

**Town of Plainfield
Select Board and Board of Health Meeting
August 26, 2019
Approved Minutes**

PRESENT: Alexandra Thayer (Select Board Chair), James Volz (Select Board Member), Tammy Farnham (Select Board Member), Linda Wells (Town Clerk/Treasurer), Keith Swann (Videographer), Cindy Wyckoff (Minutes Recorder), Bram Towbin (Road Commissioner), Greg Western (Cross Vermont Trail Association), Sarah Albert (Conservation Commission), Greg Light (Fire Chief), Cito Hardy (Resident), and Will Colgan (Planning Commission).

Alexandra Thayer called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

AGENDA

- Review Agenda
- Public Comment/Announcements
- Town Clerk's Report
 - Warrants
 - Removal of Tree Damaging Municipal Office - Contract Approval
 - Positive Pie Request for Outside Sale Liquor Permit
- Road Commissioner's Report
 - Plan for Main/Mill Street Access to River for Fire Department
- Friends of the Opera House Contract RE: Town Hall Opera House
- Arrangements for Select Board Meeting Videoing
- Approval of August 12, 2019 Minutes
- Other Business
- Agenda Items for 9/9/19 Meeting
 - Water/Wastewater Department Ordinance Update
- Adjourn

Board of Health Meeting Immediately following Select Board Meeting

- Update from Baylen Slote
- Cito Hardy Request for Board of Health Action
- Board of Health Action and Orders
- Adjourn

REVIEW AGENDA

- Items regarding the Conservation Commission and the Cross Vermont Trail Association were added to the agenda under Other Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- James Volz announced that there will be a RAMP meeting on 8/27/19 at 6:00pm at the Town Hall Opera House regarding transportation options.
- Thayer provided an overview of activities planned for Old Home Days.

- Keith Swann announced that Caledonia Spirits is having a Plainfield Town Hall celebration night on 9/7/19 from 5-7pm at Caledonia Spirits in Montpelier, with 20% of the proceeds going to the Town Hall Opera House Full House campaign.
- Thayer announced that Town Health Officer Baylen Slote and Alice Dworklin, who sits on both the Development Review Board and Cemetery Commission, welcomed a new baby girl on 8/24/19.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

- WARRANTS

- REMOVAL OF TREE DAMAGING MUNICIPAL OFFICE - CONTRACT APPROVAL

- POSITIVE PIE REQUEST FOR OUTSIDE SALE LIQUOR PERMIT

- **Tammy Farnham made a motion to approve an access permit application for Douglas Weinreich at 1585 Country Club Road. The motion was approved.**
- Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells raised the issue of the increased fee for videotaping Select Board meetings. Because it was not clear what the Town was expected to pay, it was decided that Tony Campos from VideoVision would be asked to attend the 9/9/19 Select Board meeting to clarify the situation.
- **Volz made a motion to approve warrants of 8/16/19 and 8/17/19. The motion was approved.**
- Wells reviewed the details of removing the tree that is damaging the municipal office building, noting that the total cost to remove it by Catamount Tree Service is \$900, \$400 of which the adjacent neighbor is willing to pay, with the Town's portion being the remaining \$500. **Volz made a motion to approve the contract with Catamount Tree Service to take the tree down. The motion was approved.**
- Greg Western from Cross Vermont Trail Association was present to request approval by the Select Board for a \$3,200 grant award from the Plainfield Conservation Commission. The issue was scheduled to be discussed more fully later in the meeting under Other Business.
- **Volz made a motion to approve the permit from Positive Pie for selling liquor outside of the establishment between 6:00pm and 10:00pm during the street dance on 9/7/19. The motion was approved.**

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- PLAN FOR MAIN/MILL STREET ACCESS TO RIVER FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Road Commissioner Bram Towbin reported that Fire Chief Greg Light will be marking the area in the Village going down to the Winooski River that needs to be cleared so that the Fire Department can access water during a fire. Tree Warden Nicko Rubin has been contacted and Road Foreman Mike Nolan will follow through on it.
- Paving projects for Martin Meadow and Towne Avenue should commence mid-September or early October. Towbin has asked that the paving company to meet with Water/Wastewater Facility Chief System Operator Greg Chamberlin to avoid potential problems regarding manhole covers on those streets. There may be some additional paving needed due to some water issues that have arisen.
- A number of meetings have taken place with landowners/stakeholders regarding the Route 2/Main Street intersection. If all goes right, the project will happen in 2023, but that may be delayed due to impacts to various landowners in the area.
- The Planning Commission will have its first official draft of the Town Plan in two weeks.
- A brief discussion took place regarding the tree that needs to be removed in the area going down to the Winooski River from the Village. In addition to the fact that the red oaks in Mill Street park have matured over the past 20 years, Conservation Commission member Sarah Albert noted that the tree in question is an ash tree that would not have to be replaced if it were to be taken down.

- Farnham noted to Towbin that the stop sign coming down from Brook Road has been tipped over.
- Towbin reported that culvert replacements have or will soon be done on Country Club Road and Harvey Hill Road.
- Towbin is meeting tomorrow with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, which is developing a tool that will identify weak spots in road infrastructure.
- Towbin noted that the short, intense rain storms of late have caused rutting problems in the roads, which makes their maintenance more difficult in general.

FRIENDS OF THE OPERA HOUSE CONTRACT RE: TOWN HALL OPERA HOUSE

- **Farnham made a motion to approve the contract renewal with the Friends of the Town Hall Opera House. The motion was approved.**

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SELECT BOARD MEETING VIDEOING

- It had been decided earlier in the meeting that Tony Campos from VideoVision would be invited to appear at the 9/9/19 Select Board meeting to discuss issues regarding fees associated with videotaping Select Board meetings.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 12, 2019 MINUTES

- **Volz made a motion to approve the minutes of the 8/12/19 Select Board meeting as written. The motion was approved.**

OTHER BUSINESS

- Greg Western from the Cross Vermont Trail Association (CVTA) reviewed CVTA's process of purchasing land in Plainfield to connect the rail trail through the Village, including a request for the Select Board to approve a \$3,200 allocation from the Plainfield Conservation Committee to cover CVTA's match for a grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. Conservation Commission member Sarah Albert explained why funding from the Conservation Commission is appropriate for this purpose. Farnham asked how the property purchase by CVTA and possibly the purchase of additional lots will affect the Town's tax base. Western responded that no other properties will be purchased by CVTA. **Volz made a motion to approve the \$3,200 allocation from the Conservation Commission to the Cross Vermont Trail Association. The motion was approved.**
- Western noted that Plainfield Attorney James Jamele cannot be involved with the issue of the generator on Town property due to a conflict of interest and requested that someone else be designated to represent the Town in future discussions. If legal action needs to be taken, the Town will need to hire an attorney. **Farnham made a motion to designate Select Board member James Volz to represent the Town in discussions regarding the unpermitted generator currently sitting on Town property. The motion was approved.**
- Fire Chief Greg Light announced that Plainfield Fire and Rescue was planning its annual chicken barbeque for Old Home Days on 9/7/19, noting that due to the limited number that can be served, people should purchase their tickets this week by contacting Light or Pat Martin. Thayer offered to post it on Plainfield People if Light sends her the necessary information.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR 9/9/19 MEETING

- WATER/WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT ORDINANCE UPDATE

- Thayer noted that a formal hearing needs to take place for the update to the Water/Wastewater Department ordinance. If there is enough time between now and the next Select Board meeting on 9/9/19, it may be possible to hold the hearing at that time.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Thayer provided an update on the Board of Health concerns regarding a recreational vehicle on Cito Hardy's property as well as the issue of a broken sewer pipe at 123 School Street.

ADJOURN

- **Volz made a motion to adjourn the Select Board portion of the meeting at 7:18pm. The motion was approved.**

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

- Because Town Health Officer Baylen Slote was not present to convene a formal Board of Health hearing, it was decided that it would be rescheduled for the 9/9/19 Select Board meeting. Noting that Cito Hardy, the owner of the property at issue, was present, and that members of the Select Board also sit on the Board of Health, Thayer invited Hardy to express his concerns. Hardy related the issues resulting from people living in a recreational vehicle on his property who refuse to vacate and are in violation of both zoning and public health regulations. Thayer noted that she believed that there might be progress on both issues between now and the Board of Health meeting. Planning Commission chair Will Colgan was present to note that the zoning violation at the property was pretty clear.
- **Thayer made a motion to adjourn the Board of Health portion of the meeting at 7:30. The motion was approved.**

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Wyckoff