

SELECT BOARD

Select Board
Meeting
Bow Baptist Church
1102 Route 5, Weathersfield Bow, Vermont
Monday, October 19, 2015
7:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Select Board Members Present: N. John Arrison
Daniel Boyer
C. Peter Cole
Lynn Esty
David Fuller

Jim Mullen, Town Manager

Others Present:

Edith Stillson	Walter McDaniel	Darrin Spaulding
Kelly Murphy	Mychael Spaulding	Don Patch
Colin Butler	Patrick Howe	

1. Call to Order

Mr. Arrison called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

2. Comments from Select Board and Citizens on topics not on the agenda

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Mrs. Esty asked about receiving updated (complete) budget reports. Mr. Mullen said the original budget reports were intact and no new copies had been made.

Citizens

There were no comments from citizens.

3. Review minutes from previous meetings – October 5, 2015

Additions/corrections/deletions: None.

Motion: To accept the minutes of October 5, 2015 as presented.

Made by: Mr. Boyer **Second:** Mr. Cole

Vote: Unanimous in favor

4. Weathersfield Fire Services Evaluation

a. Review Possible Consultants

Mr. Arrison conversed with John Wood, retired Chief of Fire Services for the State of Vermont, regarding the evaluation of the Town's fire services. Mr. Wood has held numerous fire chief positions for towns of varying sizes in the state in addition to being Chief of Fire Services.

There was discussion regarding Mr. Wood's qualifications and experience and if he is the only candidate that would be considered for the task. It was decided that the Select Board should finalize the goals and objectives that will define the scope of the evaluation, discuss the task with Mr. Wood via conference call at the November 16th Select Board meeting, and then make a formal decision about hiring him.

The evaluation committee that the Board had previously created will remain dormant and unstaffed until needed. It is still possible that the Fire Commission may serve as the committee.

The Fire Commission will review the proposed goals and objectives for the evaluation at their next meeting. They will make their recommendations to the Board at the November 2 meeting.

When asked about the process for hiring a consultant, Mr. Mullen said that the Town's purchasing policy exempts professional services from the bid process.

b. Goals and Objectives

Mr. Arrison and Mrs. Esty presented draft goals and objectives, which the Board found to be similar and compatible. Points from each were discussed, but no action was taken. It was decided to finalize the list at the November 2 Select Board meeting, after the Fire Commission has had the opportunity to review and discuss it.

5. Transfer Station FY16 Budget Projection and Punch Ticket Price

Mr. Mullen informed the Board that trash disposal revenue has decreased by 13% while the cost of recycling has gone up by 17%. These circumstances are being driven in part by Act 148 (mandatory recycling law) and the economic slowdown in China. The FY16 budget called for an increase in the punch ticket price from \$2.50 to \$3.25. However, based on projections provided by Town Manager, Jim Mullen, an increase to \$3.50 will be needed to keep the solid waste budget from ending the year with a sizeable deficit. (Even at \$3.50, the budget will still end up with a deficit of \$2,403.)

Motion: To raise the punch ticket price to \$3.50 per punch effective October 26, 2015.

Made by: Mr. Cole

Second: Mrs. Esty

Vote: Unanimous in favor

6. Respond to request by Weathersfield School Board regarding grounds maintenance services

Mr. Mullen discussed the proposal with Mr. Hazeltine and they agreed that the Town cannot take on plowing the school parking lot this winter due to insufficient personnel and equipment in the Highway Department.

The Town can, however, add summer maintenance of the school grounds to its grounds maintenance bids this winter.

7. Project Updates

a. 1879 Perkinsville School House

The heating system is in and functioning. Plumbing for the new bathroom is roughed in. Volunteers worked on “buttoning up” the ell this past Saturday. The Food Shelf worked on fitting up the south classroom in anticipation of occupancy. Mr. Mullen will consult with Matt Keniston about hiring a contractor to complete the remaining code-related tasks so as to speed up their completion. The bus shelter is up and being used.

b. Thrasher Road Culvert #4

The culvert is in. All that remains is the guardrail.

c. Abbott Wetlands Permit

The Town (through its consultant) continues to answer questions posed by the State wetlands ecologist.

8. Approve agreement regarding Highway Garage well

The Board reviewed the settlement agreement. No changes were requested.

Motion: To approve the *Settlement Agreement and Release* between the Town and Wayne Beliveau and Diane Rejniak and to authorize the Town Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Made by: Mr. Fuller **Second:** Mr. Boyer **Vote:** Unanimous in favor

9. Appointments: Recognize a vacancy in the Fire Commission

Mrs. Esty, chair of the Fire Commission, informed the Board that Howard Papineau had not attended or participated in any of the Fire Commission meetings since his appointment to the Commission on April 20, 2015. Mr. Papineau had been invited to attend via Skype connection and telephone conference, but declined each time. He had not returned any of Mrs. Esty’s telephone calls or responded to her emails. Mrs. Esty appealed to the Board to terminate Mr. Papineau’s appointment.

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The Board reviewed the Ethics Policy and determined that there were sufficient grounds upon which to terminate the appointment.

Motion: To remove Howard Papineau from the Fire Commission due to excessive absences from Fire Commission meetings despite the Commission's efforts to accommodate participation through Skype connection and telephone conferencing; failure to return telephone calls; and lack of response to emails.

Made by: Mr. Cole **Second:** Mr. Boyer **Vote:** Unanimous in favor

The vacancy will be posted.

10. Appointments

No appointments were requested or made.

11. Approve Warrants

Motion: To approve the warrants for October 19, 2015 as follow:

General Funds	Operating Expenses	\$50,109.32
	Payroll	\$11,780.44
Highway Fund	Operating Expenses	\$22,352.85
	Payroll	\$9,128.78
Solid Waste Management Fund		
	Operating Expenses	\$6,209.05
	Payroll	\$1,069.87
Library	Operating Expenses	\$80.00
Grants	Operating Expenses	\$1,913.22
Agency Monies	Operating Expenses	\$240.00
Reserves		\$0.00
Grand Totals	Operating Expenses	\$80,904.44
	Payroll	\$21,979.09

Made by: Mr. Fuller **Second:** Mr. Boyer
Vote: Unanimous in favor

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12. Future Meeting Agenda Items

13. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Mr. Boyer **Second:** Mr. Cole

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
deForest Bearse

WEATHERSFIELD SELECTBOARD

N. John Arrison, Chairperson

Daniel E. Boyer, Vice-Chairperson

David T. Fuller, Selector

C. Peter Cole, Selector

Lynn Esty, Selector