



TOWN OF TOWNSHEND

Selectboard
PO Box 121 Townshend, Vermont 05353

Selectboard Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2022 6:00 PM
Townshend Town Hall
Approved: 6/28/22

Present: Sherwood Lake, Steven Frisk, Rob Wright, Catherine Marrow, Rob Swiger.

In Attendance: BCTV Tech, Connie Holt

Members of the Public: Laura Richardson, Lynne Shea, Allie Dercoli, Representative from West River Thrives.

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Lake calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Approval of the May 24, 2022 Selectboard meeting minutes. Frisk makes a motion to approve the minutes for the 5/24/22 regular Selectboard meeting. Wright seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.
3. **Additions and Deletions:**
 1. Delete: MOP: Chester Snowmobile Club
 2. Add: New Business (9.4): Common Use Request - Windham Regional
 3. Add: New Business (9.5): Common Use Request - Finallie Ferments Pickle Day
4. **Members of the Public:**
 1. Lynne Shea: Renaming of Negro Brook Petition: Shea gives an update and requests a letter of support from the Selectboard. Shea states that since meeting with the Selectboard on 12/28/2022, the Renaming of Negro Brook group has met with the Townshend Historical Society, who supports the petition and are waiting to get their letter of support. They have a letter of support from the Abenaki Tribe and the Windham County NAACP. The group then gathered signatures on the petition at Riverbend Market. The Board of State Librarians requires 25 signatures, but they gathered much more. The group is requesting a letter of support from the Townshend Selectboard. Lake asks if the group has kept the State Librarian on the loop. Shea confirms that the group has. Lake makes the motion to have the Selectboard send a letter of support to the State Librarian. Wright seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.
 2. Laura Richardson: Ms. Richardson states that she has heard that towns are getting \$100,000.00 grants to help people who have been negatively impacted by COVID. She asks how Townshend is handling this? Lake responds that he knows that the State halted tax payments from sales. This is to help residents of Vermont. ARPA money is for

specific areas and to communities. Richardson states that she has ideas like housing or transportation. Some towns are asking residents for suggestions. Lake states ARPA money is for infrastructure improvements. Individuals would need to seek other venues. Wright mentions the Howard Legacy as an organization to help individuals. Eileen Fahey is in charge of the Howard Legacy. Laura Richardson suggests that the public be informed.

Richardson asks who is in charge of the ARPA money. Lake responds that the Selectboard is in charge of the funds. Some of the funds have been used to digitize the Town's land records. Richardson points out that Newfane is using their funds for "Everyone Eats" and Peru is fixing up their commons. She asks about fixing up the Gazebo. Lake replies that the Gazebo would not fall under the guidelines. He states that there are other projects being considered. He is not prepared to discuss it tonight. Marrow states she did see that other towns have solicited their residents, but it is a process buried in paperwork.

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Warrants:** Wright makes a motion to pay warrants 1 - 6. Frisks seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

1. Payroll:	\$10,184.86
2. Payroll Taxes:	\$3,984.93
3. General Fund:	\$10,529.42
4. Highway:	\$269.29
5. Highway Equipment:	\$6,218.30
6. W.River Modified Union:	\$647,213.98
TOTAL:	\$678,400.78

7. **Reports:**

1. Highway: Frisk announces that the town has received a VT Grants-In-Aid grant for \$30,000.00 for Act 64 related work. The grant will be used for stone lining and ditching. Frisk Thursday with Windham Regional to discuss which section the funds will be used for. Bazin Brothers will be paving Windham Hill the 3rd or 4th week of July. Frisk signed the permit to do the work. Frisk reports that the Town has signed off on FEMA so that process should be coming to an end. We are currently working on cleaning culverts and ditching.

2. Treasurer: Lake gives the report. The bi-weekly True Working Balance is \$647,035 after meeting our obligations.

3. Town Clerk: Lake directs the Board to the Town Clerk report in their packets. The Town Clerk has taken in \$1,117.50 in different fees.

4. Chair: Lake announces a meeting with the executive director of VLCT. The meeting will be this Friday at 1:00pm. Lake invites the Board to attend.

8. **Old Business:** None

9. New Business:

1. Commons Use Request - West River Thrives & Community Hope & Action: Frisk makes a motion to approve West River Thrives' request to use the Commons on 6/22/22 from 4:30 - 7:00pm. Wrights seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

2. Sullivan & Powers Audit contract: Lake offers two options on proceeding with signing the auditors contract; vote and sign the contract at tonight's meeting or put it on the 6/28/22 Selectboard agenda so that the Board has time to read and ask questions. The Selectboard decides to put onto the 6/28/22 Selectboard agenda.

3. Windham County Humane Society FY23 contract: The Board decides to put the WCHS contract on the 6/28/22 Selectboard agendas that they can get some questions answered.

4. Common Use Request: Windham Regional for Elementary School Graduation on 6/15/22: Lake reports that this request was urgent and time sensitive. The Town Clark brought it to him last Friday. Lake signed it, but asks the Board if there are any concerns. There are none from the Board.

5. Common Use Request: Finallie Ferments Pickle Day: Allie Dercoli presents her request for use of the Commons on August 13th. Pickle Day will be a "state fair" concept celebrating fermentation. Wright makes a motion to approve A. Dercoli's request to use the Commons for Pickle Day on 8/13/22. Frisk seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0-1.

10. Executive Session: N/A

11. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, June 28, 2022

12. Meeting Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm