

Select Board Meeting
Martin Memorial Hall
5259 US Rte 5, Ascutney VT
Select Board Meeting Minutes
Monday August, 15, 2022 6:30 PM

Select Board Members Present:

Paul Tillman
Kelly O'Brien
Michael Todd
Wendy Smith
David Fuller
Brandon Gulnick, Town Manager

Attendees: Susan Dewitt Wilder, Catharine Engwall, Ray Stapleton, Darrin Spaulding, Josh Dauphin, Josh Compo, Tom Kennedy

Online Attendees: Tracy Dauphin

- 1.) Call to Order by Michael Todd, Selectman at 6:30 pm
- 2.) Pledge of Allegiance was led by Paul Tillman.
- 3.) Agenda Review – no changes
- 4.) Comments from Citizens not on the Agenda

Susan Dewitt Wilder and Catharine Engwall were in attendance to discuss concerns regarding the speed limit for vehicles and brake noise from large trucks on Quarry Road and 106. They are concerned for the safety of not only themselves and their families, but for their neighbors and community members as well. They have done some research on the cost of the flashing speed limit signs and have some ideas on fundraising for a couple of the flashing speed limit signs to help make people more aware of their speed, which may also help with the brake noise if the trucks are not going as fast. They will make an appointment with the Town Manager to discuss further.

- 5.) Review Minutes from Previous Meetings: 8-1-22

David Fuller made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from 8-1-22.
Wendy Smith – 2nd
No Discussion
Vote - unanimous

- 6.) Town Manager Update

Norwich Solar

48 The Controller from Norwich Solar forwarded an Invoice to the Town with a Net
49 10 payment request. The invoice, (currently on hold) is the result of a Net
50 Metering Agreement the Town & Norwich Solar entered into in regard to the
51 Solar Array at the Town Garage. The invoice is for 62,477 kWh @ \$0.14
52 between April 15, 2022, to August 4, 2022. The total invoice amount is
53 \$9,228.89. See Attachment A – Invoice & Attachment B - Email from Norwich.
54

55 Following this notification Town Counsel and I reviewed the Net Metering Agreement
56 (Attachment C).
57

- 58 1. According to Article 7.1 “Customer shall pay the amount specified in
59 each invoice to System Owner by check no later than thirty (30) days after
60 the date of the invoice.” The invoice sent to us from Norwich is Net 10.
61 Mr. Harrison explained that all of their new agreements are Net 10,
62 however, since the agreement states Net 30, he will make that change.
63
- 64 2. The Net Metering Agreement was signed by Troy McBride from
65 Weathersfield Town Garage, LLC, however, Norwich sold the Lease to
66 Barrington Power, LLC. Mr. Harrison explained that he will work on
67 reassigning the lease to Barrington Power.
68
- 69 3. The Town has not received a GMP bill displaying the credits between April 15th –
70 August 4th.
71

72 We explained to Mr. Harrison that we will be holding payment until the Invoice
73 is changed to Net 30, the Net Metering Agreement is properly reassigned, and
74 we receive all of our GMP bills demonstrating that the Town will be receiving
75 the credits and the 10% discount.
76

77 When the GMP bill comes in with the proper credit, we will present the
78 Selectboard with an example of how this works using the Martin Memorial Hall
79 bill as an example.
80

81 Roof Inspection Services 82

83 Roof inspections are currently underway. We will be meeting with Sieple
84 Inspections on September 7th at 10am to review the inspection reports and
85 anticipate the reports being available for the Board Meeting on September 20th.
86

87 Broadband Update 88

89 Tom Kennedy will be present at the meeting to discuss broadband and answer
90 any questions you may have under this section of the report.
91

92 Golden Cross Ambulance Contract

93
94 Our Golden Cross Ambulance Contract is expired. Dale Girard and I met on
95 August 11th to discuss this. Golden Cross is willing to sign another 5-year
96 agreement with the same terms.
97

98 Wendy Smith made a motion to resign the Golden Cross Ambulance Contract.
99 David Fuller – 2nd

100 Discussion –

101 Paul Tillman asked how much the contract was for. Brandon Gulnick said \$22,
102 308.00 annually. Paul asked if we needed to go through RFPs. Brandon said we
103 do have a purchasing policy with a \$10,000 threshold. David Fuller noted that
104 there have been times when the Board has waived that policy. Brandon noted that
105 there are no changes to the contract. He did reach out to Springfield, VT to see
106 what their service looked like. They charge \$500 per call, which would be
107 approximately \$170,000 annually based on the number of calls.
108

109 Josh Compo from the WWVFD was there and made the Selectboard aware that
110 they had some concerns with the contract and making some changes in it in
111 conjunction with Golden Cross Ambulance.
112

113 Michael Todd asked what the changes were that WWVFD were looking to make.
114 They asked if the Board needed to sign a contract right now that they sign it for
115 one year vs 5 years. At this time, they are not interested in going into the details
116 of their concerns with the Selectboard as they had not had a conversation with
117 Dale Girard and they did not feel it was fair to him to have him read about it in
118 the minutes when he has not had the opportunity to discuss it with WWFVD.
119

120 Josh Dauphin said there is a difference from the previous contract because this
121 contract is for 5 years where the previous one was for 3 years.
122

123 Wendy Smith made a motion to table to the Golden Cross Ambulance Contract until
124 September 19, 2022.

125 Vote - Unanimous
126

127 Michael Todd asked WWVFD to please review the contract that they signed with the
128 Town prior to the meeting they have with Brandon.
129
130

131 7.) Large Gathering Permit Application 1201 Gulf Road
132

133 David Fuller made the motion to approve the large gathering permit for 1201 Gulf Road
134 and to waive the fees.

135 Paul Tillman – 2nd

136 No further discussion

137 Vote - unanimou
138

- 138 8.) Vote to Transfer \$2,000 from Parks & Recreation Reserves for Hoisington Field
139 Improvements
140

141 Dear Board Members,

142 The Parks & Recreation Commission voted unanimously to recommend
143 transferring \$2,000 from Parks & Recreation Reserves to fund the clearing of
144 brush that is overgrown at Hoisington Field (see attached pictures). The brush is
145 overgrown around the basketball court, pavilion, and swing set. The Parks &
146 Recreation Reserve account currently has a balance of \$23,960.54. The balance
147 will be reduced to \$21,960.54 if approved.
148

149 David Fuller made a motion to transfer \$2,000 from Parks & Recreation Reserves for
150 Hoisington Field Improvements.

151 Paul Tillman – 2nd

152 No Discussion

153 Vote - Unanimous
154

155 9.) Electrical Inspections
156

157 On August 1st the Selectboard authorized up to \$1,500 to conduct electrical
158 inspections at the Town Highway Garage, Martin Memorial Hall, and
159 Weathersfield School.
160

Building	Fee
Martin Memorial Hall	\$525
Town Garage	\$575
Weathersfield School	\$1,500

161
162 The Selectboard approved up to \$1,500 on August 1st for electrical inspections.
163 Martin Memorial Hall and the Town Garage were awarded. If we move forward
164 with the electrical inspection at the Weathersfield School the Board will need to
165 authorize an additional \$1,100 in ARPA funds for this purpose.
166

167 David Fuller made a motion to approve the additional \$1,100 in ARPA Funds for
168 electrical inspections at the Weathersfield School.

169 Paul Tillman – 2nd

170 David Fuller withdrew the motion until Brandon gets ahold of the principal of the
171 school to see how they want to proceed. Paul Tillman withdrew his 2nd.
172
173

174 10.) Trash Compactor Promissory Note
175

176 Alva Waste was awarded the project to replace the trash compactor and install a
177 concrete pad at the Transfer Station. The total cost of the project is \$70,905. The

board requested that we meet with Reading and West Windsor to determine what their thoughts are on a repayment schedule. A meeting was held on August 2nd. The committee voted unanimously to move forward with a 7-year loan.

I contacted M&T bank (formerly People's bank) to receive interest rates. In the past we borrowed at 2.5%. M&T bank estimated upwards of 4.5%, and an increased interest rate if we close after July 31st. We recommend borrowing from our reserve accounts at 3% interest. We currently have two other loans from our reserve accounts, which includes the Weathersfield Center Road paving project and the recently purchased Dump Truck. There are two (2) payments remaining on the Weathersfield Center Road Paving Project. The total amount outstanding against our reserves is \$149,135 OR 12.42% of our reserve balances. If we borrow from reserves for this project, we will have \$220,040 outstanding in FY24 OR 18.33%. The Treasurer is comfortable with this arrangement. The Chair suggests capping the amount we can borrow from reserves. 25% is the recommended cap.

The annual payment will be entered into the Solid Waste budget each year until it matures.

In accordance with Select Board action of July 7, 2022 (minutes attached), the Town of Weathersfield Solid Waste Fund agrees to borrow \$ 70,905 at an annual interest rate of 3% from the Town of Weathersfield Reserve Funds for a period of seven years for the purpose of purchasing & installing a new Trash Compactor & Concrete pad. Repayment of principal and interest shall be as follows:

DATE	PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	TOTAL
November 1, 2023	\$ 10,130	\$ 2,127	\$ 12,257
November 1, 2024	\$ 10,130	\$ 1,823	\$ 11,953
November 1, 2025	\$ 10,130	\$ 1,519	\$ 11,649
November 1, 2026	\$ 10,130	\$ 1,215	\$ 11,345
November 1, 2027	\$ 10,130	\$ 911	\$ 11,041
November 1, 2028	\$ 10,130	\$ 607	\$ 10,737
November 1, 2029	\$ 10,125	\$ 304	\$ 10,429

The loan to be effective August 15, 2022, the date of the advance.

Paul Tillman made a motion to approve that they Town will borrow \$70,905 with an annual interest rate from the Town of Weathersfield Fund for a period of 7 years for the purpose of purchasing and installing a new trash compactor and concrete pad and authorize the Town Manager to sign the promissory note.

David Fuller – 2nd

No discussion
Vote - unanimous

11.) July 2022 Finance Report

12.) Any Other Business

Michael Todd asked that they have a brief Executive Session after they approve the warrants.

13.) Approve Warrant

made a motion to approve the warrants of 8-15-22 as follows:

General Funds	Operating Expenses \$41,900.69
	Payroll \$14,692.83

Highway Fund	Operating Expenses \$23,522.51
	Payroll \$8,416.96

Solid Waste Management Fund	Operating Expenses \$14,985.41
	Payroll \$1,897.90

Library	Operating Expenses \$0.00
	Payroll \$2,114.44

Grants	\$1,601.25
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Library Fundraising

GMC 2022 Plow	\$442.02
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Grand Totals	Operating Expenses \$82,451.88
	Payroll \$27,122.13

Kelly O'Brien – 2nd
Vote – unanimous

The Selectboard went into Executive Session under 1 V.S.A. § 313 (A) for Contracts at 8:14 pm.

Out of Executive Session at 8:48 pm

No action taken

14.) Adjourn

Wendy Smith made a motion to adjourn at 8:49 pm

260 Paul Tillman – 2nd
261 No Discussion
262 Vote - Unanimous

263
264

265 Respectfully,
266 Chauncie Tillman
267 Alt. Recording Secretary

DRAFT

WEATHERSFIELD SELECTBOARD

David Fuller, Vice-Chairperson

Kelly O'Brien, Clerk

Wendy Smith, Selector

Paul Tillman, Selector

Michael Todd, Chairperson