanted to remind people that, June 24 – June 2, 2022, Bethel Pridefest will be held. There will be a trivia night at Babe's Bar, a Pride Prom for all ages from 6-9 at the White Church, and other events going on all weekend. Please watch for information. Chris asked Lenny if the Equity & Inclusion Committee had information on how many Towns have signed the Vermont Declaration of Inclusion. Lenny said he would ask them.

Gene moved to approve Tessie's Tavern, 3rd and 1st Class Liquor Licenses and an Outside Consumption Permit. Lindley second, so voted.

Lindley moved to sign the "Change In Terms Agreement" with Mascoma Bank to fix variable rate to 3% for 10 years. Paul second, so voted.

Lindley moved to adopt the resolution and designate Chris Jarvis and Therese Kirby as the authorized individuals to execute the refinancing documents with KansasState Bank, refinancing the 2017 Kenworth Tanker to a fixed rate of 3.53% for the remaining 10 years of the loan. Paul second, so voted.

Gene moved to adopt the Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP). Lindley second, so voted.

Discussion of the results of the Town Meeting survey. Chris reviewed the results of each question. Gene would like to see a public forum discussion regarding Australian ballot voting in the fall, prior to the Town Meeting Warning being drafted.

Discussion of the Health Officer/Deputy Health Officer Salary Survey that Kelly Hill prepared. Discussion regarding stipend or salary. The majority of the Board agreed an hourly rate would provide them with data on how many hours a year it takes to do the job. Gene moved to change the positions to an hourly rate of \$25. Lindley second, so voted.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money discussion. Therese said that a couple of people have suggested some of the money be spent on improving the gravel roads.

Lindley moved to award the roof replacement to Conniff's Custom Building, the money to come from the capital fund. Paul second, so voted.

Therese reminded the Selectboard that a memorial service for Tim Mills will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the White Church from noon to 4. Please bring a favorite dish to share. She also reminded them about the Better Connections May Day BBQ to be held this Sunday, May 1 from 12:30 to 3:30 pm at the Bethel School Campus. It is an opportunity for

residents to weigh in on the Better Connections process, the VOREC grant award and lots more. Discussion regarding zoning by-law updates and housing needs in Vermont. Lindley said Windsor and Windham County Housing Trust has a Vermont Rental Rehab program running, where there is a grant program to create low-income housing. See this link for more information. <https://www.homemattershere.org/rental-rehab/>

Paul moved to approve the minutes of 4/11/2022 as printed. Lindley second, so voted.

Chris Jarvis is now on the school board and will be a liaison between the Town and the School. He and Lindley discussed some opportunities for the school and town to partner. There was also a discussion about the need for afterschool and summer care.

At 7:51 pm, Paul moved to adjourn. Lindley second, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Kirby

DRAFT

Open Meeting Laws:

<https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/VLCT%20Open%20Meeting%20Law%20FAQs.pdf>

Bethel Equity and Inclusion Committee

Meeting Minutes

Motions, Proposals, and Resolutions Made:

Voted to move forward with Declaration of Inclusion including “socioeconomic status” as an included group.

Voting Record:

(Note: need to indicate individual votes if a roll call is taken)

Next Meeting Date:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/5820627640?pwd=TVNiSURhVm5ScTgweWl6OHdRbzZ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 582 062 7640

Passcode: equity

Dial In: 1-646-558-8656

Notes Taken By: Rita Champion

Meeting facilitated by: Owen DMC

Open Meeting Laws:

<https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/VLCT%20Open%20Meeting%20Law%20FAQs.pdf>

Bethel Equity and Inclusion Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: April 26, 2022

Committee Members Present: David Phair (he/him), Owen DMC (he/him), Jesse Plotsky (he/him), Rita Champion (she/her), Christy Fry (she/her),

Community Members Present: (he/him) Thomas Meek, (he/him) Leonard Meek, (he/him) David Schein, Gene Kraus, Al Wakefield.

Introductions were made, name, pronouns and what brought us to being at this meeting and part of the EIC.

Public Comment:

David Schein introduced the committee to Vermont Make Music Day and asked if we as a committee would be interested in spearheading Bethel being on the map for the event. Musicians donate their music to their community. Reinforcing the message of music being a connector, it can be anything from someone playing harmonica in the park to a full live performance that is attended or streamed online for people to hear.

Gene updated the committee that the Chandler in Randolph will be sponsoring a film festival about the Injustice around climate issues. No specific dates yet but EIC was invited to be involved and share more broadly.

Updates:

Update about town survey, the results were very split which opens up much room for continued town wide discussion around all of the topics and questions asked.

Update about constable reporting, back data that is not currently on file has been submitted to the state and it will take 6 months for it to appear on the website. if we want to see it sooner we can get that information from the selectboard. We need the data in order to see the patterns on racial profiling, if and where it exists. **There is a \$500k+ grant awarded to the town and the EIC agreed to ask that the Selectboard put some funds towards a better website for the town that can, among other things, make these stats publicly accessible.**

There has been no constable on duty in the town of Bethel currently. The question was asked about whether the Constable in a different town vehicle can pull over people within the town of Bethel when not specifically on Bethel hours. Also, question about how the speeding has been in town while this period of no constable on duty?

Update on adopting the Declaration of Inclusion. Selectboard inquired what other towns have adopted the declaration of inclusion. According to the website as of 4/26, 39 towns have adopted the Vermont declaration of inclusion. Randolph and Pittsfield being close neighbors have both signed it. Lots of good information on the Declaration of Inclusion website! https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/VT_DeclarationOfInclusion_Guide.pdf

Website update. The Town of Bethel has agreed to pay for another year for the Bethel EIC domain hosting. Our goal stated on the website was not the same wording as what was agreed by the town. The language being that the EIC were "tasked" more so we are to "recommend" our goal is to advise. We are an advisory committee to the town. Thomas to change the language. Owen will send original wording.

Discussion:

Declaration of inclusion Discussion. The EIC plans to reach out to the Bethel Planning Commission to see about their support in getting the Declaration of Inclusion presented to the selectboard. By working together we could build a stronger relationship and the two committees could bring it to the town with a broad range of both equity and inclusion benefits but also economic growth. It Would need to be signed by the selectboard in order to be something the town adopts. It was brought up that Class or economic status was not included in the declaration. Al acknowledged this, explaining the complexity at hand and that it is a growing document. The planning commission is currently looking at zoning and how to create more affordable housing in Bethel, Housing is needed for economic development and accessibility. Working with Two Rivers on this topic and there is an opportunity to apply for grants for affordable housing. EIC VOTED yes on moving forward to present the Declaration of Inclusion.

The second week of May is Inclusion week.

Juneteenth update – June 19, The Bandshell space is reserved for June 19th. A Smoothie company will be coming from Rhode island. There will be a Red food table with history of red food and significance as well as a section for history of Juneteenth. Food truck options are still being decided. David has djs lined up. If you are interested in being a musical act contact David. The day will be Chill bbq vibes with kids activities and yard games then performances on the stage Tabitha Moore, former NAACP of Rutland, is booked as a speaker.. We will be sourcing games like Corn hole, Monkeyball. Games for the kids to play and keep entertained for a fun festive event as well as allowing the adults to enjoy themselves and the performances. Possible face painting and coordinating activities like. Three legged race, tug of war, etc. .

Pridefest Update. June 23, 24,25,26 It will be a full weekend of events, including queer trivia night at Babes Thursday. Friday pride prom **All ages** hosted at the white church. Saturday burlesque/ drag show night at Babes. Queer and sober meet and greet at the Arnold block Saturday at 12pm.. It is all coming together and we can spread the word! Hoping to pack the places and all of the events. **Sunday 2pm movie showing of Pariah at the Town Hall with discussion to follow hosted by the EIC. We invite all Selectboard members and community to this film screening and discussion.**

Discussion about the Grant available through Vermont League of Cities and Towns. Currently receiving proposals and will be Awarding grants to foster support towards equity and Inclusion. The grants could fund community wide conversations, stipends, equity assessment, child care and accessibility for these discussions etc. Up to \$10,000 for a 12 month period. The EIC would like to move forward with writing a proposal.

<https://www.vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/equitable-and-inclusive-communities/>

Discussion for next meeting, what do we want this committee's role to be in Legislative efforts?

Meeting adjourned 8:11

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

BOB DEAN



Bob has been a member of White River Lodge #90 of the Free & Accepted Masons for over 50 years he also served for over 50 years as Fire Chief on the Bethel Fire Department. Bob has volunteered and dedicated so much of his life to bettering our community. Thank you, Bob, for all you have done!

"Recently, relatively, my wife and I moved to the Town of Bethel and almost the first person we heard about was Bob. We encountered his name time and again but not through meeting him. There seemed to be this larger-than-life individual that had made a very lasting mark on our new community. Once I decided to become involved, again, in the volunteer fire service for the town, I finally met Bob. He was unforgettable, with so many stories and some definite hard-line views on what it means to be a member of a community. I came away from that first meeting with a big appreciation for everything I had heard prior to that night. The dedication he exhibits for his community and the fire department is both impressive and instructive and a clear indicator of how community pride and service should be for all of us. Bob's love of the Bethel community is undeniable and so much more. It is my distinct privilege to know Bob even for so short a time in his lengthy career; his influence is without bounds and a model for us all." ~Geary Coogler- Assistant Fire Chief

"I have known Bob for over 50 years, he has done a lot for our community. He is one of our old town "fathers", he has a great sense of humor and would do anything for anyone. Bob is a long-time business owner and there are a lot of great memories with him. Thank you, Bob, for all you have done for the community". ~ Moe Brigham