



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

Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes

Thetford Town Offices

Monday, September 25, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Stuart Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Selectboard Members present: James Dixon, Jessica Eaton, Stuart Rogers, Li Shen, Douglas Stone

Others present: Jill Graff (Town Treasurer), Tracy Borst (Town Clerk), Chad Martin (Road Foreman), Martie Moses (Selectboard Assistant)

Community Members present: Sue Tallman, Frank Bonnett, Karl Tilden, Rick Hoffman

Public Comment 7:07 p.m.

Jill Graff asked the Selectboard if they would like to put MVP insurance program information on an agenda, or if they would like to appoint a liaison.

Correspondence 7:10 p.m.

James Dixon has been emailing Kelly Avery at VLCT, about life insurance. Stuart Rogers said it would be put on the agenda for the following week.

The Selectboard had a copy of a temporary liquor license for Bloods Catering for September 30th, 2017.

Several Selectboard members had spoken with a resident who had concerns about the Lake Fairlee Dam.

Jessica Eaton wanted to thank Seth and Andy Boyce, Tim Godfrey and Rebecca, and Alexis Jetter, for help at Treasure Island, taking in docks, ropes, and boats. Everything is now out of the water.

Minutes and Warrants 7:15 p.m.

#27.3 \$5127.27

#27.3F \$23404.86

#33.1 \$15544.35

#37.2 \$4547.99

Payroll review Ending 9/23

Motion by Stuart Rogers to accept the warrants as presented. Seconded by Douglas Stone.

VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)

Motion by James Dixon to accept the minutes of the First Town Hearing for the DRAFT Thetford Town Plan, August 24th, 2017, as edited. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Motion by James Dixon to accept the minutes of the First Town Hearing for the DRAFT Thetford Town Plan, continued from August 24th, 2017, held on September 7th, 2017, as edited. Seconded by Stuart Rogers. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Storm & Roads Update w/Chad Martin, Road Foreman 7:38 p.m.

Motion by Jessica Eaton for the Selectboard Chair to sign a Temporary Right of Way on Colby Road South. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Chad Martin reported that an extra pool of money that became available to all towns has resulted in an extra \$12,000 for Thetford.

Chad Martin updated the Selectboard on the conditions of the roads currently being worked on.

There was discussion about Route 132 and the requests by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Chad Martin said he would take responsibility for the incorrect mowing that had been done near Camp Norway. There was discussion about getting work done on Robinson Hill Road by the end of the year.

Chad Martin updated the Selectboard on equipment.

There was discussion about spraying down roads, and hydro-seeding.

~~Concerns of Five Corners Road~~

Discussion postponed until Oct 16th, as the Resident is unable to attend tonight.

Timothy Frost Church Discussion 8:39 p.m.

Sue Tallman, Frank Bonnett, Karl Tilden, and Rick Hoffman told the Selectboard about the situation at the United Church of Thetford, and their interest in having someone else take over Timothy Frost Methodist Church in Thetford Center. Sue Tallman said the Historical Society doesn't have the resources to take care of it. The UCT would like to know if the Town has any interest in taking possession of the building.

There was discussion about the history of the building, which is within a National Historic District (from Tucker Hill Road to Buzzell Bridge Road).

Jessica Eaton called for a roll call of the Selectboard for interest: James Dixon, yes; Li Shen, yes; Jessica Eaton, yes; Douglas Stone, yes; Stuart Rogers, yes.

There was discussion about any religious symbols in the building and on the stained glass.

Stuart Rogers said he would like a warned article at Town meeting stating that the town would like to take ownership of the building.

Annual Employee Evaluations - Draft Form 9:08 p.m.

The Selectboard made edits to the employee evaluation form. Department Heads will conduct evaluations with their employees, and the Selectboard will conduct evaluations of the Department Heads.

Evaluations to be completed by October 30th, 2017.

Old Business

Discussion of Town Governance & Act 27 w/Jill Graff and Tracy Borst (cont'd) 8:10 p.m.

Act 27 is an act relating to appointing municipal clerks and treasurers and to Municipal audit penalties. Stuart Rogers explained that the Town Clerk and Town Treasurer would no longer need to be residents of the town, and that they would be hired, rather than elected.

There was discussion about how the Town will be run in the future.

There was discussion about the difference between a Town Administrator, and a Town Manager. There is no term length for a Town Manager, but there are duties statutorily required by the State. A Town Administrator would be hired by the Selectboard, and the Selectboard would create the job description for a Town Administrator.

There was discussion about making a decision to move forward within a 2-year timeline.

The Selectboard will review the process that the Town of Norwich completed.

- Upcoming Agendas 9:27 p.m.

Life insurance discussion

FEMA updates/Federal Highway updates

MVP health insurance

The Selectboard discussed the upcoming budget process.

Other Business

- Adjustments to Meeting Agendas 9:36 p.m.

Stuart Rogers suggested having liaison updates once a month, at the first or last meeting.

- VLCT Town Fair - Town Delegate? 9:34 p.m.

Motion by James Dixon to approve Stuart Rogers as the Voting Town Delegate at the VLCT Town Fair. Seconded by Jessica Eaton. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

- Personnel Discussion (Executive Session)

Motion by James Dixon at 9:45 p.m., to discuss personnel in an Executive Session per *Discussion of Matters as per 1 V.S.A., subsection 313, paragraphs A 1 & 3.* Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

Motion by Stuart Rogers to exit Executive Session at 10:25 p.m. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**

No action taken at this time.

Motion by James Dixon at 10:26 p.m., to adjourn the regular Selectboard Meeting. Seconded by Douglas Stone. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**