

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

Present: Anthony Soldo, Raymond Royce, Craig Nolan Bernice Tore, Philip Adamonis, Bill Doggis, David Conley, Barbara Nolan, Michael Strait, Jonathan Morin, Jeanne Gervais, Heather McElroy, Joel Cope, Paul Chambers, Teresa DeBonville, and Jeff Noyes.

Chairperson, Michael Strait called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Update Agenda: updates include, Jonathan Morin, and tree money.

Jonathan Morin, candidate for Essex Orleans Senate seat was present to introduce himself and gave his contact information to all present if they wanted to chat with him.

Joel will write a letter to Irving Oil requesting payment of the \$1000.00 agreed upon for removal of the tree in the pavilion park that was blocking the gas price sign at Lakefront Express Mart.

Public comment: none.

Road Department: Joel handed out information to the board on the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant Program. This program would provide technical assistance and incentive funding for projects that reduce emissions from diesel powered vehicles, engines and equipment. This program could help if the town was looking to replace older equipment. The board will speak with Mark and the fire department to see if anything qualifies for this.

Buildings and maintenance: The board was given the insurance notification from the inspector from VLCT on town owned property. It has been recommended by the inspector that the town hall coverage be lowered from 3,154,455.00 to 2,747,895.00. The railroad depot increased from 662,037 to 1,292,686.00; the town garage increased from 355,039.00 to 460,376.00 (this was to cover the two material sheds that were not included before); and the fire station increased from 486,591.00 to 909,133.00. A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to keep the town hall coverage at 3,154,455.00 but follow all other increases as suggested by the inspector. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Recreation: Paul was present to discuss with the board the recreation departments ideas for upgrades to Lakeside Park to be included in the BGS Grant. The recreation department would like to add 5 pieces of outdoor fitness equipment to the park; and fix the tennis courts. The board also suggested seeing if the grant funds would cover fixing the cracks in the basketball court.

Paul also brought up to the board the idea of having a marathon in late April. The board was ok with this idea as well.

Michael Strait informed the board that he received a request to hold the annual Tyler Pepin Whiffle Ball Tournament on September 26, 2020. The board had several questions, and would like Rachel Pepin to come to the next meeting before making a final decision on this.

UTG board on fire services cost: The board of governors from UTG were present to discuss the contract for fire coverage stating a 3% increase annually for the next 3 years. The UTG board asked if Brighton would only do a 1.6% increase; as this is the cost of living increase. The Brighton Select board did not think this was sufficient; and explained that 1.6% would not cover the increase in Brighton's Fire Department budget annually. The Brighton select board also explained that they did not think that Brighton tax payers should have to incur all the increases to the fire department budget alone; as other towns also use our fire services. The decision was made by the Board of Governors for UTG to accept the contract as written with an annual 3% increase for the next three years.

Library: the select board would like to speak with the librarian and trustees about opening the library. They will be asked to the next select board meeting to discuss this issue.

VCDP Planning Grant Policy Requirement: A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to sign the municipal policies and codes from for the VCDP \$40,000.00 Planning Grant for the down town revitalization project. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

VLCT request on covid-related expenditures: the board reviewed a letter for the league about covid related expenditures. The Town of Brighton really hasn't incurred much.

Pay orders: The board reviewed and signed the pay orders for the road department account and the general account.

Approve previous minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of the August 19, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Jeanne Gervais to accept the minutes as printed. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other business: Philip Adamonis was present to question why gps sends travelers from rt. 114 and rt 105 across the Five Mile Square Road instead of through Island Pond. Mr. Adamonis stated that he sees several out of state vehicles as well as 18wheelers passing his house. Mr. Adamonis is not complaining; but thinks that the businesses in Island Pond would want the traffic flow into town. The board discussed several ideas and would like to look into putting a sign at the intersection of RT. 114 and Rt. 105 that says "lodging, food, gas, etc. In Island Pond". The board will look into getting this done.

Tire day is set for October 10, 2020.

The board discussed having “Trunk or Treat” this year, and has decided to cancel this for 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.