

Special Selectboard Meeting August 2, 2023
Town Office, 227 Justin Morrill Hwy, Strafford, 05072

Selectboard participants- John Freitag, Brian Johnson, Jeff Solsaa, Hannah Levinger

Other participants in person- Shelby Coburn, Rocky Fuller, Curt Albee

Participants via Zoom- Lisa Bragg, Peder Rude

Meeting called to order 6:03 pm

Guidelines for Selectboard conduct read

1. Town Office Project

Peder Rude, who is helping the town on the Town Office project through a "REDI" grant from the Vermont Community and Housing Board, answered questions via Zoom regarding funding for the Town Office project and timing for a town vote. He felt the best chance of successfully moving forward would be after we knew what grants we had that could offset a substantial part of the cost of the needed renovations and addition to the Town Office. He discussed a reasonable date for a vote given the timeline for acquiring all applicable grants (federal, state, and private).

2. Highway updates

Project on 132 is ongoing and will likely be finished mid-September

Discussion of FEMA funding for road repairs and additional town road work that needs to be completed

3. Letter to Town

John Freitag will send a letter to the town regarding changes in the road crew personnel and appreciation for years of service

4. Fog Line Grant

There have been two accidents recently between the two villages and the the Town, thanks to a grant application submitted by Grant Manager Stefanie Slayton, has received a safety grant to install fog lines (those white lines on the sides of some roads) on the section of the Justin Morrill Highway between the two villages.

5. 911 Signs

Discussion of the importance of 911 signs and necessity of all houses having them

It currently costs the town \$21.95 to get each sign made and an additional \$5 to send them to residents

Jeff moved to charge \$27 per new 911 sign, Brian seconded

John proposed the amendment that the town charge \$10 per new sign

Jeff moved to charge residents \$15 per new 911 signs, Brian seconded

Brian, Hannah and Jeff- Aye

John- Nay

Motion passed

6. Drop inlet and Chesnut outlet

John explained the drop inlet behind the Red Barn that collects sand and grit from water in the drain in the parking lot and from sidewalk project had become filled to the brim. He was able to get one of his teenage grandsons to clean it out. This needs to be set up regularly to keep the long drain pipe going the length of the tennis court along the soccer field from becoming clogged. David Paganelli is the liaison to the Rec Board and he can discuss adding that maintenance to their duties

Discussion of the outlet that goes through the Chesnut property and was affected in the flood. Jeff and Lisa have a meeting set up with FEMA to discuss this and other similar situations. Lisa said there will be FEMA representatives in town over the next few days and she will post in the listserv how to apply for individual assistance.

7. Executive Session

The Board voted to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 7:46. The Board came out of the Executive session at 7:54. A motion was made and the Board unanimously agreed to adjust compensation for the road crew.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55