

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

May 17, 2021
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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chair Marguerite Willis. Select Board member Elizabeth VanInderstine and Administrator Sarah Reynolds 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. Bob Handsaker, Broad Band Committee Chair, reported that the fiber optic project is moving along as scheduled. The Bond financing has been completed. Currently there are 46% hot drop and 50% cold crop sign ups.
2. Ms Willis stated that she is not happy regarding the number of different contractors, arriving at different times, that are required to install the fiber optic at her residence.
3. Administrator Reynolds will be ordering trash bag stickers for use at the Transfer as of July 1, 2021 and will have a selling price of \$2.00 per sticker. The current trash bag inventory is estimated to last until November and will continue to be used until gone. Advertisements at the Transfer Station and various stores will be posted informing residents that the Town will be moving to stickers.
4. Administrator Reynolds reported that the grandstand grant will not be a good fit for the Town. There is a 1 to 1 match, the Town is required to spend \$1,500 on tourism and the grant project needs to be completed in 3 years.
5. Administrator Reynolds reported that she is currently attending classes to learn how to spend the ARP Funds to reduce the cost of Broadband.
6. Administrator Reynolds reported that although Congressman Neal's office could not use the ARO funds for Charlemont bridges, MassDOT District 1 has stated they have some ARP Funding and will work with the Town to repair the Long Bridge deck.
7. Administrator Reynolds reported that according to MassDOT the Long Bridge is not rated and does not have a weight limit/restriction. The bridge is not in any danger of collapsing and Maxymillion will move their construction landing if the Town is able to find a suitable site.
8. William Coli stated that in speaking with Jon Schaefer, Berkshire East, there are rumors blaming Berkshire East for the traffic calming project and Mr. Coli just wanted to state that Berkshire East is not to blame.
9. Administrator Reynolds reported that the Bone Frog Special Event Application, scheduled for June 19th, has been approved by the Fire Chief, Ambulance Director and Police Chief, with signatures forth coming. The Board will approve and sign the application during their next meeting.
10. Administrator Reynolds reported that Whit Sanford, CDC is attempting to apply for a regional Woodlands Partnership Grant with area Towns. Whit has decided not to apply for the grant this year, but instead, to have discussions with area

- Towns first. Administrator Reynolds was asked to contact Jay Healy to discuss his understanding of the purpose of the Woodlands Partnership.
11. Ms VanInderstine reported that she will be attending an FRTA meeting this week.
 12. Upon receipt of an e-mail from the Board of Health regarding the aerial mosquito spraying by the State, the Board heard from several residents. William Coli stated that as a farmer, he receives notification from the Dept. of Agriculture when there may be a likelihood of spraying due to EEE. Valentine Reid stated that his family prefers the Town to opt out due to potential harm to other insects and would like the Town to look towards educating the public. Joe Pellegrino stated he is against spraying and would like to see the Town opt out with the Town making attempts to educate. Ms Willis stated the Town will look to the Board of Health for direction and the process needed to be taken. Upon a motion from Ms VanInderstine, the Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes to opt out of the aerial mosquito spraying by the State. The Administrator will inform the Board of Health of this vote and notify the State.
 13. Ms Willis stated that she is hoping the Town Hall will be open to the public soon with the building to remain closed on Fridays because of the employee workload. Ms VanInderstine agreed.
 14. The Board received an offer from the FRCOG to join them in an emergency generator maintenance service bid. The Administrator will check with the EMD and FRCOG as to what maintenance is needed for a generator.
 15. As to the Secretary to the Boards job description, Ms VanInderstine suggested keeping the same duties (apart from removing the duties listed under Budget Spread Sheet that was removed in a previous meeting) with the Board adjusting/changing the description as the position develops. Ms Willis agreed with this suggestion.
 16. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to accept the resignation of Stephen Reynolds as Tree Warden. A letter of appreciation shall be drafted.
 17. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to accept the resignation of Thomas Cashin from the Conservation Commission. A letter of appreciation shall be drafted.
 18. Thorne Palmer agreed to temporarily to fill the vacancy left by Thomas Cashin on the Conservation Commission. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to appoint Thorne Palmer to the Conservation Commission. Administrator Reynolds stated that she has volunteered her time to work at the Transfer Station, so Thorne is able to attend the Conservation Commission meetings.
 19. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to schedule their regular meetings on June 7, June 21, July 5, July 19, August 2, August 16, and August 30.
 20. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willi – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to re-schedule the All- Board Meeting to Wednesday, June 26th at 6:00 P.M. to be held

at the Fairgrounds. All departments will be notified of this change including the Sewer Commissioners.

21. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Ms VanInderstine – yes, to approve and sign:
- Payroll warrant #2143 for \$8,995.63, #2142 for \$12,219.89, #2144 for \$13,416.89.
 - Vendor warrants #2144 for \$27,973.56, #2142 for \$19,988.50, #2145 for \$52,155.05.
 - 5-3-21 meeting minutes.
 - The Curb Cut application submitted by Kenneth and Darlene Barbeau for a driveway on Hawk Hill Road with the addition that the project must be completed by November 1, 2021.
 - A vacation request from the Executive Secretary/Town Clerk
 - Annual Town Meeting Warrant.
22. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 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.

Warrants
Meeting minutes
Curb Cut application
Vacation request
Town Meeting Warrants
2 resignations
Secretary to the Boards Job Description
Emergency Generator maintenance service bid invitation
E-mail from the Board of Health