

**CHARLOTTE SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
TOWN HALL
FEBRUARY 17, 2020**

APPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS: Chair Matthew Krasnow, Vice Chair Frank Tenney, Louise McCarren, Carrie Spear and Fritz Tegatz

ADMINISTRATION: Dean Bloch, Town Administrator

OTHERS: Chris Ouelette, Lane Morrison, Laurie Thompson, Tom Cosinuke, Mark Dillenbeck, Bill Stuono, Sue Smith, Deirdre Holmes, Rebecca Foster, Ajat Tariyal

AGENDA ITEMS:

6:00 PM Adjustments to the agenda

6:01 PM Cycle 4 CMT—request to use town highways for fundraising bicycle ride on August 30, 2020

6:05 PM Renewal Application for Food or Lodging Establishment License –for Senior Center

6:10 PM Town Meeting presentations

6:50 PM Net Metering Agreement-Request for Proposals

7:30 PM Selectboard updates

7:40 PM Approve warrants to pay bills

7:45 PM Adjournment

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Matthew Krasnow called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Adjustments to the agenda

-Add an item to consider what to do with the remainder of an existing bond where the funds are no longer needed for a fire truck

-Add executive session to discuss a personnel issue

-Add 7:00 Public Comment not on the agenda

Fire Truck Bond

The 2017 bond for a fire truck has \$10,000 left in the bond and the truck is complete Mary Mead said. There are two options, to either spend the remainder on project costs or make a payment towards the principle on the bond. Mary recommends paying it towards the bond bill.

MOTION by Fritz Tegatz, seconded by Matt Krasnow, to approve the use of the funds remaining on the Fire Truck Bond to be used toward payment on the principal of that bond. VOTE: 4 ayes; 1 abstain (Frank Tenney); motion carried.

Cycle 4 CMT—request to use town highways for fundraising bicycle ride on August 30, 2020

Chris Ouellette said this is the 7th annual Cycle 4 CMT event. It is a fundraiser for a rare progressive neurological disorder. He explained the event and that it will be wrapped up at 3:00 pm at The Old Lantern. All routes have been reviewed. The venue and event are the same as in the past. A rider support van is supplied. Road rules are obeyed. The start is highly organized. This is for a good cause to help support research, he said. All routes are marked.

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Carrie Spear, to approve Cycle 4 CMT to use town highways for a fundraising bicycle ride on August 30, 2020. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Renewal Application for Food or Lodging Establishment License –for Senior Center

Lane Morrison said the license calls for the owner to sign which is the Town. They serve senior lunches at this facility regularly.

MOTION by Fritz Tegatz, seconded by Frank Tenney, to approve the Renewal Application for a Food or Lodging Establishment License for the Senior Center with permission for the chair to sign. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Town Meeting presentations

Ajat Tariyal said the Trails Committee would like ten minutes at Town Meeting to go over the town trail extension. There will be five slides covering the history, budget and how requested funds will be used. There will be a timeline and an explanation that this is a project in midstream. Questions that have come up will be answered. Matt Krasnow asked how the slides were created and Ajat said by subcommittee and that the presentation will be approved by the Trails Committee by Town Meeting.

Tree Warden Mark Dillenbeck said he would like ten minutes to talk about the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) so that landowners can be thinking about the issue and can make plans. He said he will explain what is happening currently in Town and he will explain how to preserve trees through chemical treatment and encourage tree preservation. He would like to propose an amendment to reinstate the \$10,000 that was removed from the Tree Warden's budget and asked if he could discuss this in his presentation. Both Matt Krasnow and Mary Mead said that is up to the moderator. Mary said Mark can't promote something that will be voted on inside the polling station. She suggested making a motion which can include language that speaks to the issue. Mark further explained that the \$20,000 a year for three years to mitigate the EAB issue was cut back by \$10,000. Mark said he is seeking quotes from arborists to get a better sense on how much it will cost to remove the ash trees. He will report back. The focus is large trees. Only the most problematic trees in the roadways will be removed. The Road Commissioner has weighed in on which trees these are. He asked why the Selectboard removed that money from the budget. Louise said if it is a safety issue, they should take the road commissioner's advice. Mark said it will be more expensive if the Town waits for the EAB to hit town. The ash trees are very dangerous.

Tom Cosinuke said the CVFRS will be presenting for ten minutes and will use the same format as previous years. His presentation will be taking a look back at the prior year, commitment to training and community service, and the past year's activity, primarily from a financial standpoint. Slides will be about funding sources and what they are spending money on and what the trajectory has been over the past 7 or 8 years. It ends with fiscal year 2021 and the last slide is the about capital reserve. Louise asked about the demand for skilled labor. He said that will be outlined in a slide. Rescue services for Hinesburg will be explained in the presentation. No decisions have been made at this point with either town.

Juliann Phelps asked if the Town Moderator had been asked to attend this meeting and Matt Krasnow said he did not know.

Matt asked if there was an Article 3 presentation needed. Carrie Spear said it was a good idea. Matt said he would put together a few slides.

Net Metering Agreement-Request for Proposals

The goal for this meeting was to have a draft of the RFP ready but the timeline for the Energy Committee was not compatible. They will be meeting March 4 and Matt asked to be added to that agenda to be debriefed and to build and edit the RFP with them with the goal of developing an RFP with the Town's best interest in mind together. Dean Bloch and a member of the Energy Committee will be drafting the RFP prior to the March 4 Meeting Rebecca Foster said so that there will be a document to approve at the Selectboard meeting after that meeting. Bill Stuono asked who else had submitted net metering proposals and he mentioned Sun Common might be interested. Matt said he would like to focus on the proposals after the RFP goes out. Fritz suggesting giving Sun Common contact information to Dean so he can mail them RFP. It is a common practice, he said. Selectboard meeting after the March 4 Energy Committee meeting is scheduled for March 9.

Public Comment

Sue Smith said she is happy with the idea of a new net metering RFP going out and wondered if the Town planned on having their own solar panels in the future. Fritz said, not at this time. Louise said once a net metering agreement is entered into, it is not economically sound to then have a solar array installed in Town.

Deirdre Holmes and Rebecca Foster wanted to confirm that the net metering RFP would be drafted before the March 4 energy committee meeting. The Energy Committee will make it a viable document and bring it to the Selectboard on March 9. Specifics need to be adjusted for the next round.

Bill Stuono said thank you Fritz for all of his hard work on the Selectboard. He said his breadth of knowledge has helped the Town.

Selectboard updates

The library almost complete and will be moving into the addition shortly, Fritz said. Louise said she spoke with the Department of Public Service and they do not oppose the reduction discussed in a previous meeting.

Executive Session

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Fritz Tegatz, to enter into Executive Session. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Frank Tenney, to come out of Executive Session. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Approve warrants to pay bills

Adjournment

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Frank Tenney, to adjourn at 8 pm. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Lynn Monty, Recording Secretary.