

Orange Selectboard Meeting
January 11, 2021-5:00pm
Electronically via Zoom

Board Members Present: Sue Perreault, Chair, Eric Holmgren, Member and Emily Ruff, Member.

Others Present: Angela Eastman-Town Clerk, John Barnes, Road Foreman, Lee Youngman, Treasurer, Samantha Lefebvre-VT State Representative.

Call to order:

Selectboard Chair Ms. Perreault called the meeting to order at 5:04pm

Agenda Revisions/additions to the agenda:

Ms. Youngman would like to discuss the delinquent tax collections during her update.

Approve minutes from December 28, 2020 and January 5, 2021

Ms. Youngman asked for a change to the minutes. She asked for a change to be made stating the following: The minutes were amended to reflect the approval of Selectboard Chair Sue Perreault to sign on behalf of other Selectboard members who are excused from signing the warrant during COVID effective 12/28/2020. A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to approve the minutes as Ms. Youngman suggested dated 12/28/2020 This was seconded by Mr. Holmgren. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Eastman asked for the minutes from January 5, 2021 Emergency Selectboard Meeting to be approved. A motion was made by Ms. Perreault to approve the minutes as written and this was seconded by Ms. Ruff. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment/Guest Appearances

Mr. Chris Putney from the VASA Tri Village Wheelers asking for permission to use the following roads: Richardson Rd to the Woodworth Property to the town clerk's office to George Street to Beard Rd and into the Town Forest. This would create a loop back to our trail system on Willey Hill Rd. This would equal approximately 2.51 miles. This was discussed amongst the Selectboard members and they will take this under advisement and will follow up at a later date.

Ms. Samantha Lefebvre gave an update regarding State of Vermont news at the State House. She stated that bill H48 regarding town meeting rules will be going to the floor tomorrow for vote.

Town Treasurer's Report

Approval of warrants:

Ms. Youngman presented her reports regarding weekly payroll warrants and town warrants. A motion was made by Mr. Holmgren to approve the accounts payable and the payroll warrant pending Ms. Perreault's review and her signature on behalf of the board. This was seconded by Mr. Holmgren. The motion carried unanimously.

Approve Journal Entries

Ms. Youngman stated that she is still working on the journal entries and will update at a later date.

Delinquent Tax Update

Ms. Youngman updated the board on the delinquent taxes. She stated that she and Mr. McNeil are working on reconciliation of Mary's account. Discussion was had regarding the position and how the wording will be on the town meeting warning. Ms. Youngman stated that the delinquent taxes are over \$100,000.00.

Review current budget/FY21 budget:

Ms. Youngman then discussed the current budget and the FY21 budget with the Selectboard. A discussion was had regarding the new alarm requirements. Ms. Eastman stated that Seacoast Security sent us a letter that we need to upgrade the system as the 3G and 4G network will be shut down over the coming months, therefore no signal would be sent to Seacoast Security. An update will be needed for \$200 for the garage alarm and \$400 for the town office. A discussion was had for Tri Village for a retainer of \$6000. Ms. Youngman stated that it was appropriated for 2019 but never paid and Ms. Youngman will cut a check for 2019. It was decided to approve the budget at the next meeting. Ms. Youngman added a discussion regarding the Orange County Special Investigative Unit that works with all reported sex crimes of children and families in Orange County asking for an appropriation of \$1500. On a motion made by Mr. Holmgren the selectboard agreed to appropriate the money and put it on the ballot without the requirements like everyone else. This was seconded by Ms. Perreault. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Eastman discussed the Orange County Sheriff budget numbers. This was discussed amongst members and a proposal was made to allocate \$8000 towards police protection.

Committee/Commission/Town Clerk/Town Garage/Board Reports

Town office updates/COVID-19 update:

Ms. Eastman updated the board on Town Clerk updates. Ms. Eastman discussed that FEMA will be updating the local hazard mitigation plan and Ms. Eastman will be sending the insurance declarations as requested. Ms. Eastman will be attending a few upcoming webinars this upcoming week regarding town meeting and training. She is also applying for a preservation grant to use for repairs on the Town Hall. She also stated that her COVID-19 grant has been extended for 6 more months. Dog postcards will be getting a postcard in the mail for upcoming dog registrations.

Road Report:

Mr. Barnes gave an update on the town roads. He stated that it has been pretty quiet on the roads. He has been working on a spring on Bennett's Mill that is in the middle of the road but otherwise everything is ok.

Old Business

Continued discussion regarding Alexia Voitle dog complaint

Ms. Eastman discussed that there have been ongoing barking dog complaints in East Orange at the Ms. Alexia Voitle residence. Ms. Voitle is stating that the ACO is making up false complaints. Ms. Eastman stated that Ms. Voile's dog still continues to bark and the ACO has gotten multiple complaints from various residents. This has become an ongoing issue and the ACO is requesting a municipal ticket be written. The ACO and Ms. Eastman called the attorney in regards to this and a municipal ticket can be issued per the attorney.

New Business

Sign Fireworks Permit

Ms. Eastman asked for a fireworks permit to be signed for Terri Crawford who will be launching fireworks on January 16th. A motion was made by Mr. Holmgren to authorize Ms. Perreault to sign the fireworks permit on behalf of the board. This was seconded by Ms. Ruff and the motion carried unanimously.

Renew logging contract for Town Pit-Mr. Barnes

Mr. Barnes stated that the logging contract is going well and he is about ½ done. He is paying the town above and beyond even though the prices have gone up.

Discuss new alarm requirements/cost

Other Business

Executive Session as per 1 V.S.A 313(3)(F)

A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to enter Executive Session VSA 313 3-5 at 7:25pm. This was seconded by Ms. Perreault. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to exit Executive Session VSA 313 3-5 at 7:42pm. This was seconded by Mr. Holmgren. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to enter Executive Session VSA 313 (F) at 7:42pm. This was seconded by Ms. Perreault. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to exit Executive Session VSA 313 (F) at 7:58pm. This was seconded by Mr. Holmgren. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to enter Executive Session VSA 313 (3-4) at 7:58pm. This was seconded by Mr. Holmgren. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to exit Executive Session VSA 313 (3-4) at 8:22pm. This was seconded by Ms. Perreault. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon exiting executive session, the following votes were taken:

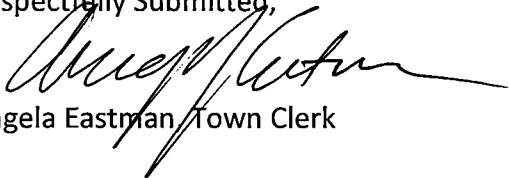
1. Adjust Town Clerk Salary to Step 3 of State Chart - \$21.70/hour / \$45136 annual
2. Confirm with Treasurer that \$5000 should be included in the separate line item for health insurance

A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to adopt the budget with the changes listed above. This was seconded by Ms. Perreault. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Ruff to adjourn the meeting at 8:22pm. This was seconded by Mr. Holmgren. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela Eastman, Town Clerk