

Minutes

Town Of Marlboro Regular Select Board Meeting

Thursday, August 26, 2021, 6pm @ Town Meeting House & Zoom Call Online

Present: Julia von Ranson, Select Board Chair; Aaron Betts, Vice-Chair; Jim Agate, Select Board member; Nick Morgan, Select Board Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.

Identify Any Changes To Agenda – none

Scheduled Business

6:00 – 6:10 Unscheduled Open Public Comment – None

6:10 Approval of Minutes from August 12, 2021 – moved (von Ranson, Betts)

 Passed Unanimously

Signature of Pay Orders – moved (von Ranson, Betts)

 Passed Unanimously

New Business

Review and approval of Starkweather driveway permit – Approved unanimously

Review Nick's & Forrest's meeting with VLCT representative Katie Buckley regarding ARPA funding

Overall, the meeting was highly productive in both establishing a relationship with a contact at the VLCT for current and future aid and information on navigating the ins and outs of accepting and using the ARPA funds. Katie Buckley is the designated interface between the VLCT and the localities in Vermont for this purpose and should prove very useful in getting the most out of the relationship and membership with the VLCT. Katie advised that the town overall put together a list of potential projects that could be researched and worked through before final decisions are made.

This also led to a conversation around the benefits of a "Town Plan" that could be put together encompassing many projects and areas of potential projects, that could be referred back to and worked through over time, as funding (through ARPA, other grants, etc.) becomes available. The general sense of the Board was that this could be a productive idea and Forrest took an action item to reach out to the engineering company the town has worked with before about the feasibility and costs around such a thing.

Forrest brought forth several projects that could be of immediate benefit to the town including the digitizing of the town's land records and the possibility of moving forward with the implementation of internet fiber in the town center which would in addition to increasing the productivity of the Town Office, also benefit the MCC by increasing the reliability and connectivity for all town members should the need arise to have a place to go for connectivity. The Board asked Forrest to firm up these projects for approval by the board.

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Other possible projects discussed included: upgrades to the town buildings, small technology purchases to improve ability to have virtual/hybrid meetings without loss of coherence at the meetings, and potentially using some of the funds in support of charitable organizations in town. The Board also committed to reaching out to the other town boards to solicit ideas for use of the ARPA funds.

Discussion of several administrative topics

The Board directed Nick to check with Linda and the Granting agency on next steps regarding the Vermont Mitigation Grants in Aid for FY 2022.

Aaron and Nick will attend the 9/14/21 Planning Commission meeting to help provide continuity between the boards and to help bring the PC into the discussions on the speeding mitigation issue.

Regarding the Emerald Ash Borer issue, the Board will suggest to Pieter van Loon (via Nick) that at some point it might be advantageous for Pieter to hold a session at the Saturday Morning Coffee gathering at the MCC.

As noted above, the Board is considering the purchase of the “Owl” microphone system to help facilitate and improve the quality of virtual/hybrid meetings going forward in the current environment.

Old Business

How to proceed on speed calming on South Road.

The Board will be working with Colin Bratton of the WRC on next steps and has solicited his input on potential person or people the Board to hire as a “project manager” to facilitate the steps the town can take and how to implement actions to curb this problem in the town center.

Adjourn – 7:18p