

**CHARLOTTE SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
MEETING CONDUCTED AT TOWN HALL AND VIA TELECONFERENCE
AUGUST 24, 2020**

APPROVED

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

ADMINISTRATION: Dean Bloch, Town Administrator

OTHERS: Susan Crockenberg, Lydia Clemmons, Mike Yantachka, Juliann Phelps, Valerie Biebuyck, Sarah Thompson, Nicole Conley, Ken French, Richard Tonino, James Hyde, Barbara Russ, Ellen Fallon, Beth Humstone, Bill Fraser-Harris, Cali Griswold, Peter Richardson, Sara Shays, Mark Dillenbeck, Barbara Russ, Will Bown, Megan Browning, Eric Lampman, John Quinney, Junior Lewis, Michael Russell, Angeline Vanderkloot, Peter Moses

AGENDA ITEMS:

5:15 PM Site visit: Jeff Price, 137 Association Way, Thompson's Point

6:00 PM Adjustments to the agenda

6:01 PM Public Comment

6:05 PM Release from right-of first refusal associated with previous and expired Agricultural Land Tax Stabilization Agreement

6:10 PM Addition of "water testing at Whiskey Bay" to Recreation Director's job description

6:15 PM Procedures related to cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) at Whiskey Bay

6:30 PM Dog control on Thompson's Point—request for signage and improvement of dog waste disposal stations

6:45 PM Interview Juliann Phelps for Recreation Commission vacancy with term ending April 30, 2023

6:50 PM Jeff Price, Lot 41 Thompson's Point, 137 Association Way—request to adjust lease area to allow reconstruction of garage

7:00 PM Morningside Drive—drainage improvements and classification

7:30 PM Residents' request to pave Holmes Road

7:40 PM Petition to amend Land Use Regulations—discussion with Planning Commission

8:10 PM Bridge abutment repairs—change order for Stantec—add \$500 to inspect bridge abutment repairs; 80% reimbursable by FEMA

8:15 PM Planning for All Committees Meeting

8:25 PM Discuss creating an Economic Development Committee as suggested in the Town Plan

8:35 PM Town Garage/Salt Shed Planning Committee—plan site visit to Ferrisburgh & Hinesburg

8:40 PM Process regarding letters of support for grant applications

8:45 PM Minutes: August 3, August 10, 2020

8:50 PM Selectboard updates
8:55 PM Approve warrants to pay bills
9:00 PM Adjournment

CALL TO ORDER

Selectboard Chair Matt Krasnow called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Adjustments to the agenda

- There is a need to enter into executive session at the top of the meeting to discuss pending litigation with legal counsel, Matt Krasnow said.
- Fifteen minutes is needed to discuss a comprehensive policy for making requests of the Selectboard, Matt said.
- Louise asked for an addition: the letter of support for the grant application for the Clemmons Family Farm.
- Dean Bloch asked for additions for bridge abutment repair and crack filling of the tennis court.

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Frank Tenney, to approve the letter of support for the grant application for The Clemmons Family Farm. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by James Faulkner, to enter into executive session to discuss matters of pending litigation. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

MOTION by Matt Krasnow, seconded by Frank Tenney, to exit executive session and reconvene as Selectboard. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Public Comment

Ken French asked for time to discuss Town Hall technical equipment installation and that he is ready to do a presentation whenever convenient. This will be added to a future agenda.

Release from right-of first refusal associated with previous and expired Agricultural Land Tax Stabilization Agreement

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Matt Krasnow, to approve the release of the right-of first refusal associated with previous and expired Agricultural Land Tax Stabilization Agreement with permission for the chair to sign. NO VOTE.

A few adjoining land owners spoke up about habitat corridor preservation. The right of first refusal should remain on all the deeds, they said. Louise said the question at hand is if the land were to change hands would the Town want to step in and buy it. Matt said there is a 2013 release that references the Town's right to first refusal. It was declined at that time and since it is being requested again, it would seem this is the case at each point

of sale, he said. More information and clarification on how this works is needed. This will be revisited at the next Selectboard meeting.

Addition of “water testing at Whiskey Bay” to Recreation Director’s job description

MOTION by Carrie Spear, Seconded by Louise McCarren, to approve the addition of “water testing at Whiskey Bay” to Recreation Director’s job description. It was added that the testing at Whiskey Bay will be consistent with the testing at the Charlotte Beach. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Procedures related to cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) at Whiskey Bay

Dean ran through what he knows about the testing and subsequent beach closures. He advised erecting educational signs since closure is not necessarily indicative of the presence of the cyanobacteria. Dean will conduct more research on how other Vermont lakeside Town’s address this issue.

Dog control on Thompson’s Point—request for signage and improvement of dog waste disposal stations

Ellen Fallon said she has had a camp on the north shore for thirty years. She said Thompson’s Point should have the same leash rules as the rest of Town with more stringent attention during the times when these leased camps on Thompson’s Point are occupied. Dogs are not permitted on Charlotte Beach and have to be leashed on all trails. This should also be the case on Thompson’s Point, she said. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

Interview Juliann Phelps for Recreation Commission vacancy with term ending April 30, 2023

MOTION by Carrie Spear, Seconded by Frank Tenney, to approve Juliann Phelps for Recreation Commission vacancy with term ending April 30, 2023. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Jeff Price, Lot 41 Thompson’s Point, 137 Association Way—request to adjust lease area to allow reconstruction of garage

This property has been in the family since the 1960s. An existing garage is straddling the property line and this request is to adjust the line and to allow the new envelope to be on the leased property. A clean lot delineation is sought. Frank asked if this would impact adjoining properties. This is a matter of discovering unintended consequences, Matt agreed. There is also a hornbeam tree in the way and the Tree Warden should be consulted as to not damage the tree. Arborists were discussed. A boundary adjustment will be drafted with the stipulation that the tree be saved. This will need to be approved by the Planning Commission. This is a lease amendment.

MOTION by Frank Tenney, seconded by James Faulkner, to adjust the property lines on the east and west boundaries of the leased area of Jeff Price’s Lot 41 Thompson’s Point, 137 Association Way, and to allow reconstruction of the garage

as indicated in document C2.0 dated 7/29/2020 and to amend the lease as such, with authorization for the Chair to sign. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Morningside Drive—drainage improvements and classification

General Counsel has not seen the letter of concerns submitted by the Cemetery Committee. To be added to a future agenda.

Residents' request to pave Holmes Road

All eight neighbors have agreed on paving the road. Residents say they are willing to pay for half of the project. Some landowners would like to pave their driveways at the same time. James Faulkner said there are many dirt roads in Town and this could start an expensive trend for taxpayers. Junior Lewis said paving this road may save the Town money but it is a short road. It is not a through road. He said it doesn't cost a lot to maintain the road. It was rebuilt with shale ten years ago. It is ready for pavement, he said. It has a base under it. James said having costs evaluated would be beneficial. Frank said the Town's process for any work over \$5,000 needs to go through the purchasing policy and RFPs need to go out. This will be added to a future agenda. Louise will serve as a liaison to help this move along.

Petition to amend Land Use Regulations—discussion with Planning Commission

The Planning Commission withdrew the request for this discussion.

Bridge abutment repairs—change order for Stantec—add \$500 to inspect bridge abutment repairs; 80% reimbursable by FEMA

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Frank Tenney, to approve the change order for Stantec, and add \$500 to inspect bridge abutment repairs; 80% reimbursable by FEMA. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Planning for All Committees Meeting

Dean explained this is a “meet and greet” and educational session to happen via Zoom this year. How committees operate with the Selectboard liaisons was discussed. Bill Stuono said the Planning Commission would like a regular update on all boards and committees to keep abreast of what the Selectboard and others have on their upcoming agendas.

Discuss creating an Economic Development Committee as suggested in the Town Plan

Michael Russell said he was part of a group that formed about six years ago that tackled issues of economic development in Town. There were about 12 people at monthly meetings, he said. He is confident he can get a few folks together to form a group once again. He said there is a strong interest in Town to have a balanced voice as to what initiatives the Town could encourage ... to have a voice at the table in various proceedings. James said they would be strictly advisory and no costs would be associated. A draft of objectives and mission statement will be drafted, Michael said. To be added to a future agenda.

Town Garage/Salt Shed Planning Committee—plan site visit to Ferrisburgh & Hinesburg

The former flea market location is being considered as a possible location. Adjoining landowners will be alerted of site visits and committee selection. Frank and James to come up with a list of members. To be added to a future agenda.

Bridge Abutment Repair

MOTION by Frank Tenney, seconded by James Faulkner, to approve the repair of the vertical crack in the Dorset Street bridge abutment, not to exceed \$500. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Process regarding letters of support for grant applications

These need to be presented in a timely manner and added to the agenda so an informed decision can be made by the Selectboard, Frank said. More information is needed when these letters are presented to the board. Susan Crockenberg said sometimes opportunities come up where there is no way to work around the Selectboard's timeline. She asked for a different process for these special cases. Matt said Open Meeting laws need to be honored in every case and that special meetings can be called. There are options and the Selectboard is open and flexible and willing to find solutions as these opportunities arise, Matt said.

Crack Filling of Tennis Court

A letter from Mary Mead regarding work on the tennis courts was discussed. Bill Fraser-Harris asked if the Advantage Tennis contract and workers comp paperwork needed to be filled out again. The facilitation of this has been overseen by Nicole Conley, Bill said. The work was done and went over budget due to the weather. The Town was charged for the extra product used but not their time. The vendor was generous. Bill was not cc'd on that email and no request was made by Mary directly to Bill. He said the civility needs to be improved between Town Hall and volunteers. Louise said this is a communication concern that will be addressed. Bill said he will have answers for Mary by tomorrow.

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by James Faulkner, to approve to pay the bill for Advantage Tennis. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Minutes: August 3, August 10, 2020

MOTION by Louise McCarren, seconded by Frank Tenney, to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for August 3, 2020, as amended. VOTE: 4 ayes; 1 abstention (Matt Krasnow); motion carried.

MOTION by Frank Tenney, seconded by James Faulkner, to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes for August 10, 2020, as amended. VOTE: 4 ayes; 1 abstention (Carrie Spear); motion carried.

Approve warrants to pay bills

MOTION by James Faulkner, seconded by Louise McCarren, to enter into executive session to discuss possible litigation at 9:18 pm. VOTE: 5 ayes; all in favor; motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Lynn Monty, Recording Secretary.