

**Town of Woodstock
Select Board Meeting
July 16th, 2024
6:00 pm
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes**

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Ray Bourgeois, Susan Ford, Keri Cole, Greg Fullerton, Laura Powell, Eric Duffy, Roger Logan, Fire Chief Green, Wendy Marrinan, Brad Ruderman, Michael Dotan, Benjamin Brickner

A. Call to order

1. Chair Bourgeois called the Select Board meeting of July 16th at 6:00 pm.

B. Addition to & deletions from posted agenda

1. Addition – executive session

C. Citizen's Comments (6:02pm)

1. Roger Logan

- a. Mr. Roger would like to board to look into a system to handle town constituents' service requests such as potholes, parking lines in front of driveways etc. At the current moment there is no system to handing them and they are sent to a number of different town officials and have the ability to be lost in the shuffle. As well as there being no way to track the request in real time. He would like a small board or 2-3 people to be accessible. He is unsure of how involved the select board would once the board was up and running. He does not need it to be an official board via town meeting law if it does not have to be one. He would like to see if we could get an online system to handle all the requests and town to manage and track requests. When the requests come in they are be send to the correct department automatically and then tracked for efficiency. To also come up with a public communication strategy so the public knows how to make these requests.

The board and Mr. Logan discuss the pros and cons of this type of system.

D. Municipal Manger Update (6:14pm)

1. Financial Report

- a. Eric has no financial update, FY 24 just ended. Eric will have an update for the board for the surplus. FEMA experience will be carried over to financial year.
- b. DPW understaffed – needs public patience regarding public works requests.
- c. Eric to be out of office July 18th- July 28th
- d. Stephanie Appelfeller – Will be moving from Planning & Zoning to Eric's Chief of Staff
- e. News from State Department – Fellowship with Planning and Zoning experiment from Indonesia through mid Sept to Oct
- f. Informational meeting July 25th of the short-term rental ordinance
- g. Negotiation Woodstock Aqueduct Company ongoing should have announcement very soon

E. Votes (6:20pm)

1. Ambulance write-offs

- a. Select board votes to increase budget for FY25
- b. The boards discussed the town taking more active role in bill collection for ambulance

Motion: by Susan Ford prove the ambulance write off of \$73,396.05 at (6:23pm)

Seconded: by Laura Powell

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

- Wendy Marrinan asked a question about people waiting to insurance bill regarding ambulance bills

2. Quinn Road Upgrade

- a. Discussion for the road updated, culvert placement, snowmobile trail
- b. The board looks over the plans for the road

Motion: by Susan Ford to approve the upgrade of Quinn Road (6:30pm)

Seconded: by Laura Powell

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

3. Cloudland Road foliage Closure

- a. Mr. Dotan discussed the closure of the end of Cloudland Road in Woodstock for the fall foliage season due to social media. Proposed dates for 2024 season Sept 25th – Oct 16th. Pomfret Select board votes July 17th on the dates. The survey from the end of closure last year was very positive. Hoping two years of closure may be enough.
- b. Benjamin Brickner – Chair of Pomfret select board.
 - 1. Eric asks about time allotted for the sheriff, last year it was 8 hours a week. Contract extended. 60% commitment resulting in slightly less hours this year. Woodstock would provide

barriers at the bottom of the road. Coordinate with road crew teams when the closure is in effect. Residents pay police coverage other than what the town is covering. They will cover major for a private sheriff and patrol on the Barber Hill Side.

2. Discussion of emergency vehicles access to road.
3. Giving the public plenty of warning about the closure
4. Cost of sign on front of Billing's Farm for buses

Motion: by Susan Ford Close Cloudland Road -consistent with Pomfrets vote on July 17th (6:39pm)

Seconded: by Laura Powell

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

4. Fire truck purchase request

1. Eric tells the board that it will be 4 years before the truck would be delivered. Fire Chief Green discusses fire trucks maintenance and the age of trucks. Engine 2 up for replacement. Increase in insurance due to loss of ladder truck. Age of trucks and replacement discussed. Fire Chief Green suggested a new engine is needed. Discussion on price of truck amount saved as of now for new truck. Contract signing will probably take until the end of the year. Eric discusses the budget of money laid away for fire truck. Discussion of cost of fire truck buying two trucks for a discount. Chief Green was asked if the money spent on two new trucks is necessary for the low occurrence of incidents in town. Chief Green stated that we need to be prepared for all types of situations and the insurance company agrees. More discussion of cost for trucks. The board wants to wait until August for a vote going further. Discussion on public vote on the bonds

F. Approval of minutes (7:06pm)

5/1/24 joint minutes

5/2/24 joint minutes

6/10/24 joint minutes

6/18/24 joint minutes

6/18/24

6/25/28 joint Minutes

6/28 joint minutes

Motion: Susan Ford to approve the minutes for 5.1.24 Joint, 6.10.24 Joint, 6.18.24 SB, 6.18.24 Joint, 6.25.24 Joint, 6.28.24 Joint- as submitted. (7:08pm)

Seconded: by Laura Powell.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

Motion: Laura Powell to approve the minutes for 5.2.24 Joint- as submitted. (7:08pm)

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

G. Other Business -None (7:08pm)

H. Adjournment

Motion: by Laura Powell to adjourn the meeting at 7:09pm.

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Mears Koar