

TOWN OF WEATHERSFIELD, VERMONT

SELECT BOARD

Select Board
Martin Memorial Hall
5259 Route 5, Ascutney, Vermont
Tuesday, February 16, 2016
7:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES
APPROVED 3/3/2016

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

Jim Mullen, Town Manager

Others Present:

Jason Rasmussen Ernest Shand
Edith Stillson Melanie Sheehan
Loraine Shand

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

Select Board

Mr. Arrison said this was Jim Mullen's last meeting. The Board thanked Mr. Mullen for his years of excellent service and wished him well in the future.

Citizens

There were no comments from citizens.

3. Review minutes from previous meetings – February 1, 2016

Motion: To accept the minutes of the February 1, 2016 meeting as written.

Made by: Mr. Boyer **Second:** Mrs. Esty

Vote: Unanimous in favor

(Mr. Fuller arrives at the meeting.)

(Taken out of order by consensus) Update on the Vermont Water Quality Act (Act 64) and its implications for the Town of Weathersfield (Jason Rasmussen)

Mr. Rasmussen, senior planner at the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission, presented to the Board a brief update on Act 64. The bill will affect farming, runoff from developed areas, storm water from town and state roads, etc. Road maintenance will have the biggest impact on the town. The state is still drafting the rules and a general permit. These will be tied into the Town's Road & Bridge Standards. The Town will probably have to create an inventory of "hydrologically-connected roads" i.e. roads that are near water, identify any threats from them (to water quality), and identify solutions. Developments with three or more acres of impervious surface will be required to obtain a storm water permit.

Also the town should be aware of the Tactical Basin Plan – a watershed planning document. The Black River Plan will be updated soon – any projects identified in that plan will be a "sort of road map for future funding." Mr. Rasmussen recommended that the Town try and identify some of the more expensive water-related projects (box culverts, unstable banks, etc) and get them into the plan so as to enhance the chances of obtaining grant funding for them. The state will be providing some technical assistance and funding. Regional Planning will be assisting with outreach. The Better Back Roads Program (now known as the Better Roads Program) and the Ecosystem Restoration Program will provide some grant funds to assist municipalities with the tasks assigned them from Act 64.

Mr. Fuller expressed deep concerns about the impact of this bill on small farms. He feels it will drive out the small farms and change the rural character of towns like Weathersfield. The Town's Plan calls for a working landscape and this bill may be in conflict with that.

Mr. Rasmussen said that the Regional Planning Commission is hosting a meeting on February 24th at noon in the Cavendish Town Office to talk about Act 64 and its effects on agriculture and basin planning.

4. Adopt Zoning Bylaw Amendment regarding Drug & Tobacco Paraphernalia Establishments

Motion: To adopt the Drug and Tobacco Paraphernalia Establishments zoning bylaw amendment (section 7.24) as written on February 16, 2016.

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

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The bylaw will go into effect in 21 days.

5. Advisory vote at Town Meeting on Vermont legalization of marijuana?

Mr. Arrison stated that the Vermont legislature is crafting legislation which would legalize marijuana. Mr. Fuller asked that the Town take an advisory vote from the floor on Town Meeting day in opposition of legalization. Mr. Cole (Town Meeting Moderator) said it would be acceptable to offer it under “other matters deemed proper”.

6. Update on the Vermont Water Quality Act (Act 64) and its implications for the Town of Weathersfield (Jason Rasmussen)

Taken up earlier – see above

7. Review Procedure for fixing dry hydrants/First Reading

Motion: To move the policy to a second reading.

Made by: Mr. Boyer **Second:** Mrs. Esty

Discussion on the motion: Mr. Fuller expressed concern with the 4-day time limit for repairs. He also asked that an evaluation be made of the condition of all of the Town’s hydrants.

Vote: Unanimous in favor

8. Board of Liquor Commissioners

a. Scott Rogers, LLC/DBA Scott Rogers LLC

i. Second Class Liquor License Renewal

Motion: To grant a second-class license to sell malt and vinous beverages to Scott Rogers LLC, DBA Scott Rogers LLC at 6014 US Route 5.

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

Mr. Mullen reported that Police Chief Daniels did not have any problems with this establishment.

Vote: Unanimous in favor

b. Abbott Brown Inc/DBA Inn at Weathersfield, The

i. First Class Restaurant/Bar License Renewal

ii. Outside Consumption Permit

Motion: To grant a first class restaurant/bar license to sell malt and vinous beverages and an outside consumption permit to Abbott Brown Inc. DBA The Inn at Weathersfield at 1342 Route 106.

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

Vote: Mr. Boyer, Mr. Cole, Mr. Arrison, and Mr. Fuller voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Esty abstained.

9. Continue Preparations for 2016 Annual Town Meeting/Speaker List

The Board assigned speakers to address each of the warrant articles for Town Meeting. Mr. Mullen will invite the Budget Committee to speak at the Meeting.

TOWN OF WEATHERSFIELD, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD

10. Approve 2016 Certificate of Highway Mileage

Motion: To approve the 2016 Certificate of Highway Mileage.

Made by: Mr. Boyer **Second:** Mrs. Esty

Vote: Unanimous in favor

11. Approve Annual Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory

Motion: To approve the Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory

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

Vote: Unanimous in favor

12. Approve Town Highway & Bridge Weight Restrictions for 2016

Motion: To approve the 2016 Town Highway and Bridge Weight Restrictions

Made by: Mrs. Esty **Second:** Mr. Boyer

Mrs. Esty pointed out that the special instructions for Amsden School Road were missing. Mr. Mullen said it should read "12 tons w/no exceptions".

Vote: Unanimous in favor

13. Approve Notice of Restricted Use of Town Highways for 2016 Mud Season

Motion: To enact the local ordinance as needed from February 17 through May 15 restricting use of some roads during mud season at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent

Made by: Mrs. Esty **Second:** Mr. Boyer

Vote: Unanimous in favor

14. Approve Warrants

Motion: To approve the warrants for February 16, 2016 as follow:

General Funds	Operating Expenses	\$51,796.58
	Payroll	\$14,891.66
Highway Fund	Operating Expenses	\$9,507.16
	Payroll	\$8,769.63
Solid Waste Management Fund		
	Operating Expenses	\$5,310.52
	Payroll	\$1,175.76
Library	Operating Expenses	\$6.46

TOWN OF WEATHERSFIELD, VERMONT

SELECT BOARD

Grants	Operating Expenses	\$0.00
Agency Monies	Operating Expenses	\$0.00
Reserves		(\$7.41)

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

15. Future Meeting Agenda Items

16. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the meeting
Made by: Mr. Boyer **Second:** Mr. Fuller
Vote: Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 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