

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN
WILLIAMSTOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING
August 14, 2023 – PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Present: Larry Hebert, Clayton Woodworth, Chris Wade, Scott McCarthy, Chris Peloquin

Town Manager, Jackie Higgins

Call to Order – Larry called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Set the Agenda: Chris W. made the motion to set the agenda with the addition of an Executive Session concerning legal issues after Around the Table. Scott seconded. So moved.

Review of Open Public Comments

Selectboard Announcements:

Public Announcements:

Commissions/Committees/Trustees/Other Board Announcements:

Approve Payroll Warrant and SB Warrants: Chris P. requested the warrants be voted on separately. Chris P. made the motion to approve SB22056. Larry seconded. So moved Scott made the motion to approve SB22057, Clayton seconded. Larry recused himself. Chris P. asked for an explanation of the invoices regarding the pit. Vote 3-yes 1- no (Chris P.), Larry recused himself from the vote. Larry made the motion to approve SB22058, Chris P seconded. Chris P. questioned the bill reflecting the quoted amount matching up. Jackie stated that the only addition was the lighting. So moved. Chris P. made the motion to accept the Payroll Warrants 7/30/2023 & 8/13/2023. Clayton seconded. So moved.

Selectboard Meeting Minutes: Scott made the motion to approve the SB Minutes from 7/18/2023 & 8/1/2023. Chris W. seconded. Chris P. abstained.

Town Manager's Report: See attached.

New Business:

MICHELE BRAUN, EX. DIRECTOR OF THE FRIENDS OF WINOSKI RIVER – Updates on possible culvert projects in Williamstown. Baptist St, Gilbert Rd. and McGlynn Rd. Chris P. made the motion to move forward with the design efforts for the project. Scott seconded the motion.

ROULEAU DAM – STATUS UPDATE: Jackie presented a petition with the Vermont Dam Safety Program. Scott made the motion in favor to sign the petition. Clayton seconded. So moved.

WATER TANK PROPERTY SOLAR PROJECT – Chris P. made the motion to deny supporting reapplying for the state permit. Chris W. seconded the motion. So moved.

OCSD CONTRACT APPROVAL – Chris P. made the motion to approve, Clayton seconded. During discussion, Chris P. requested to amend the contract to include some changes through the Town Manager. Chris W. requested more detailed Road Logs from OCSD. Chris P. made the motion to table the discussion until the requested changes were made. Clayton seconded.

GILBERT ROAD STRUCTURE BID OPENING –

AVERY EXCAVATION - 8/14/2023 - 1:50PM \$299,340.00

WARDS EXCAVATION - 8/14/2023 – 2:30PM \$174,900.00

HEBERT EXCAVATION - 8/14/2023 - 11:45AM \$158,896.00

Scott made the motion to accept Larry Hebert's bid. Chris P. seconded. Work to be completed by November 15th, if all supplies are available.

CV FIBER – Chris P. made the motion to move past the CV Fiber discussion. Clayton seconded. So moved.

PROPERTY TAX RATE – Chris P. made the motion to approve the proposed Tax Rate of \$0.6692. Clayton seconded. So moved. Tax bills to be printed starting on September 5, 2023.

CLASS 4 ROAD FUNDING – Lotus Lake, Flint Road – Crosby, Flint Road- Haddock, Young Road – Sheridan. Scott made the motion to accept and approve all 4 discussed requests. Chris W. seconded the motion. Motion passed, Chris P. ney.

BRUSH HILL BRIDGE – Discussion on pricing out Steel beams to repair the bridge to make it safe for traveling. Scott made the motion to price out steel beams to repair the bridge. Chris P. seconded the motion. So moved.

PURCHASING POLICY UPDATE – Jackie requested a higher budget for purchasing for the town. The request for the town as well as the bid process. Rodney Graham spoke regarding the state law that states how much is required to go out to bid. Chris P. asked to table the motion until it could be researched on amounts allowed. He stated that he would support doubling amounts if it is within the law. Clayton seconded. So moved.

Old Business:

ARPA: WILLIAMSTOWN YOUTH SPORTS – Approval for funding of \$99,378.00 of ARPA funding. Chris P. made the motion to approve the amount. Clayton seconded. So moved.

HOYT-SEAVER FIELD DIAMOND – Request for FEMA to cover field/fence. Chris P. suggested to have the fence taken down and pay to have it done. Jude Horwitz offered to remove the damaged fence from the field. Chris Dessureau spoke regarding the brook with the silt behind the backstop being cleaned and cleared.

PAVILION RENTAL AGREEMENT- Chris P. asked to revise the agreement to be comparative to other local towns. Discussion was tabled until the agreement has been revised.

RECLASSIFICATION OF ROADS – FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSSION OF LAW: MacDonald and Clark Roads will be on the September 11th Selectboard Meeting agenda.

WILLIAMSTOWN RECREATION BOARD – SIGNAGE: WRB requested to have the Williamstown Recreation Board logo on the Pavilion. After discussion, Chris W. made the motion to accept the request to put the WRB logo on the pavilion. Clayton seconded the motion. Chris P. recused himself.

Around the Table:

Chris P. asked if there was an agreement to reserve Veteran’s Park for events. Also requested information on a possible waiver for the Pavilion. At 9:00 pm Chris P. made the motion to take a 15 minute recess and then enter into Executive Session. Chris W. seconded. So moved.

Executive Session: Chris P. made the motion to enter 9:15pm, Clayton made the motion to exit 9:50pm. So moved. No action taken.

Adjourn: Chris P. made the motion to adjourn, Clayton seconded. So moved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Keys

Larry Hebert

Clayton Woodworth

Chris Peloquin

Scott McCarthy

Chris Wade