

Draft Minutes
Town Of Marlboro Select Board Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 2022, 6:00pm

Attendees: Aaron Betts, Chair (was unable to attend); Jim Agate, Vice-Chair; Molly Welch, Board Member, David Elliot, Road Foreman; Nick Morgan, Select Board Assistant, Ted Lawrence, Slapstick Science (Circus Camp); Nancy Anderson, HMCA; Diana Todd, resident.

Scheduled Business

Unscheduled Open Public Comment - None

Approval of Minutes from July 14, 2022 – Motion to approve: (Agate/Welch – Passed unanimously)

Signature of Pay Orders – Done

New Business

Circus Camp at Muster Field or Town Park

Ted Lawrence from Slapstick Science and the Board discussed the options of holding the proposed Circus Camp at either the Muster Field or the Marlboro Park at the end of August. Originally looking at a weeklong event, Ted noted that due to other obligations he was just looking at a three-day camp. After reviewing the options, Ted and the Board came to the conclusion that since children would make up a large portion of the participants the need for rest room facilities on-site was essential and with both locations, these facilities were not available and would prove to be a difficulty for holding the camp.

There was also a discussion of using the old Marlboro College campus and its buildings, while this would not be an option this year, Ted was urged to reach out to “Potash Hill” to investigate the opportunities at the old campus for next year and potentially forming a long-term relationship for a recurring event.

For now, the Board and Ted agreed that organizing all the details for a “camp” this year were just too great to overcome and the Board urged Ted to get back in touch this winter and revisit the situation and solve any problems and look to have a great event in the future.

Target shooting on Hogback

Roughly a week ago there was an incident on Hogback of someone target shooting on Hogback. Nancy Anderson (HMCA) advised the board that one of their monitors heard shots being fired and when he went to investigate saw someone target shooting with a 9mm handgun. The person left before they could be confronted, but the monitor found almost 70 shell casings.

The obvious concern for everyone is that indiscriminate target shooting can be very dangerous and while the Hogback agreement does allow hunting on the Hogback Conservancy, pure target shooting is not allowed. Another issue is that in Vermont it is almost always a hunting season of some sort, so policing the “hunting” can be problematic.

The Board, Nancy and resident, Diana Todd, discussed several options, with Nick taking the action item to contact the Windham County Sheriff to see what can be done with posting the property and enforcing any restrictions. Also discussed was the possibility of maintaining the ability to hunt on the property but making it permission only to help control the discharge of firearms.

Once a response is garnered from the Sheriff, Nick will keep Diana and Nancy posted and schedule future discussions at subsequent Select Board meetings.

Motion: adjourn to executive session @ 6:27p (Agate/Welch – Passed unanimously)

Motion: exiting from executive session @ 6:40, return to regular session (Welch/Agate – Passed unanimously).

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October Municipal Equipment Loan Application

Nick advised the Board that there will be another round of loans available with an October deadline. The Board noted that this might be an opportunity to finance an excavator and/or a road crew transportation vehicle. The issue was tabled for the present to be revisited in late August and evaluated with the Treasurer to determine the debt load the town wants to carry.

Providing for the expense of roadside mowing in the month of August

The Town Treasurer in consultation with Road Foreman, David Elliott, determined that allowing for an expense of \$3,200 for Gordon Turner to continue his roadside mowing activities for the town. The Board felt that as long as the Treasurer felt that this was well within the budget, they had no objections.

Motion: Approve the allocation of \$3,200 to Gordon Turner for roadside mowing in August
(Welch/Agate – Passed unanimously)

Lighted Speed Signs

The sense of the Board has been that the lighted speed limit signs, potentially located on South Road and perhaps, Augur Hole Road, could help significantly in the Town's efforts at speed calming. Nick located (with some help from Evan Wyse) several websites of sign manufacturers and distributors and provided those to the Board for their review. The goal is to identify several sign options and get firm quotes from these companies and make an evaluation of the costs and make a purchasing decision.

Action Item: Nick will elicit quotes and bring them to the board for review.

Red Cross & Fire on Augur Hole Rd.

Nick advised the Board that he has been in contact with the Northern New England Red Cross, and they are on board and in touch with the families of those harmed in the fire and are providing assistance. Nick also conveyed that the Red Cross is also available should anyone else needs assistance and Nick advised the Red Cross to contact the Marlboro Alliance to see if they can coordinate with each other to provide whatever else the town and residents may require.

Motion to Adjourn 7:05p (Agate/Welch – Passed unanimously)