

**Town of Woodstock
Select Board Meeting
June 18, 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, Nikki Levakis, Police Chief Joe Swanson, Jenny Ahlen, Jon Spector, Chris Barr, Susan Fuller, Jenevra Wetmore, Lee Moncton, Brad Ruderman, Lauren Dorsey, Jody Himebaugh

A. Call to order

1. Chair Bourgeois called the Select Board meeting of June 18th at 6:00 pm.

B. Conservation Commission interview – Jenny Ahlen

1. Jenny Ahlen introduced herself, highlighting her background in environmental issues and interest in community involvement.
2. Jenny has lived in South Woodstock for the last two years. She works remotely and wants to get more involved in the community.

Motion: by Laura Powell to appoint Jenny Ahlen to the Conservation Commission.

Seconded: by Keri Cole.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

C. Addition to & deletions from posted agenda

1. Addition – executive session
2. Deletion – personnel policy

D. Citizen comments – none.

E. Manager's report

1. Residents were urged to stay safe during the current heatwave and contact Town Hall for assistance.
2. The Woodstock July 4th celebration will be held on July 5th at the high school, featuring fireworks and fun activities.
3. Chris Barr was introduced as the new Director of Public Works. Chris has been with Woodstock for six years, previously serving as the Village Foreman.
4. The Town is close to balancing the general ledger.
5. Funds from FEMA are expected by the end of summer, potentially resulting in a small year-end deficit.

F. Police Chief's report

1. Discussion on ensuring adequate coverage in South Woodstock, with strategic tracking of officers' locations and activities.

2. Eric Duffy discussed the positive feedback received from the new police contract with the Town. There is more flexibility to go into the Town. Officers like it.
3. Liz Turco graduated from level three Police Academy.
4. They have not found who took the Pride flags yet. They are getting a subpoena prepared to get video footage from M&T Bank.
5. Parades are labor intensive. 13-14 people work to direct traffic. They are disruptive to traffic and have a high cost.

G. Votes

1. Liquor license applications

- a. **Braden's LLC – 1st class, 3rd class, outside consumption**
- b. **Melaza – 1st class, 3rd class, outside consumption**
- c. **Woodstock Country Club – 3rd class**
- d. **Woodstock Hospitality – 1st class, 3rd class, outside consumption**

Motion: by Susan Ford to approve the liquor license applications for Braden's LLC, Melaza, Woodstock Country Club, and Woodstock Hospitality with the understanding the State reviews them.

Seconded: by Laura Powell.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

2. Shared Energy Coordinator Service Agreement

- a. Chair Bourgeois has already signed so there is nothing to vote on.
- b. Eric Duffy stated that Harry Falconer has been excellent.
- c. Susan Ford had concerns about turnover in this position.
- d. Jenevra Wetmore is the representative for Woodstock for Harry. Harry is the 3rd IREC person. She is impressed by his dedication to the area.

3. Vermont 100 Endurance Race

Motion: by Laura Powell to approve the permit for the Vermont 100 Endurance Race.

Seconded: by Keri Cole.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

4. Long Hill Farm, Quinn Road – new residence & access

- a. Presented plans to improve 1,200 feet of a Class 4 section of Long Hill Road.
- b. Concerns were made about snowmobile trail access and water runoff issues.
- c. Decision to have Chris Barr and Greg Fullerton visit the site for further assessment on Thursday at 1:00 pm.

5. Eshqua Bog signage

- a. Proposal for signage indicating the Eshqua Bog and its distance from Garvin Hill Road.
- b. Advised to talk to Planning & Zoning.

6. Fund transfer

- a. Request to move funds into an assigned fund to prevent them from falling into the undesignated fund balance at the end of the fiscal year.

Motion: by Laura Powell to move the sewer line item for the line flusher for \$28,000 from the operating budget to the capital budget.

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

Motion: by Laura to move the sewer bond repayment and interest from operating budget to an assigned fund.

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

7. Sewer abatement guidelines

Motion: Keri Cole to approve the sewer abatement guidelines.

Seconded: by Laura Powell.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

8. EDC grants – Teagle’s Landing & Chamber flowers & holiday lights

- a. Approval of a grant for downtown beautification, including flowers and holiday lights.
- b. Clarification on the source of funds and the need for the Chamber to seek alternative funding for future sustainability.

Motion: by Laura Powell to approve the EDC grant for \$11,500 to the Chamber of Commerce for flowers and holiday lights with the understanding that the EDC will no longer fund this.

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

Motion: by Laura Powell to approve the \$600 grant for the maintenance of Teagle’s Landing.

Seconded: by Keri Cole.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

H. Discussions

1. Personnel Policy – deleted.

I. Other business

Motion: by Laura Powell to enter executive session under 1 VSA 313 to discuss a contract at 7:02 pm.

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

The Select Board exited executive session and resumed the public meeting at 7:34 pm.

J. Approval of minutes

1. 5/3/24 minutes

2. 5/7/24 minutes

3. 5/21/24 minutes

4. 5/1/24 joint minutes

Motion: by Susan Ford to approve the minutes for 5/3/24, 5/7/24, 5/21/24, and 5/1/24 as submitted.

Seconded: by Laura Powell.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

5. 5/2/24 joint minutes

Motion: by Laura Powell to approve the 5/2/24 minutes as submitted.

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton.

Vote: 4-0-1, passed. (Ray for, Keri for, Greg for, Laura for, Susan abstained).

K. Adjournment

Motion: by Laura Powell to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Seconded: by Greg Fullerton.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikki Levakis

