

Town of Wheelock Select Board Meeting

Date: 2021/02/15

Present: Selectboard Members Ann Lawless, Bobbie Jo-Norcross, and Ryan Hanrahan.
Highway Supervisor Malcolm Bisson, **Town Clerk** Vanessa Seguin, **Administrative Assistant** Austin Sullivan, **Town Moderator** Peter Miller, **Guest** Sally Wood Simons

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

Selectboard Meeting is virtual due to outbreak of COVID-19, per directives issued by Governor Phil Scott.

Changes to the Agenda

- Marc Brown will not be attending tonight's meeting. Sally Wood Simons will be attending for the Kenniston Dane Education Fund.

Roads

- Report of Malcolm Bisson; Highway Supervisor. There were multiple plowing and sanding's made during the month due to foul weather. On February 26th, potholes on Stannard mountain were graded, with a brake can serviced on the 2019 truck. On February 11th, Dean opened West Wheelock road. Vertical Mile and Peak Hill Road were serviced due to potholes. Ryan makes motion to accept road report, Ann seconds. Bobbie Jo votes yes. So voted.
- Malcolm had inquiry about use of personal/sick leave regarding recovering lost hours due to storms not arriving. The leave policy will be reviewed prior to the next meeting.
- Linda Sheldon is looking to purchase home on Keniston Road. Home is on Class Four Road; Linda is looking for permission to fix road. Malcolm has spoken with her; it's on a section of the road that is a trail. Ann will follow up; The Vermont League of Cities and Towns will be contacted to develop policy regarding work on Class Four roads.
- Grant applications being submitted for Stannard Mtn Bridge, (\$265,362) and Class 2 Roads: S. Wheelock, amount to be determined. Ryan makes motion to submit applications; Bobbie Jo and Ann votes yes, so voted.
- Malcolm Bisson leaves at 7:18 PM

Visitors

- Sally Wood Simons assists the town treasurers administering the Keniston and Dane Education Fund that is under the care of the Selectboards of Wheelock and Sheffield. Its purpose is to provide scholarships to Wheelock and Sheffield students to further their post-secondary education. Sally aims to help more money from the Keniston Dane fund to go towards kids rather than federal income taxes. Her idea is to dissolve trust as it is, and restructure document. Ryan Hanrahan makes motion for discussion to take place with Sheffield Selectboard in joint meeting to consider potential changes to the fund. Ann

Lawless second. Motion passes; Bobbie Jo abstained. Sally Woods Simons leaves at 6:26 PM.

- Marc Brown, while unable to attend tonight's meeting, recommends Selectboard take FEMA training. He will come to the April meeting to discuss the 2021 Local Emergency Management Plan.

Business

- Authorize borrowing in anticipation of taxes, Community National Bank Loan Documents \$304,600 at a fixed interest rate of .87%. Ann makes motion to sign documents to authorize borrowing; Bobbie Jo seconds, so voted.
- Application for Wheelock Village Liquor License will be tabled until next meeting.
- Sign Mileage certificate for year ending February 10, 2021. Ann motions to vote for sign. Bobbie Jo seconds, so voted.
- Shauna Clifford from VTrans requires documents.
 - Ryan motions to sign Certification of Compliance, Bobbie Jo seconds, so voted.
 - The TA60 annual Town Financial Plan will be tabled until after the budget is adopted.
 - Town official worksheets are filled out with required addresses.
- Prep for Australian Ballot information meeting Feb. 22nd, 2021 from 6:00 – 8:00PM. Kingdom Access TV will broadcast the meeting live and also broadcast several recordings, and also place it on their YouTube channel. Peter Miller will act as Moderator. There is a flexible schedule crafted by Vanessa Seguin that follows the items on the ballot. Ann requested that other Selectboard members participate and lead several sections.
- Update on Municipal Planning Grant with VISSCC LLC. At its Feb. 9 meeting, the project committee selected with VISSCC LLC, a collaboration that frequently works together, to do both the outreach and architectural components. Ryan motions for the town to sign the contract with VIS CC, Bobbie Jo seconds. Ryan, Ann, and Bobbie Jo vote yes, so voted.
- Ann reported there is an opportunity to add additional funds to the MPG project budget with an additional grant request through Northern Community Investment Corporation (NCIC) of about \$5,000 using the Municipal Planning Grant as matching funds. This could be used for technical assistance, such as engineering study for septic issues. Ryan makes motion authorizing Ann to apply for NCIC grant. Bobbie Jo seconds. So voted.

Administrative Items

- Adopt Minutes of prior meetings: Jan 18, Jan 25, Feb 9 (Town Hall Project). Ryan makes motion to adopt minutes, Bobbie Jo Norcross seconds. So voted.
- Review & approve monthly orders. Ann makes motion to approve, Ryan seconds. So voted.
- Correspondence: Rossi letter of 1/17/2021 regarding Town Hall project. Project committee took it up on July 9th, 2020. Committee plans to respond and will share it with Selectboard.

Correspondence

Meeting Adjourned: Bobbie Jo motions, Ann seconds. So voted. **7:58 PM**

Submitted, Austin Sullivan

Selectboard Signatures
