

Minutes

Town of Marlboro Select Board Meeting

Thursday, April 25, 2024 @ 6pm – Town Office & Via Zoom

Attendees: Molly Welch – Chair; Jeff Skramstad – Vice-Chair; Kate Kirkwood – Member; Nick Morgan – Town Administrator; Fred Bruenig, Al Wakefield, Bob Harnish – Declaration of Inclusion advocates; Dan MacArthur, Jonathan Morse – Residents.

BEGIN ZOOM RECORDING:

Call to Order @ 6:00pm

Nick read the **“Guidelines for Select Board Conduct”** and the Select Board signed (Nick noted that these would be saved digitally and placed on the Town’s website on the Select Board page.

Regular Select Board Meeting Agenda

Identify Any Changes to Agenda: None

Scheduled Business (Note: Times are approximate):

Unscheduled Open Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes from April 11, 2024 (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

Signature of Pay Orders - Done

New Business

Regarding “Guidelines” which were read at the beginning of this meeting: **Motion: “Guidelines will not be read at the beginning of every meeting but will be signed by the Select Board at every meeting and saved digitally by the Town Administrator on the Select Board page of the Town’s Website.** (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

Vermont Declaration of Inclusion discussion – Fred Breunig, Bob Harnish, & Al Wakefield came before the Board to introduce and urge the Board to sign on to the Vermont Declaration of Inclusion (the Declaration is attached as an addendum to these minutes). Fred, Bob, & Al are approaching all towns in Vermont to see if they will sign the Declaration, currently they have 144 towns signed (2/3 of the Windham County towns have signed). The goal of the Declaration is to advocate for justice and human rights for all people in Vermont, in the hopes of making Vermont a more “attractive” place. An important addition recently to the declaration was the inclusion of “Socio-Economic Status” as a category that needs to be included in the efforts (adding to other categories such as race, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, etc.) to increase inclusion. Fred read the Declaration into the record (again, the Declaration is attached as an addendum). Fred noted that the Inclusion Website (<https://vtdeclarationofinclusion.org/>) has a robust FAQ and a great deal of information for the Board and Town residents.

The Board thanked Fred, Bob, and Al for attending and presenting the Declaration and the Board would take it under advisement regarding signing on to the Declaration and would make a decision at the 5/23/24 Select Board Meeting.

Windham County Humane Society Contract – The Board reviewed the 2024/25 WCHS contract (which takes effect on 7/1/24) which was the same as last year and the Board considered it very reasonable to handle any Dog/Other Animal issue should it be necessary. The Board signed the contract and instructed Nick to forward the signed contract to the WCHS.

Treasury Department:

Announcement of Linda Peters Leave of Absence – The Board reviewed Linda Peters’ paid Leave of Absence commencing on 4/25/24 and considered and passed the following: **Motion: Approve an extended Leave of Absence for Linda Peters beginning on 4/25/24, during which she will continue to be paid and receive her benefits.** (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

Marlboro Select Board Minutes – April 25, 2024 – Page Two

Treasury Department (continued):

Appoint Rebecca Sevigny to Acting Treasurer to complete Linda's term due to Leave of Absence - With Linda Peters on extended leave the Board appointed current Assistant Treasury Rebecca Sevigny to the role of Acting Treasurer: **Motion: Appoint Assistant Treasurer Rebecca Sevigny to serve in the role of Acting Treasurer due to Linda Peters' Leave of Absence.** (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

Amended ARPA resolution – Nick brought before the Board an amended ARPA Resolution (22-001). Nick explained that the amended resolution corrected the way the funds for DV Fiber were handled in terms of bookkeeping and made note of how the final ARPA funds would be used to cover town expenses as allowed by the ARPA rules. After reviewing the amended resolution, the Board signed the document.

WRC Board appointment – The Board has previously approved the appointment of Patti Smith to the WRC Board and at the meeting this evening filled out and signed the WRC's Notice of Appointment which Nick was tasked with forwarding to the WRC.

Appointment to WSWMD – The Select Board appointed Ellen Dudley to the WSWMD Board. **Motion: Appoint Ellen Dudley to the Board of the WSWMD.** (Skramstad/Welch – Passed unanimously)

Schedule Information Meetings at MCC for 2025 Town Meeting – The Select Board tentatively set the following dates for General Informational Meetings on the 2025 Marlboro Town Meeting Warning/Ballot: 9/21/24, 10/26/24, 11/23/24, & 1/11/25. The Board tasked Nick to work with the MCC to finalize these dates and report back to the Board if there were any conflicts and dates need to be changed.

HR & Personnel Policy: Nick came to the Board to discuss the need to update the Town's personnel policy. Nick reported that he and Forrest have begun to review the current policy, to work with the VLCT, and prepare an updated policy for the Board to review and potentially approve. As part of this, Nick requested a Select Board member to be part of this process as someone who would be "unimpacted" by the new policy. Kate Kirkwood agreed to take on this role, and Molly Welch said that she would be available as well.

Nick then brought up that in his view, the biggest area where updates are needed concerns the Health Care Benefit policy and asked the Board to consider ideas of how they would like to see it handled and advise Nick of their thoughts so that he has a base line to start from. The Board agreed that they would do so, and Nick noted that he should have a first "very rough" draft in about six weeks.

Liquor License Renewal:

First Class Restaurant/Bar License renewal for Application #: DLL - Application-42329 Business Name: Beer Naked Brewery Physical Street: 7678 Vermont Route 9 – **Motion: Approve the First-Class Restaurant/Bar License Renewal for Beer Naked Brewery.** (Welch/Kirkwood – Passed unanimously)

Highway Department:

Marlboro Road Reclassification: - The Board discussed creating a process for setting up "road standards" and how to possibly "reclassify" several Town roads. The Board recognized that this must be an open, public process and after discussion decided that the best course of action would be to work to develop the standards and bring them to the residents at regular Board meetings and potentially special meetings. Once the standards are established the process (also at regular meetings and/or special meetings, and/or "public hearings") of determining which roads are in need of reclassification. After receiving public feedback, the Board will make its decisions.

The Board noted that it would take the next couple of meetings to solidify the process on creating standards and then move forward.

Sign 2025 Grants in Aid Letter of Intent – The Board signed the Vermont Grants in Aid (road grant) Letter of Intent.

Marlboro Select Board Minutes – April 25, 2024 – Page Three

Highway Department (Continued):

Quotes for Mold Remediation – Serv Pro has provided a quote for remediation of the Mold situation at the highway garage. The quote notes that complete removal of existing drywall, etc. will be needed to completely remediate the problem.

Catamount is coming for a site visit on 5/1/24, and have discussed providing two types of quotes, one for an immediate solution that will last for a while and a second more aggressive quote to fully remediate the problem and prevent a reoccurrence several years down the road.

Nick reported that he was actively seeking at least one more quote in order to conform to the Town's purchasing policy (3 quotes for any purchase over \$25,000).

Old Business

Town Administrator Report

General Informational Updates – Nick reported that he will be in touch with Colin Bratton regarding any progress with the State on getting Google & Apple to change how their GPS Map instructions direct drivers to use Higley Hill Road to get to Mt. Snow. Nick also advised the Board that Diane Todd, who is heading up the Hogback Maintenance Plan, will be coming to the 5/9/24 meeting to discuss the First Aid Building and any possible funding from the Town. Nick has already noted to Diane that the Town is very limited here and that other sources, such as the VCF need to be seriously looked into as well as possibly resubmitting the grant proposal that was declined this year. Nick also updated the Board on the MTAP situation, which is probably dead (with a 4/30/24 termination date) and that the Stevens & Associates quotes on engineering plans for the Village Center are way too much to be covered by the MTAP program.

FEMA Update: A final signoff on the request has been sent by FEMA which will be taken care of the week of 4/29/24, and all indications are that everything is good and the Town will receive a substantial sum of approximately \$26,000 (pending how much administrative costs are included) for the July 2023 flood event.

Motion to Adjourn @ 7:26p (Welch/Kirkwood – Passed unanimously)

Addendum: Vermont Declaration of Inclusion

| |
|---------------------------------|
| DECLARATION OF INCLUSION |
|---------------------------------|

The Town of Marlboro condemns racism and welcomes all persons regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, or socioeconomic status, and wants everyone to feel safe and welcome in our community.

As a town, we formally condemn discrimination in all its forms, commit to fair and equal treatment of everyone in our community, and will strive to ensure all our actions, policies and operating procedures reflect this commitment.

The Town of Marlboro is and will continue to be a place where individuals can live freely and express their opinions.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 20____

Town of Marlboro, Vermont

