

TOWN OF MARLBORO
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 23, 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; Bill Esses, Town Resident; and Lauren MacArthur, Select Board Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER: Jesse Kreitzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Changes to the agenda: Jesse had signed pay orders earlier in the day. "Muster Field Lease" added to *Old Business*.

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT: Bill Esses visited the Select Board to speak about the beavers on North Pond Road. Bill stated that the beavers are quite active and will soon flood the road with their activity. He is concerned that materials from the unfinished Beaver Deceiver were left on the site all winter, including a piece of 4x8 foot plywood that has sunk to the bottom of the pond when the ice melted. Bill and his wife Kalia, along with help from Aaron Betts, will retrieve the piece of plywood, as there is concern about toxins in the plywood seeping into the water. Bill shared his perspective that a Beaver Deceiver (or a simple fence, as Skip Lisle, President of Beaver Deceivers, has most recently recommended) in this location may not be effective. With the culvert blocked off, the beavers are working closer to the road. It was agreed that an in-person meeting at the site with Skip, David Elliott, Road Foreman, and Aaron would be ideal. Aaron will contact Skip to talk about possible solutions for this site.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS:

The Select Board approved minutes from 4/9/20. (Kreitzer, von Ranson)

OLD BUSINESS:

The Select Board reviewed the Muster Field lease. Jesse will contact Geof Dolman to discuss options moving forward. In the meantime, the Select Board will update the lease and change section 6a to specify that haying is permitted on the site, but other agricultural use (grazing livestock, planting crops) will not be permitted.

Jesse spoke with Town Clerk Forrest Holzapfel prior to the meeting concerning COVID-19 situation management in town. Jesse reported that Forrest is planning to send a letter to town residents, encouraging them to pay taxes early (even though tax deadlines have been extended). He will also offer information resources to residents and summarize the governor's recent updates.

The Select Board discussed the lack of cemetery plots in Marlboro at existing cemeteries after receiving an inquiry about buying plots in town. The Select Board would like to invite Linda Peters, Town Treasurer to next meeting to discuss what funds are available to expand existing sites, and which sites have space for expansion. If funds are available, perhaps expansion could begin this coming year.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Select Board voted to renew membership to Mayors for Peace. (Kreitzer, Betts)

The Select Board agreed to sign the Certificate of Compliance for VTrans. Jesse signed the Certificate

of Compliance at the Town Office after this meeting and Lauren MacArthur scanned and emailed it to Meghan Brunk.

The Select Board approved the installation of a road sign Adams Brook Lane road sign to be installed. (Kreitzer, von Ranson) The Road Crew will be asked to order and install the sign.

INFORMATION ITEMS AND MAIL:

The Select Board received word that the BDCC's Southern Vermont Economy Summit has been postponed, due to COVID-19.

The Select Board received information about a free online course, Strong Towns 101.

The Select Board also received information about the BDCC's Southern Vermont Economy Project and the weekly Zoom calls facilitated by this project.

FEMA funds have been approved for Lahar Road. Jesse will check to make sure that Linda has been reimbursed for her administrative work on the grant and former EMD, Mike Andreotta, will receive his administrative stipend as well.

Jay Sparks, EMD, shared a draft of the Local Emergency Management Plan with the Select Board via email. There are updates and edits that need to be made, but the Select Board hopes to approve it at the next meeting.

A pop-up bakery has been set up on the porch of the Post Office/Town Office building. The Select Board will check in with Forrest Holzappel, Town Clerk, to be sure that the pop-up bakery owner has permission to set up there.

The Select Board had received an email from the Windham Regional Commission, inquiring about whether there are unmet needs in town (related to the COVID-19 crisis) and stating that funds are available. No needs were identified by the Select Board, Marlboro Alliance, Marlboro Cares, or the EMD.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren MacArthur, Assistant to the Select Board