

Stockbridge Board of Selectmen -Draft

February 18, 2021 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting Info

+1 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 865 0149 8826 Passcode: 863224

Present: Lee Ann Isaacson, Jim Shands, Mark Pelletier, Lori Scott, Kirk White. Christian Pelletier, Kevin Travis and Bill Johnson

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mark asked for any additions to the agenda. Bill Johnson asked to be added.

Mark read the minutes from last Selectboard meeting. Jim moved to table the minutes until the end of the meeting. All agreed.

Public Communication: Rep. Kirk White gave an update from Montpelier. He shared that there is money budgeted for towns and organizations for recreation trails, economic development and brownfields clean up. Jim stated that there is a need to get high speed internet to areas off the grid. Kirk agreed and shared the process going on in Montpelier to make that happen which includes research and education.

Gaysville Campground Update: Christian asked that the Selectboard send a Permission and Maintenance Agreement for the Gaysville Campground Trail System to the White River Partnership for the grant process. Mark, Lee Ann and Jim stated their support for the project and agreed to send the necessary communication to move forward. **Action Item:** Lori will create the document with input from Christian.

Christian will update the Selectboard when the funding is available. A summer timeline and details around signage can be worked out then.

Road Commissioner: No report

The floor was turned over to Bill Johnson. Bill withdrew his bid for the open position on the Selectboard due to the time commitment conflicting with other responsibilities. **Action Item:** Lori will post the information about Bill's withdrawal on the town website. Bill will send an email to Lori stating that he has withdrawn from the election.

Review of 2/4/2021 minutes: Jim requested a change to the Noise Ordinance section of the minutes in order to create more clarity. **Action Item:** Lori will make the change and the Selectboard will review for approval at the March meeting.

The Selectboard discussed the action to take with a property owner who has informed the town that they are refusing to pay any more taxes. The Board reiterated that the property owner would go through the same process as anyone who is delinquent.

Town Report: Lori updated the Selectboard on the mailing status of the Town Report. The expected time for all reports to be received is 2/22. There was discussion surrounding the cover for the report and

if a better representation of the town could be done for next year. **Action Item:** Lori will verify the duties of the auditors and the town clerk in creating the report.

Informational Meetings: Lee Ann shared what she and Lori learned from a state webinar on hosting informational meetings on Zoom. Discussion ensued about the technical part of the process. Lee Ann stated that the meetings were informational only and not for debate or discussion.

Action Item: Lori will create the guidelines and Jim will set up a weekend practice meeting with a possible meeting on Monday.

Lori presented a cash flow draft for quick action in the event that the town passes Article 6 (authorizing the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes). The unexpected hold up of the tax rate in 2020 presented a hardship to the town and Mark suggested borrowing more to cover any possible problem this year. It was stated that the town only pays for what it uses of the borrowed amount. Lori stated that FEMA has yet to reimburse \$280,000 from the 4/2019 flood damage which will be used to pay a loan of \$59,000. In addition, Two Rivers owes the town approximately \$25,000 from the Tweed Lane Mitigation Buyouts.

Mark motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lee Ann seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Kelly McDermott-Burns, Asst. Town Clerk
