

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 28, 2023

Present: Eric Holmgren, Sheila Stone, Kevin Wilson  
Town Clerk Angela Eastman, Assistant Clerk Diane Waters

Guests: George Chamberlain

1. Call Meeting To Order: Chairperson Holmgren called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda: No revisions were made by the Board. Eastman requested adding: Washington Electric Cooperative letter, Sidewalk Study, and Grants-In-Aid.
3. Set Date For Public Meeting for Animal Control Ordinance: The Board set October 10 at 6:00 p.m. for the public meeting, with the regular meeting scheduled for 6:15. The Town Clerk will warn the public meeting 30 days in advance.
4. Road Repair and Construction Updates: Wilson reported that Provencher Road is looking good. The corner of George Street will be repaired this week. He stated he will meet with Road Foreman John Barnes in the morning to go over what needs to be done on other roads. Holmgren said the lower culvert (which was flushed by Barre Town DPW) on Provencher Road is still slightly blocked. Repairs to storm damage will need to be prioritized. Wilson stated he is still waiting to hear back from contractors regarding grinding of Tucker Road. The paving schedule on Reservoir Road was discussed with the idea of paving the washouts at the same time. It was discussed to put a line item in next year's budget for equipment rental.
5. Review Current Budget: The Board reviewed the General and Highway Funds budgets to date. The mowing overages were discussed.
6. Approve Warrants: On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted to accept the Payroll Warrant and the Accounts Payable Warrant. Stone refrained from voting.
7. Discuss/Consider Hiring Temporary Help For Road Repairs/Maintenance: It was discussed the need to hire temporary help to assist the Town road crew's heavy workload because of the flooding repair work. Holmgren stated there are two options for hiring temporary help:
  - (1) Put out bids for individual projects;
  - (2) Hire a worker as a temporary employee to run our equipment. This option is more cost effective. We would need to create a position, set work hours, job requirement, how long (thru October), hours per week, pay. It was felt this could possibly be a permanent summer position that could be put in future budgets. Before posting an ad for temporary help, Wilson will call Ben Shaw and John Spencer to see if either would be interested. On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to pursue temporary help for the Town road crew.

8. Discuss/Consider New Municipal Attorney Options: Stone said she received two letters of interest – Stitzel, Page & Fletcher and Carroll, Boe, Pell & Kite. The Board would like to meet with SP&F before making a decision. Stone will contact them to see if they can meet with the Board at their September 11 meeting.

Eastman presented for Selectboard signature: a form from Washington Electric Cooperative for a refund of \$10.01; letter of appointment for the Sidewalk Study; and Grants-In-Aid 2024.

9. Executive Session: At 7:19 p.m. on a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session per 1 VSA §313(a)(3) to discuss the employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee.

At 7:49 p.m. on a motion by Wilson, seconded by Stone, the board voted unanimously to go out of executive session.

10. Adjourn. At 7:50 p.m. on a motion by Stone, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Waters, Assistant Town Clerk