

**Town of Woodstock
Select Board
December 7, 2021
6:00 pm
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes**

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Mary Riley, Ray Bourgeois, Keri Cole, John Doten, Joe Swanson, William Kerbin, Nikki Nourse, Mike Davey, Ernesto Fernandez, Geoff Martin, Susan Ford, Tom Meyerhoff, Sally Miller, Chris Stevens, Thomas McCaughey, Seton McIlroy, Frank Horneck, Patrick Fultz, Elijah Lemieux, Dolores Gilbert, Jill Davies, Fire Chief David Green, Wendy Spector, Alita Wilson

A. Call to order

1. Chair Riley called the Select Board meeting of December 7, 2021, to order at 6:00 pm.

B. Meeting protocols

1. Chair Riley discussed the meeting protocols.

C. Planning Commission Interview – Frank Horneck

1. Mr. Horneck is interested in helping the community and has a background in development.

D. Additions to & deletions from posted agenda

1. School Board Interview – Matt Stout

E. Citizen Comments – none

F. Manager's report

1. Mr. Kerbin stated that budget discussions are continuing in preparation. They are doing the Municipal Manager's Office and accounting this afternoon and then they will start looking at non-profit requests on Thursday and they have Council on Aging and a couple others. They will continue that next week. They will have sewer on the 16th as well. That will be the last really big department. They will therefore have a budget draft earlier this year than they had last year. He is still tweaking the process so that it is still being worked on. The other thing he is working on is trying to track down and find amount of funding that is going to be available both through ARPA and also with infrastructure bill coming down. He has been looking through what is in the bill and what is going to be available to the Town.

G. ROW permit – Bridgewater Sno-Zippers – Westerdale Road

1. Mr. Stevens stated that he is the president of Sno-Zippers. He had a landowner, Jim Pepe close up his property to their trail. He had allowed them on his property for almost 40 years. They are respecting his request. It has been an awkward trail. It went right across his driveway in front of his house. They are proposing that the trail coming onto Westerdale Road from the west would travel up several hundred feet on Westerdale Road and then onto Kevin Powers property where the trail is now.

Motion: by Mr. Doten to approve the right of way permit for Bridgewater Sno-Zippers on Westerdale Road for one year, contingent upon whether they receive complaints from residents on that road.

Seconded: by Mr. Swanson.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

H. New business

1. Request for lower speed limit on Peterkin Hill Road – 35 to 25 mph

- a. Ms. Gilbert stated that she lives on Peterkin Hill Road. She is making the request to lower the speed limit from 35 to 25 mph. It is a dirt road. They have three residents that have horse on the road and ride. They have a new mom that walks her baby and dog.
- b. Chair Riley stated that they will request a speed study for Peterkin Hill Road. This will most likely occur in the spring.

2. Resignation from School Board

- a. Chair Riley stated that Claire Drebitko has handed in her resignation from the School Board. This is the end of her term. It would have been finishing up in March. She has resigned effected with last nights meeting. The Select Board has to formally announce that. They thank her for her service. There have been a lot of challenges in the last few years and the School Board has worked extremely hard.

Motion: by Ms. Cole to appoint Matt Stout on the School Board with the term ending March 2022.

Seconded: by Mr. Swanson.

Discussion: Mr. Bourgeois is concerned because the posting for this position went up Saturday. They should give people a chance to apply.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

3. Discussion of the Town Hall Rejuvenation project

- a. Ms. Spector stated that the Town Hall Leadership Team recently gave the Select Board an update on the project to rejuvenate Town Hall. They introduced plan B and several other options as well. It is important to the Leadership Team to hear form the Select Board what they think about the assorted options that were presented and to vie the Leadership Team some direction as to how to move forward. In the meantime, the Pentangle Board met and had time to consider what was presented. They sent a lotter of their opinion to Mr. Kerbin. They very much appreciate their thoughts. It is a different project now. They are delaying the schedule, but they feel that it is important work that has to be done.
- b. The Select Board will appoint a new committee to work on this project. This will be discussed more at their next meeting.

4. Discussion of energy projects

- a. Mr. Martin shared a presentation.
- b. Mr. Davey stated that Vermont has expensive electric. They are paying a lot for oil and propane. He is anticipating a net savings from this entire project of \$12,000 -\$15,000. There was more savings from the Town Hall portion which is not in the project radar. The equipment should last 18 – 20 years.

5. Letter of support for WAMBA grant request.

Motion: by Mr. Bourgeois to approve the letter of support for the WAMBA grant request.

Seconded: by Ms. Cole.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

I. Other business

1. Sewer permit – Johnson

- a. Chair Riley stated that they have a sewer plan. Mr. Johnson is trying to connect an extension to the municipal sewer from a house on Barberry Hill to a connection that is a further down Barberry Hill.
- b. Mr. Doten stated that it is down towards the brook, across the road. They are going to have to cross the road.
- c. Chair Riley stated that the individual pays the total cost of this.
- d. Mr. Lemieux stated that the Town is responsible for maintaining the sewer. The lateral connections that go directly to the residences or buildings is the responsibility of the respective owner.

Motion: by Mr. Swanson to approve the sewer permit for Mr. Johnson as submitted with the condition that they receive a state certification number, and that they connect three feet outside of the manhole.

Seconded: by Mr. Doten.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

J. Approval of minutes

1. 11/16/21 meeting minutes – tabled

K. Adjournment

Motion: by Mr. Doten to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 am.

Seconded: by Mr. Swanson.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nikki Nourse*