

Stockbridge Board of Selectmen -Draft

October 15, 2020 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting Info

+1 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 862 2073 4766 Passcode: 061950

Present: Lee Ann Isaacson, Jim Shands, Mark Pelletier, Lori Scott, Beth Dawley

The meeting came to order at 7:00pm.

Additions and Deletions to the Agenda:

Lee Ann attended the Planning Commission Meeting, and two items came up. She asked to add

1. a noise concern of chipper and wood processing in Gaysville.
2. a concern from the Wild Fern about putting cones in the middle of VT RTE 100 during operation of the business.

Jim asked to add addressing the Stockbridge vacancy on the White River Ambulance Board.

Mark moved to add the additional items and Jim and Lee approved.

Minutes 10/1/2020: Jim read the minutes from the last meeting. Lee Ann motioned to approve as written. Mark seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Public Communications:

Paul Dinger from Kelly Road reached out to Kevin Geiger of Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) for assistance regarding issues that the Selectboard and the Zoning Administrator had already reviewed and determined are not governed by the town. Lee Ann let the board know that she had confirmed with Kevin Geiger that this issue had already been addressed by the town and had been communicated to Mr. Dinger. Mark motion to table this discussion.

Wood chipping and processing business on RTE 107. Jim recalled that this is a parcel that is Act 250 governed. He suggested that Lee Ann reach out to the Regional Commission in Springfield for advice on the silviculture and agriculture impacts to the land use and limits. **Action Item:** Lee Ann to reach out to the State Regional Commission and report back to the board.

Heather Lynne put cones in the middle of RT 100 to try to let drivers know that there were pedestrians crossing the road from her parking area to the Wild Fern. She received comments that she did not have the right to do that and that it was not safe to do so. Mark said that to place the cones she would need a permit from the State as it is a state road. He suggested she talk to the state about putting a flashing light or other marker in place. Lee Ann commented that Heather has reached out to the state numerous times and they do not believe that this is a safety issue. The Town cannot authorize placing cones in the road; however Heather can place cones anywhere on her property to highlight the pedestrian traffic when they are open. Mark also suggested that she could put a flashing light on her property. **Action Item:** Lee Ann to communicate

White River Ambulance – Stockbridge Board Member. Jim reported that WRA reached out to him regarding this position. This is a critical position as they are in the process of budgeting for next year. Mark suggested appointing a member of the Selectboard as an interim representative. Beth Dawley asked what the meeting schedule is. The meetings are one Monday per month. Beth is considering becoming the member. Lee Ann asked if the Town Constable

might be interested. **Action Item:** Jim to reach out to get the meeting schedule and report back to the group. He will let Beth know so she can decide to participate and in the interim, he can attend the first meeting. Add to the next meeting.

Other Business

Ministerial Land Quit Claim deed: Ken Mahren is selling his property and discovered that his deed included Ministerial Lease land from the town. The town needed to Quit Claim the land to the property owner for the title and sale. The Town's Agent to Convey Real Estate position is vacant. Jim motioned to appoint Mark Pelletier to the role and Lee Ann seconded. **Action Item:** Mark to go to the town office to sign Friday morning.

Tweed Lane Demo Bids – Demo bids were received from Harvey's Plumbing and Excavating and Xcav8 LLC. Harvey's bid was \$30,070 and Xcav8, LLC was \$30,000 for both properties. Since both bids are the same financially, Lee Ann asked who could start the soonest. Jim said the Selectboard would need to decide based on previous work. Lori reported that the asbestos abatement contractor was still working on 156 Tweed and that work would drive the start date. The bid packet indicated that the demo work would need to be done by 11/15/2020. Lee Ann reviewed the Other section on the bid forms. Harvey's detailed the Other Section and described additional fill being trucked in and straw mulch, and winter rye seed with costs to address the parcel cleanup. The costs were not specified on the Xcav8 bid; however, the bid packet indicated that clean up work is part of the job. Mark was concerned that it should have been listed on the bid form from Xcav8. He did not want to make an assumption. Jim motioned to award the bid to Harvey's Plumbing and Excavation. Lee Ann agreed and commented the thoroughness of the bid document and on their proven track record in town jobs. Mark agreed. All were in favor. **Action Item:** Lori to communicate.

September Financials: The board reviewed the financials. The 2021 budget process will start in November. Cash forecast is still on track. Special thanks to the property owners who paid taxes in advance of the tax bills. Those funds prevented the town from having to borrow additional funds for operations.

Land Record Restoration Fund: The State of Vermont requires towns to put aside a percentage of land recording fees in a fund held by the town. This fund will be used in the future to modernize and preserve the land records recorded. The town has set up an investment account for this fund. For 2019 the total amount was \$2,682.00.

Noise Complaint: The Zoning Administrator has sent a letter to the owner of the property where the rapid gunfire was reported coming from after dark. The letter indicated that a complaint was made and provided details on the noise ordinance guidelines. She is awaiting that owner's response.

Noise Ordinance Review and Revision: Lee Ann created a draft based on other town's ordinances. Mark made a motion to work on this after the budget cycle. Lee Ann anticipates the Personnel Policy in review by the VLCT will come back at the same time so it can be reviewed as well. **Action Item:** add to the first December Selectboard meeting.

In Person Meetings: Lee Ann recommended that the meetings stay remote as we are seeing some COVID-19 spikes in Vermont. Jim said that he feels the remote meetings are more efficient and allow for more people to attend if they would like to. The board moved to continue remote meetings.

The board began to identify topics for the Town meeting.

Lee Ann reported that the Planning Commission is starting to ramp up and will be meeting on a schedule going forward.

Lee Ann asked if there have been any updates on the Cell Tower proposal. There has been no update since earlier this summer from the site acquisition vendor.

Orders were sent electronically to the board members and will be signed and scanned back to the town office.

Jim moved to adjourn, Mark seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Lori Scott, Town Clerk
