

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING

May 09, 2022 – PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Present: Jasmin Couillard, Clayton Woodworth, Chris Peloquin, Rodney Graham, Chris Wade

Town Manager, Jackie Higgins

Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Jasmin at 7:00 p.m.

Set the Agenda – Jasmin opened the discussion to set the agenda, Jasmin added an Executive Session at the end of the meeting. Chris W. made the motion to accept the agenda with the addition, Chris P. seconded. So moved.

SB Announcements & Public Announcements – None

Commissions/Committees/Trustees/Other Board Announcements - None

Open Public Comments and Questions – None

Approve Minutes & Warrants – Rodney made the motion to approve the payroll warrants 4/24/2022 & 5/8/2022 as well as SB20138 Chris W. seconded. So moved.

Chris P. raised the question of timesheets with Ambulance and Fire Department regarding submissions.

Rodney made the motion to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes 4/13/2022 & 4/18/2022, Chris P. seconded. So moved.

Town Manager's Report – See Attached

New Business – OCSD – Bill Bohnyak reported on modified recording services for Williamstown. Spoke on behalf of the Social Media postings regarding a suspect in town. Chris P. questioned the grey sheriff's vehicle at Post Office location. Mr. Bohnyak will address the issue. Chris W. asked if there was a patrol log that the citizens could view with detailed roads patrolled.

Williamstown Recreation Board Appointments - Discussion was had regarding the different candidates that showed interested in the positions. Rodney suggested that the board follow Roberts Rule with voting. Chris W. made the motion to stay with a 5 member board. Chris P. seconded. So moved. Rodney made the motion to nominate Chris Dessureau, Lisa St. Lawrence, Megan Keys and Pete DeVerna with Chris P. as the SB Rep. Chris W. seconded. So moved.

Town Manager Contract – Chris P. requested a copy of the Town Manager's Contract as well as Minutes from a specific Selectboard Meeting that involved the "work from home" part of the contract. No special meeting was held to discuss the COVID protocols, The staff discussed the issue when Covid arrived locally and made the decision to work in the office and from home accordingly. Chris W. made the motion for Jackie and the SB Chair to make the decision to work from home if needed, Rodney seconded. So moved.

Library Parking Lot – The permits are pending with state permit for the parking lot.

Library Resignation - Kathy Retchless provided a letter of resignation from the Library Trustee Board. Rodney made the motion to appoint the new Trustee, Kelli Descoteaux. Chris W. seconded. So moved.

Clark Road Discussion – Chris P. requested a site visit to reopen discussion of reclassifying the road. Matt Rouleau explained why the decision was made by the previous board. Rodney commented on town equipment being bigger and the policy to maintain the town roads. Rodney made the motion to visit Clark Road on June 13, 2022, at 6:00pm. Chris P. seconded. So moved.

Adams Road Repaving – Discussion was had regarding paving, as well as roads that have been reclaimed and promised to be repaved. Horace Duke reminded the town of paving promises for Hebert Road in 1972 to be paved to Barre Town. Discussion on Grants to aid in paving efforts. Chris P. made the motion to not pave Adams Road at this time. Rodney seconded. So moved.

Grading Schedule – Rodney questioned the protocol for the grading schedule, Jackie responded that it is at the judgement call of the Road Foreman. Jasmin suggested when selecting the new Road Foreman, criteria be set up with a revised grading schedule. Chris W. suggested to table the discussion until Road Foreman has been selected.

The Pub – Lindsey Contois proposed road closure on Beckett Street for the event of Memorial Day for food for the event. The Road closure requested 10am-10pm. Chris P. made the motion to block off the road for the Memorial Day event on May 21st as well as provide signage to advise the public on parking. Clayton seconded. Amended to include the Outside Consumption Permit. Rodney apposed. So moved.

Old Business – Class 4 Road Funding – Chris P. made the motion to approve funding. Motion failed. Rodney provided clarification on Highway policy on Class 4 Road. Discussion was had to create an account for the funds that are not used during the year to roll over. Clayton made the motion to approve the funds to Getz Road, Grandview Road & Moore Road with a reserve fund created. Chris P. seconded. Rodney apposed. So moved.

Around the Table – Jasmin stated that legal counsel advised to adopt a Code of Conduct policy and to pursue a Charter Change to remove officials from office. Chris W. made the motion to move forward with planning to create the policy. So moved.

Chris W. made the motion to take a 10-minute recess. Chris P. seconded. So moved.

Executive Session – Chris P. made the motion to enter Executive Session at 9:25pm. Chris W. seconded. So moved. Clayton made the motion to exit Executive Session at 9:40pm. Chris P. seconded. So moved. Chris P. made the motion to hire David Wilder with a 6 Month Probation period. Chris W. seconded. So moved. Chris W. asked to advertise the vacancy on the Road Crew. Chris P. seconded. So moved.

Adjourn – At 9:41pm Chris W. made the motion to adjourn, Chris P. seconded. So moved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Keys

Jasmin Couillard

Clayton Woodworth

Chris Peloquin

Rodney Graham

Chris Wade