

**CHARLOTTE SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
SPEARS CORNER STORE PARKING LOT
20 JACKSON HILL ROAD
APRIL 3, 2020**

APPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS: Chair Matthew Krasnow, Vice Chair Frank Tenney, Carrie Spear, James Faulkner, Louise McCarren

ADMINISTRATION: Dean Bloch, Town Administrator

OTHERS: Mary Mead, Laurie Thompson, John Limanek, Margaret Russell, Michael Russell, Chea Evans, Jonathan Fisher

AGENDA ITEMS:

2:30 PM Possible rescheduling of April 7th Australian ballot voting on Articles 3, 4 and 5 as approved at March 3rd Town Meeting (for FY21 budget and allocation to the Trails Reserve Fund)

CALL TO ORDER

Selectboard Chair Matt Krasnow called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

MOTION by Carrie Spear, seconded by Jim Faulkner, to postpone the vote from April 7th.

Discussion:

John Limanek suggested keeping the vote on April 7.

Louise McCarren asked if the vote could be conducted by absentee ballot only? Mary said it can't be.

Mary Mead said 500 absentee ballots have been mailed out. 230 have been returned. There's a potential for a lot of people showing up on Tuesday. Some people could be afraid to come to the Town Hall and they could complain about not having access. She recommended cancelling the vote and holding the vote in late May. She said it's likely the current ballots could not be used.

Laurie Thompson asked whether drive-through voting might be an option. People with absentee ballots could drop off their ballots, and not go in the Town Hall.

Matt Krasnow said the Vermont Secretary of State is recommending not holding elections right now.

Michael Russell asked about the previous votes in April, in terms of turnout, compared to the absentee ballots already received.

Jim Faulkner asked if it's worth the risk.

Margaret Russell asked if the deadline for submitting absentee ballots could be pushed back, and people would only vote via absentee ballot.

Matt read a memo/statement that he would like to send to Front Porch Forum regarding the cancelation of the vote.

Dean asked whether the motion might indicate that, if allowed by the Secretary of State, ballots that have already been submitted could be counted.

Mary said she would check with the Secretary of State to see whether submitted ballots could be counted in the future vote.

VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION by Jim Faulkner, seconded by Carrie Spear, to adjourn. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Dean Bloch