

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
Town of Charlemont
Goodnow Town Hall

November 16, 2020

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chair Marguerite Willis. Select Board member Sarah Reynolds and Elizabeth VanInderstine also attended the meeting. This meeting was conducted via telephone conference pursuant to the Governor's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

1. Ms Willis welcomed Elizabeth VanInderstine to the Select Board.
2. Broadband Committee member Bob Handsaker attended the meeting. The Select Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to approve and electronically sign the ISP/No contract with WG&E and to give WG & E notice to proceed with phase 5 of the project.
3. Ms S Reynolds will follow up with the Fire Chief regarding the generator status
4. A State House Note has been processed in the amount of \$500,000 for financing of the Broadband project.
5. The Charlemont Fairgrounds and Town Hall cellar are being considered for potential material storage/staging area
6. The Broadband Committee requests a Select Board member liaison.
7. Cheryl Handsaker stated that the Broadband Committee withdrew their application for funding through the Cares Act through the FRCOG.
8. Sophie Traficonte from the New England Forestry Foundation attended the meeting to request the Board approve a Conservation Restriction for the Kevin and Nicole Knobloch property located off Legate Hill Road. This restriction will be held by the New England Forestry Foundation. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to approve and sign the restriction.
9. Emily Boss from the Franklin Land Trust attended the meeting to discuss the Warner Hill Conservation Restriction. Some properties in the restriction have 3rd party rights (mineral) that do not allow for a clear title. The Land Trust is working with the State to locate the heirs that own these rights. As the Trust can not hold properties with 3rd party rights, the Town would be the sole holder of the Restrictions. It was generally agreed by the Board that the 3rd party rights would need to be cleared before the Town would become the sole holder of the Restrictions.
10. Ms Willis reported that there is \$17,000 in DEP Grant funds that might be used for drainage at the Transfer Station.
11. Ms Willis reported that she has informed DESE and the Hawlemont Superintendent that Charlemont has voted their full budget assessment. And that she will be sending Town Counsel's opinion regarding holding a District meeting to Superintendent Stanton, DESE and the Chair of the Hawlemont School Committee.

12. Ms Willis reported that the Board of Health will be posting COVID suggestions for Thanksgiving to the website and have asked the Town to hold off with the Green Communities light replacement in the Town Hall until summer.
13. Ms Willis reported that per Town Counsel, the Town is not obligated to provide Ambulance Service to another Town in the absence of an agreement. Ms Willis will draft a letter to the Town of Hawley and forward the letter to Town Counsel for review. The letter will state a response by January 4th and an end of service deadline of July 1st.
14. Ms S Reynolds reported that the Long Bridge has a barrel covering a hole in the deck. Ms S Reynolds has informed MassDOT who will be coming up with a plan for a temporary fix.
15. The Board discussed the amount of flex time accumulated by the Executive Secretary/Town Clerk during the recent elections. The Board will review the Employee Handbook with possible flex time revisions.
16. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to approve/approve and sign:
 - Payroll warrants #2117 for \$21,070.70; #2118 for \$15,168.33
 - Vendor warrants #2118 for \$83,615.16
 - Town Counsel invoice
17. Ms VanInderstine stated that she is willing to be liaison to the Broadband Committee and any other liaison that Mr. Healy held. The Board, Ms Willis – yes, Ms S Reynolds – yes, unanimously accepted the offer.
18. Ms Willis reported that she has contacted the Ethics Commission and Town Counsel in regard to Ms S Reynolds being hired to the Town Administrator position. It was reported that the Ethics Commission suggested Ms S Reynolds remove herself from the Administrator Search Committee. Ms S Reynolds immediately resigned from the Committee. Ms Willis will now serve on the Administrator Search Committee.
19. General discussion ensued regarding key/email/website needs for the new Select Board member Ms VanInderstine.
20. Business being concluded, the open meeting was adjourned at 8:56 P.M.

Respectfully transcribed

Kathy A. Reynolds
Executive Secretary

Approved by:
Charlemont Select Board

This document is to be considered a draft until approved and signed by the Select Board.

Documents viewed by the Board

New England Forestry Foundation Conservation Restriction
Warrants
Town Counsel Invoice