

Town of Woodstock
Select Board Special Meeting
October 25, 2022
5:00 PM
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes

Draft of minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Joe Swanson, Ray Bourgeois, Mary Riley, Keri Cole, Susan Ford, Nikki Nourse, Brittney Poljacik, Steve Bauer, Edwin English, Al Alessi, Tom Ayres, Allison Longfield, Wendy Marrinan, Tom Meyerhoff, Kristen Bieling, Angela Ulman, Charlie Kimbell, Laura Powell, Daniel Ross, Paige Rand, Michael Stoner, Maryse Brand, Nate Rand, Frank Horneck, Bill Corson, Malory Lewis, Jill Davis, Mica Seely, Donna Lombard

A. Call to order

1. Chair Swanson called the Select Board Meeting of October 25, 2022, to order at 5:00 pm.

B. Proposed Amendment to the Town of Woodstock Zoning Regulations

1. Mr. Meyerhoff asked if there was the option instead of voting on this amendment tonight, to send it straight to a town vote next March.
2. Mr. Bauer stated that under V.S.A title 24.44.42, the Select Board has two options; vote to adopt this amendment or send directly for a town vote by Australian Ballot.
3. Chair Swanson stated this is the fourth meeting. They are many months into the process, and he does not wish to drag it out any longer.
4. Ms. Marrinan stated she would be in favor of a town vote as well.
5. Mr. Stoner asked if they have a right to a town vote if the Select Board does not vote on the new language in the amendment.
6. Mr. Bauer stated the Select Board has an obligation to act within a year, which they have done and are still doing. Any party that can collect 5% of registered voters in the Town of Woodstock, whether the Select Board today decided to approve or deny the amendment, 5% of voters could petition that and the clock would start again, running for one year.
7. Ms. Ulman stated she supports the passing of this amendment.
8. Mr. Alessi inquired about the number of signatures on the original proposal.
9. Mr. Bauer stated he believed the number to be 149 signatures which was certified by the previous Zoning Administrator and the Town Clerk.
10. Mr. Alessi recommended that given the number of people who supported this amendment being relatively small, he would like the Board to consider a broader involvement of the entire community including the Town Plan discussion that is underway and push the decision towards Town Meeting and have a vote at that time.
11. Ms. Ford stated that there have now been four public hearings and people have been invited to participate in person and online via zoom. Ms. Ford believes the public has been given several opportunities to discuss this issue in front of the Board.
12. Chair Swanson asked for amendment corrections.
13. Mr. Bauer stated that on page two, line 21, “e” has been removed, page three, line one, “f” becomes “e,” “g” becomes “f,” and there is no longer a “g” in this section of the amendment.

14. If passed, this amendment will be in effect 21 days after today.

Motion: by Ms. Ford to adopt the amendment draft with the clerical corrections made.

Seconded: by Ms. Cole.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

C. Other business – none.

D. Adjournment

Motion: by Mr. Bourgeois to adjourn the meeting of October 25, 2022, at 7:19 pm.

Seconded: by Ms. Ford.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

**Respectfully submitted,
Brittney Poljacik**