

**TOWN OF WILLISTON
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 18, 2020**

APPROVED September 1, 2020

***Meeting held by teleconference.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Macaig (Chair); Ted Kenney, Gordon St. Hilaire, Jeff Fehrs. (Joy Limoge was absent.)

ADMINISTRATION: Erik Wells, Town Manager; Shirley Goodell-Lackey, Finance Director; Bruce Hoar, Public Works Director; Cristalee McSweeney, Community Justice Center Director.

OTHERS PRESENT: Participants in the meeting included Wayne Elliot, Tom Bigelow, Mike LaCroix, John Butterfield, Kathy DeLuca, Susan DeLeon, Jason Starr (Williston Observer)

[Note: Minutes reflect order of published agenda.]

1. Call to Order

Chair Terry Macaig called the teleconference meeting to order at 7 PM.

2. Minutes

July 28, 2020

MOTION by Jeff Fehrs, SECOND by Gordon St. Hilaire, to approve the minutes of July 28, 2020 with the following correction(s)/clarification(s):

- **Item 5, Catamount Community Forest Management Plan Addendum – clarify that Ethan Tapper is the county forester with the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, the title of the addendum is “Forest Management Plan”, and timber revenue will help cover expenses associated with the management plan.**
- **Item 11, Other Business, facemasks – add “making local regulation unnecessary” to the sentence on the Governor making facemasks mandatory.**

VOTING: unanimous (3-0) [Ted Kenney not present for vote]; motion carried.

3. Public Comment – General Issues

None.

4. Interviews/Appointments

Library Trustee

The Selectboard interviewed John Butterfield, Kathy DeLuca, and Susan DeLeon for a position on the library board.

5. Rte. 2/Industrial Ave./Mountainview Road Intersection Improvements

The Selectboard received an update on the traffic volume anticipated on the detour roads of Old Stage Road and North Williston Road (truck traffic only) during the work on improvement to the Rte. 2A/Industrial Ave./Mountainview Road intersection.

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Jeff Fehrs, to accept Option #2 as outlined in the memo, dated 8/12/20, from Green International Affiliates for improvement to the Route 2A/Industrial Ave./Mountainview Road intersection with the amendment that all truck traffic will be detoured to North Williston Road. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

6. Lamplight Acres Water Line Replacement Bond Article

Jeff Fehrs announced he will abstain from the vote on the project due to potential conflict of interest. Bruce Hoar explained the need to replace the water line in the Lamplite Acres development. Wayne Elliot with Aldrich & Elliot explained the opportunity for the town to receive a loan through the state drinking water revolving fund, and an added incentive at the current time due to additional subsidy funds available. Erik Wells explained options to go forward with the bond vote in 2020, as bonding authority is required to apply for the state funds for project construction. Wells also explained that Aldrich & Elliot can move forward with final design work on the project using the state drinking water revolving fund now to be used whenever the Town is ready to construct the project.

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Gordon St. Hilaire, to approve the Step II loan application to the drinking water state revolving fund for final design of the Lamplite Acres water line replacement project in the amount of \$85,700. VOTING: 3 ayes, one abstention (Jeff Fehrs); motion carried.

Following discussion there was no objection to going forward with a ballot item on November 3rd. The Selectboard will hold a special meeting to draft the article for the bond vote.

7. Community Justice Center Staffing

Staff explained the need to increase the hours for the Restorative Justice Specialist position to full time to support the additional caseload. The position will be funded using an increase in grant dollars from the Vermont Department of Corrections and funding allocated in the Police Department budget for FY 21.

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Jeff Fehrs, to reclassify the Restorative Justice Specialist position as full time. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

8. Personnel Policy Amendment

Erik Wells explained the one month gap in health insurance coverage for new hires and the amendment to make insurance coverage available immediately.

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Jeff Fehrs, to amend the Town of Williston Personnel Policy as presented. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

9. Vermont Municipal Retirement Group

Erik Wells explained the recommendation to have the Town Manager position eligible for Group C coverage through the Vermont Municipal Retirement Group. Following

discussion, the Selectboard asked staff to research what other towns are offering, and will take action at a future meeting.

10. Library Trustee Appointment

MOTION by Ted Kenney, SECOND by Gordon St. Hilaire to appoint Kathy DeLuca to the library board of trustees until March 2, 2021 when the local election is held to fill the unexpired five year term. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

11. Town Manager's Report

In addition to the written Manager's Report, Erik Wells noted:

- Quarterly report will be delivered in September.
- Local options tax revenue was better than anticipated. Rooms & Meals revenue was down as expected.
- Property tax first installment due 9/15/20.
- Police and Rescue personnel are recognized for saving the lives of two people in town (code saves). Attending were Officers Matt Cohen, Sarah Bell, Travis Trybulski, Sargent Brian Claffy, Firefighters Chris Fahner, Corey Hill, Lieutenants Keith Baker, Ryan Prouty, and George Shortsleeves.
- Williston Fire received the Pediatrics Safe Service Award and the American Heart Association Lifeline EMS Gold Plus Award.
- A conditional offer of employment has been made for the Fire Chief position.

12. Other Business

Thank You Note

The Selectboard received a thank you note from former Town Manager, Rick McGuire.

Special Meeting

The Selectboard will hold a special meeting on 8/21/20 to review the article for the water line bond vote.

13. Adjournment

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

RScty by tape: MERiordan