

## Minutes

### Town Of Marlboro Regular Select Board Meeting

Thursday, July 8, 2021, 5pm Zoom Call Online

Present: In attendance via Zoom, due to COVID-19 precautions: Julia von Ranson (by phone), Select Board Chair; Aaron Betts, Vice-Chair; Jim Agate, Select Board member; Linda Peters, Town Treasurer; Nick Morgan, Select Board Assistant; Colin Bratton, WRC; Edie Mas, Marlboro Planning Commission.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm.

Identify Any Changes To Agenda – none

### Scheduled Business

5:00 – 5:10      Unscheduled Open Public Comment - none  
5:10              Approval of Minutes from June 24, 2021 – moved (von Ranson, Betts)  
                         Passed Unanimously  
                         Signature of Pay Orders – moved (von Ranson, Betts)  
                         Passed Unanimously

### New Business

#### Review, discussion, and setting of the 2021 Tax Rates.

Linda outlined the procedures for setting the tax rates with certain rates set by the State and then adjusted as indicated to set final rates for the town. Current rates will be set at 2.1602% for the Homestead Tax Rate and 2.0428% for the Non-Resident Tax Rate. Linda noted that she would provide this information to Nick who would disseminate these rates to the Town via Facebook and FPF in advance of official notification.

Motion to approve tax rates as put forth by Linda (von Ranson, Betts), Passed Unanimously

#### Formal approval of allowing Bike Race on 7/25/21 and authorization to send notice to VT State Police

A bike race called the Guilford Gravel Grinder will be going through Marlboro (briefly) as it has in the past and in order to have everything in order the VT State Police need an official notification from the town provided by the town clerk. After a brief discussion about the race and that it has been held in the past the Board moved to approve allowing the race and the advisement to the State Police (von Ranson, Betts), Passed Unanimously

#### Discussion of Town Septic System Planning (Edie Mas)

Edie Mas of the Marlboro Planning Commission provided an update on the ongoing discussions and planning for upgrading the Town Septic System. The town has received a study report from Ukraine Engineering on possible upgrades to the System. The report indicated that ultimately the system would require a “mound system” and that there were three possible alternatives: A two-system plan which would provide the greatest flexibility; A pre-treatment system; and a single “larger” system.

The Planning Commission has advised that something should be done to possibly prevent a much more costly fix, should the current system become overwhelmed down the road.

This project would be eligible for ARPA funds if the town decided to go in this direction for funding, and the Planning Commission felt it was now time to bring this to the Board to get the process started.

Edie noted that the Windham County Regional Commission was very interested in helping and had put forth the thought that there may be Grant funds available to be able to hire an administrator to run the project.

Edie also brought up the idea that possibly tying the parking area upgrade to the Septic upgrade might be a good idea as to prevent possibly having to dig up the upgraded parking area after it was improved to make the upgrades to the Septic System. The sense of the board was that upgrading the parking area needed to be done and the possibility of doing both projects at the same time should be investigated, but not an absolute. T

Edie noted that while she has been working on the Septic Project for the Planning Commission taking on the full load is not really feasible (hence the thought of a grant to hire an administrator).

*While there is no immediate action that needed to be moved and voted on, an action item for the Board was put forth: Speak with Chris at the Windham Regional Planning Commission about the project and*

Aaron expressed some interest in possibly looking into some steps to do the parking area upgrade and the septic upgrade at the same time, after Jim expressed that any septic work would actually encompass a lot more than the parking area, Aaron actually agreed that trying to do both projects at the same time could be counter-productive as the timing might not work out and it would be better to proceed with the parking area upgrade while planning the Septic project.

WCSCO request to carry over 8.75 hours of contracted time from previous contract into the new current contract, request came from Sheriff Anderson.

So moved (von Ranson, Betts), Passed Unanimously

### **Old Business**

Continued discussions with Colin Bratton from WRC on ways to improve speed enforcement and traffic control in town.

The Board asked Colin what simple steps the Town could take to start to alleviate the speeding issue through town. Colin noted that moving forward with the smaller Speed Feedback signs is a great step as is making sure the shoulders are clearly delineated via painted lines, mowing and brush clearing. He also acknowledged that moving the 25 MPH zone closer to Route 9 could be helpful and would be beneficial for those residents living on South Road in that area. Additional signage such as a sign saying, "Welcome to the Town of Marlboro" and painting of traffic warnings and speed limit on the actual black top are also positive steps. The Board felt that getting the simple maintenance items done is a good first step and will work with Road Crew to make this happen.

The discussion then moved to the possibility of putting in a crosswalk and where it would go. Colin thought that there may be some regulations regarding a crosswalk needing to be at a signed intersection, such as where Ames Hill intersects with South Road. Julia noted that a crosswalk in that area urging pedestrians to cross there could be a problem during the weekend. Colin said he would research this issue and report back. There was also a discussion of possibly putting in a "three-way stop" either at the Ames Hill intersection or at the Town Road intersection. The Board felt that this also needed further study but that if it was a possible answer, the Ames Hill intersection might be better as it has appeared that more speeding vehicles are coming from that direction.

The sense of the Board was to investigate this further before making a final decision.

As for the Crosswalk, Colin thought that there might be a possibility of doing a “demonstration project of a Raised Crosswalk”, further noting that John Kaplan from VTrans could be a person to contact to help work through this issue and perhaps get State help in making it happen.

Colin agreed to reach out to John Kaplan and report back to the Board.

Confirmation of in person Select Board meetings commencing on July 22, 2021.

The Board confirmed that the Board Meetings would be going “live” on 7/22/2021, with the start time of the meeting moving to 6:00am. Nick will post an announcement on FPF, Facebook, and on the town website.

Update on Road Crew Position Search

Nick reported that there have been three responses via Indeed which Dave Elliott is following up on. Aaron noted that he had spoken with Dave and confirmed that Dave was following up on all potential candidates. Julia noted that she would be speaking with Dave over the next few days to see what was happening.

Nick also mentioned that the Indeed website has some potential applicants who might be good fits but who had not yet actually applied. Nick will be reaching out to these potential candidates through the website and forward any information on to Dave.

**Adjourn 6:12 pm**