

TOWN OF MARLBORO
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 9, 2020
Meeting Via Zoom Call Online
5:00 PM

ATTENDANCE: Present: *In attendance via Zoom, due to COVID-19 precautions:* Jesse Kreitzer, Select Board Chair; Julia von Ranson, Vice Chair; Aaron Betts, Member; Jay Sparks, EMD; Forrest Holzapfel, Town Clerk; and Lauren MacArthur, Select Board Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER: Jesse Kreitzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Changes to the agenda: *Signing of Pay Orders was moved to the end of the meeting because only Jesse would be reviewing them at this meeting. A request to purchase a cemetery plot in Kings Cemetery was added to "Information Items and Mail"; Unemployment Benefits for Town Employees was added to "New Business"*

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT: Forrest reported that he is working in the Town Office on Tuesday and Thursday while Linda and Andrea are there on Monday and Wednesday. There will only be one person working in the Town Office at a time. Marlboro Cares and the Marlboro Alliance are reaching out to people in town, offering resources and assistance. Town Clerks around the state are not seeing a lot of work, but most are paying employees whether there is work or not.

Emergency Management Director Jay Sparks joined the meeting to discuss Covid-19. FEMA funds are now available, but Jay did see the need to request any. Jay reported that he attends the state's weekly conference call and is updated on where money and resources are going, unemployment benefits, and health updates. He is also doing FEMA and ICS trainings online and will be updating the Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP), which needs to be updated annually. Jay reported that the Marlboro College campus has been offered as a surge site, if needed.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS:

The Select Board approved minutes from 3/12/20. (von Ranson, Betts)

The Select Board approved the Select Board Report for the May/June Mixer (von Ranson, Betts)

OLD BUSINESS:

The Select Board approved the continuation of the Beaver Deceiver project on North Pond Road now that landowner permission has been granted.

The Select Board discussed a proposal that the Town of Marlboro sign on to the Charter for Compassion. The Select Board wondered if a committee would need to be formed or an appointment made to help institute the charter in a meaningful way. At this time, it seems that finding more volunteers to support this initiative would be challenging. Although the Select Board appreciates the principles of the Charter for Compassion, they decided that the Town of Marlboro will not formally adopt it, but will look for opportunities to support and celebrate Brattleboro's work with the Charter. (von Ranson, Betts)

The Select Board received an update on the Class II/Structures grant from David (via Lauren). The Select Board approved submission of the grant for work resurfacing the paved section of Augur Hole Road and possibly the paved sections of Higley Hill Road as well. (Kreitzer, von Ranson)

NEW BUSINESS:

The Select Board denied both bids by Matrix and Consolidated in response to Marlboro Committee for Universal Broadband's (MCUB) RFP. (Kreitzer, von Ranson).

MCUB shared their meeting minutes and their current commitment to helping to increase internet accessibility and quality because of the importance of using broadband for work, education, and communication during the current shelter-in-place order.

The Select Board discussed looking into the town's policies on paid family sick leave and looked at some of the Department of Labor's current policies during the COVID-19 crisis. Julia will follow up with a town employee who was concerned about missing work to care for a sick family member.

INFORMATION ITEMS AND MAIL:

The Select Board acknowledged receipt of daily COVID-19 Situation Reports by Vermont Emergency Management.

The Select Board received a complaint about a road crew member using a cell phone while driving a town truck. Jesse will reach out to David to remind the Road Crew of safety rules and about being mindful of representing the Town when out on the roads in Town vehicles. Using/installing hands-free alternatives will also be discussed further.

Jesse reported that he spoke to David about following CDC guidelines on Covid-19.

The Select Board received an inquiry about buying a plot in Center Cemetery. (According to Forrest, Center Cemetery is closed. Kings Cemetery has one spot remaining, although there is more land that could be cleared.) Linda Peters will be asked about Center Cemetery before Lauren responds to the inquiry email.

Lauren is working on setting up a Town Zoom account for municipal committees, commissions, and boards to use.

The Select Board acknowledged receipt of a letter from Geof Dolman, stating that he will need to end the lease agreement with the Town for mowing the Muster Field. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jesse Kreitzer signed the pay orders.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren MacArthur, Assistant to the Select Board