2021-10-19 Selectboard Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

**HALIFAX SELECTBOARD**

TOWN OF HALIFAX, VERMONT

SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES—DRAFT

OCTOBER 19, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

Sumner called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Selectboard members present were, Lewis Sumner, Pete Silverberg (remote), Tristan Roberts, Cara Cheyette (remote) and Earl Holtz. Others in attendance in person or remotely were Patricia Dow, Mike Fournier, Andrew Rice, Kaitlin Stone, Anna Duca, Keith Stone, Tim Putnam, ​Stephan Chait, Edee Edwards, Dennis Huguenin, Linda Lyon, Chris Parkins, Doug Parkhurst and Marilou Parkhurst.

CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Andrew Rice added a dog and a budget issue. Tristan Roberts added The Flood Resilient Community Fund. Pete Silverberg added Post Office Update.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Tristan Roberts moved to accept October 5, 2021 regular minutes as written.  Lewis Sumner proposed corrections.

Tristan Roberts moved to approve with those changes. Lewis Sumner seconded.

The motion passed, 4-0, with Earl Holtz abstaining

NEW BUSINESS:

**Highway Department Update**

Mike Fournier indicated that the Pennel Hill grant paperwork was submitted. Culverts are being put in and leaves are being cleaned.

Grader electrical fan issue was presented. Fournier asked the Selectboard for permission to rent a grader or input on alternative solutions that could be implemented given the coming winter.

Lewis Sumner motioned that Mike Fournier look into grader rental for a one month period. Tristan Roberts seconded the motion.

The motion passed, 5-0.

Mike Fournier updated the Selectboard that paving on Green River started and that the guard rails are not up to spec anymore.

Tristan Roberts and Lewis Sumner requested that Mike Fournier acquire some quotes.

**Concerns Selectboard Order to the Treasurer**

Patty Dow spoke to issues of the signing of orders by the Selectboard for the past 4 or 5 months.

It was decided that if any given board member had issues signing they would call Patty Dow.

**Questions meeting schedule, Town Report**

Anna Duca mentioned the possibility of starting budget meeting early this year.

Discussion on meeting time between the board members resulted in the three of the four discussed meetings for the budget being scheduled by the Selectboard for:

 November 6th 2021 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

 November 20th 2021 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

 December 4th 2021 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

It was decided that the November 6th 2021 will focus on the highway budget and most likely the November 20th 2021 meeting also.

It was decided that the fourth meeting would be decided at a later date if necessary.

Anna Duca brought up the Town Report.

It was decided Anna Duca should ask the town auditors from last year if they are interested in doing the town report.

**Dog and Budget Issue**

Andrew Rice brought to the attention of the Selectboard resident complaints of noise and licensing/registration issues with dogs at a property. He explained the actions he has taken and requested the Selectboard write a letter.

Tristan Roberts moved that the Selectboard write a letter with assistance from Anna Duca.

 Motion passed 5-0.

Andrew Rice brought forward an issue with digital radios, communication with town and budgeting for proper radio equipment. Andrew presented a quote.

He requested that it be added to the budgeting process for the next fiscal year.

**Post Office Update**

Pete Silverberg explained that Tyson Dix has had no success getting a response from the Post Office. Silverberg contacted Peter Welch’s office and he is expecting a call back from the staff. Pete Silverberg expressed openness to suggestions from anyone on how to proceed.

**The Flood Resilient Community Fund**

Tristan Roberts brought forth information on Flood Resilient Community Fund pointing out their first application form is due October 29th. He requested ideas from the public that wouldn’t be just covered by FEMA. Items Discussed:

* Downed tree removal
* Ideas from the Green River Corridor Plan like the berm removal
* Beaver related issues
* Undeveloped land in the flood plain for acquisition

OLD BUSINESS:

Mike Fournier updated the Board on his review of a driveway. It was decided the subject would be put off until a meeting when the resident is in attendance.

**Appoint Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) alternate**

Lewis Sumner gave explanation and the Selectboard discussed.

Tristan Roberts motioned to nominate himself to be appointed Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) alternate. Lewis Sumner seconded the motion.

The motion passed, 5-0.

**ARPA Funds**

Pete Silverberg spoke to a detailed VLCT seminar. Items discussed:

* Failed or failing septic systems may be worth looking into.
* Park and/or many other outdoor options appear to fit prevue of the ARPA funds.
* A pavilion on the slab at the old garage site

Peter Silverberg said that maybe there is a need for a committee or a more organized approach.

Lewis Sumner stated it will be on the agenda for every meeting for a while.

OTHER BUSINESS

Pete Silverberg brought to attention a highway supervisors workshop next week. It decided that Pete Silverberg would attend the workshop with Mike Fournier.

Lewis Sumner submitted a Summary of Services from Windham Solid Waste Management District to be posted to the town website by Anna Duca.

A driveway permit for 9230 Jacksonville Stage Road, that was previously reviewed by Mike Fournier and he advised a 15” culvert.

Lewis Sumner mentioned that the Selectboard has been advertising for a Truck Driver and it was concluded that an interview was not on the agenda and that it should be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

HEARING OF VISITORS

Lewis Sumner briefly updated Keith Stone on the grader electrical fan issue discussed earlier in the meeting before Keith Stone was present.

Discussion about filters and other parts being unavailable and no dates for expected resupply were discussed. Cara Cheyette mentioned that many delays of this kind may be Covid related and that ARPA Funds might be able to be applied. Pete Silverberg stated he that he would pursue it.

Edee Edwards said that on Saturday there is a tour of the Marlboro campus and the property abuts Halifax. She wanted to know if the Selectboard or Commissions were tracking development on that property because of emergency pathway usage and upkeep.

Discussion on Marlboro’s voters past disinterest and the Selectboard staying tuned in.

SELECTBOARD’S ORDER TO TREASURER FOR PAYMENT

The Selectboard’s Order to the Treasurer was reviewed and signed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was reviewed and filed.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONNone held.

ADJOURNMENT

Tristan Roberts motioned to adjourn; Pete Silverberg seconded.

Motion passed 4-0 at 7:41 pm.

**Recording link**: [​https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/c18763880f6b6fa87fb7c7c6baf5cee8e3461bf67b007f5f67913c4fded5dc8c](https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/c18763880f6b6fa87fb7c7c6baf5cee8e3461bf67b007f5f67913c4fded5dc8c)

Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Duca

Selectboard Secretary