

Minutes

Town Of Marlboro Regular Select Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 6:00pm

Present Aaron Betts, Select Board Chair; Jim Agate, Select Board Vice-Chair; Molly Welch, Select Board Member; Nick Morgan, Select Board Assistant; David Elliot, Marlboro Road Foreman; Bonnie Taylor, BHI (GMP Contractor); Tim Segar, Planning Commission; Forrest Holzapfel, Town Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 5:56pm.

Identify Any Changes to Agenda: Update on Dog-on-Dog attack & Tim Segar comments on Town Plan priorities (see below).

Scheduled Business

Unscheduled Open Public Comment - None

Approval of Minutes from April 28, 2022 – (Betts/Welch) – Passed unanimously

Signature of Pay Orders - Done

New Business

Update on Town Plan Priorities – Tim Segar

Tim Segar (Planning Commission) came to the meeting to review a list of priorities based on the Town Plan with the Select Board, in order to initiate discussions on how to proceed with projects and potential funding going forward. Please see the attached memo from Tim Segar and the Planning Commission for more detailed information on Planning Commission's priorities. One topic that Tim brought up was the importance of having a reconstituted Energy Commission to address several issues that will become very important in the coming years. The Select Board agreed that this was crucial and will and are working on getting this done, while noting that as a volunteer commission, the first step is soliciting volunteers which the Board committed to focus on.

The Board advised Tim that it would review the priorities list and investigate funding opportunities and continue to work closely with the Planning Commission as the town moves forward. Additionally, Tim noted that the WRC public review of the Marlboro Town Plan is being held via Zoom on Wednesday, 5/18/22 at 6:30p. Nick advised that he will be attending and posting the information on the meeting on the Town's website and Front Page Forum to help keep the public informed.

Update on Dog-on-Dog attack

During the past week there was a dog-on-dog attack in Town where one dog was badly injured by another dog that was not properly controlled or restrained. The Board was brought up to date by Forrest on the situation which continues in a bit of flux due to ACO officer being on vacation. The owner of the injured dog has written to the Town requesting its participation in the situation. The Board has advised the owner of the other dog that the situation is very serious, that action by the ACO will be taken to declare the animal "vicious", that appropriate steps for control of the animal must be taken, and that failure to do so, per ordinances and regulations, could result in the dog's impoundment. At the time of the meeting, the town was awaiting a response from the dog owner. The Board agreed that should there be no response from the dog owner by the weekend, that an additional letter would be delivered by the Constable to insure their understanding of the severity of the issue. Further, with the ACO returning on Wednesday, the ACO will take over the issue and seek to resolve the issue and keep the town advised of the situation.

Hamilton Road Electrical Line Project

Bonnie Taylor of BHI, a contractor for Green Mountain Power, presented plans for an upgrade project to the electrical lines near and across Hamilton Road, including burying the line under Hamilton Road. As with these types of projects, David Elliot advised how he would want the road brought back to standard after the line burial, and Bonnie was advised that all necessary easements and permissions from effected landowners needed to be filed with the Town Clerk. Bonnie was advised that GMP has handled these types of projects with the town multiple times and that they should/could advise on how to proceed. The Board advised Bonnie that they would review the plans, did not see any major issues, and that once all documentation was in place they would vote on the project. Bonnie committed to gathering all necessary data and through Nick and Forrest would provide the necessary documentation with the project hopefully up for a vote at the next meeting. No action was need by the Board at this time.

Lower Dover Road GMP project

At the last meeting, Don Mills from GMP presented the plans for burying the electric lines under a portion of Lower Dover Road. The plans were reviewed by both the Board and David Elliot and there were not any reasons or concerns to prevent approval. David noted that he had advised Don that he would want six inches of gravel used and that he would like to be advised by Don that GMP would be laying a "ribbon" to advise anyone digging in the area would know there was electrical line buried there. The Board agreed to approve the project on the condition of these two issues being handled by Don and that Nick would communicate this to Don Mills.

Motion: Approve the buying of electrical line under Lower Dover Road according to the plan presented by Don Mills (with the proviso that GMP would meet the six inches of gravel and laying of advisement ribbon). (Betts/Agate) – Passed unanimously.

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Reconstitution of the Conservation Committee

Due to scheduling conflicts, this was tabled to next meeting.

Discussion on Road Advisory Committee

Nick presented the possibility to the Board that a Road advisory committee could be a possible idea. After some discussion, the sense of the Board was that such a committee was not the best solution at this time and that the Select Board itself could fulfill this function at the present time. As such, this idea was tabled for the present.

Old Business

Road Update

David Elliot was present to report on the roads. He noted that coming out of mud season, the roads have had their first grading and that the crew was continuing to grade and improve the conditions. He did note that there have been several requests for Calcium Chloride to tamp down the dust levels. David noted that this process would begin as needed and once the grading process was well on its way to completion.

With continuing health issues impacting the Road Crew, the Board advised David to proceed with reaching out to possible temporary/permanent help as the Road Crew moves through this difficult time. The Board reiterated to David that it will look at all alternatives to assist in making sure he has what he needs.

WRC Bridge Funding

The Windham Regional Commission Bridge Funding program designated a few bridges in Marlboro as qualifying for the 2022 funding program. Nick provided the WRC with the information necessary to qualify and was advised by C. Bratton that the Marlboro request had been submitted and the town would be advised if the town was awarded any funding. C. Bratton will advise as the process moves forward.

Motion to Adjourn: (Betts/Agate) – Passed unanimously – 7:23p