



Town of Thetford • PO Box 126 • Thetford Center, VT 05075 • (802) 785-2922

**Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes
Thetford Town Offices
Monday, December 12, 2016 at 6:00 pm.**

(Times listed below are approximate)

Stuart Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Selectboard Members present: John Bacon, James Dixon, Jessica Eaton, Bill Huff, Stuart Rogers

Others present: Jill Graff (Town Treasurer), Tracy Borst (Town Clerk)

Community Members present: Alexis Jetter, Lisa Cudhea, Susan Ferrell, David Roth, Tara Pacht

Public Comment

None

Correspondence

The Selectboard received several emails in support of the formation of the non-profit Friends of Treasure Island.

The Selectboard received an email about DPW plowing the driveway at the Thetford Center Community Association.

The Selectboard received an email about the RFP for mowing, as it included the Thetford Hill Common. The Selectboard thought they had removed the Common from the RFP. The Selectboard will check the document and remove the inclusion of the Thetford Hill Common.

The Zoning Administrator received paperwork from DMV about the weight limit for town bridges. The town follows the VTrans Bridges and Road standards for bridge weight limits.

Minutes and Warrants

#25.4 \$19,239.76

#38.3 \$2,130.02

#48.2 \$8,233.87

#49.1 \$11,731.18

CT-9 \$48.50

GJ20160172 \$686.70

Motion by Stuart Rogers to accept the warrants as presented. Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Motion by Stuart Rogers to accept the memorandum from Board of Listers for an adjustment to the 2016 Grand List. The Vaughn Farm will be adjusted from \$114,315 to \$113,865. Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Treasure Island Proposal Discussion

Alexis Jetter said that Mark McMahon is the acting Chair for Ompompanoosuc Community Trust, and the OCT board has agreed to be the fiscal agent for Friends of Treasure Island. Alexis Jetter said FTI also has someone who will act as their accountant, and a person who will volunteer to do grant writing.

Mark McMahon gave an explanation of how OCT would work with Friends of Treasure Island.

Selectboard members voiced their support and concerns about the 501(c)(3) option.

There was discussion about funding.

The Selectboard gave their consensus to the Friends of Treasure Island to move forward with creating a 501(c)(3).

Jessica Eaton will attend meetings of Friends of Treasure Island. James Dixon said he would continue as the Selectboard liaison to Treasure Island, but could not commit to attending every meeting of FTI.

Town Hall Septic Design Presentation w/Mary Ellen Parkman, Tom Otterman

Tom Otterman presented 3 options for the septic system to the Selectboard. Option 1 would replace the septic system that serves the Town Hall building, and will be in the vicinity of current system. Option 2 would be a system that would be big enough for the Town Hall, Timothy Frost Methodist Church, the Town Garage, and the Thetford Center Community Building. The system would be in the field next to the Community Building. Option 3 would replace the septic system and create infrastructure for expansion, if needed or wanted in the future. Tom Otterman and the Zoning Administrator, Mary Ellen Parkman both recommended option 3.

There was discussion about the project.

Motion by Stuart Rogers to continue plans for Option 3, as presented by Tom Otterman.
Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

There was continuing discussion about the total cost.

Budget Discussions (DPW cont'd) w/Mary Ellen Parkman

Stuart Rogers said Mark McMahon made the comment that road conditions today were excellent in the town.

There was discussion about benefits for the DPW.

There was discussion about road maintenance supplies.

There was discussion of grants and budget line items.

There was discussion about the Hydro-seeder.

Town Health Insurance Benefit Discussion (cont'd)

Bill Huff expressed concerns about making comments or giving support to anything until some issues were resolved with union negotiations.

Stuart Rogers gave an overview of what has been offered as the health benefits.

There was discussion about how to increase over the next 3 to 5 years, keeping the costs regulated.

The Selectboard agreed to table the health insurance discussion for non-union employees pending further discussion with union employees.

Old Business

- Upcoming Agendas

Mark McMahon asked to be on the agenda for next week as Senior Affordable Housing has a piece of property they would like to purchase. Stuart Rogers will put it on the agenda at 8:30 p.m.

Stuart Rogers suggested to the Selectboard a date be set later in the week for budget work only. The Selectboard agreed to a special meeting on December 15th, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The budget discussion will include the Fire Department, EMS, Capital Equipment and the Recreation Department, if the director is available.

9:40-9:50 Other Business

- Update of Trailhead Meeting - Alternative Designs

Trailhead designs were presented, and there will be more information coming for the design that was most popular.

- Update of Lake Fairlee Dam Project

Stuart Rogers received an email from the West Fairlee Selectboard about payments they will be making. James Dixon said he sent all invoices signed to Lisa Hinsley last week. James Dixon will also be looking into a lock for the sluice gate, getting the electric installed across the dam and the seeping cracks.

- Update of Town Land Options

Correction with minutes for Miller/Hughes forest. Explanation of correction to original minutes for the dual right-of-way easement. Update gives a better explanation of what we did.

Motion by Stuart Rogers to correct the meeting minutes of September 12th, per town attorney recommendation, concerning the Miller/Hughes forest right-of-way easement. Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

- Property at Clay Road and Schoolhouse Road

Chief Evans did check the work and sent an email to the Zoning Administrator to check the placement of a “stop ahead” sign. Chief Evans said it’s difficult to say whether the work has been done, as the bushes are not in bloom. Jessica Eaton said 4 to 6 plantings were moved, but the property owner has not met the request in the letter sent by the Selectboard. Chief Evans will ask the Zoning Administrator to go with him tomorrow and put the stake in the ground to mark the spot for the sign.

Motion by Stuart Rogers to discuss union negotiation updates, legal updates and a recreation scholarship request in an Executive Session per *Discussion of Matters as per 1 V.S.A., subsection 313, paragraphs A 1 & 3*. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Chief Michael Evans was invited to join the Selectboard for first part of Executive Session to discuss union negotiation updates.

Motion by John Bacon to exit Executive Session at 10:40 p.m. Seconded by Jessica Eaton. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Motion by Stuart Rogers to approve scholarships for programs offered by the Recreation Department, as recommended by the Recreation Director. Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Motion by Stuart Rogers to approve legal reply letter. Seconded by John Bacon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Motion by John Bacon to adjourn the regular Selectboard Meeting at 10:50 p.m. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**