

Brighton Selectboard Minutes  
May 4, 2022

Minutes of the Brighton Selectboard meeting held on May 4, 2022 in the town offices at 49 Mill St. Ext. at 6:00 PM. Attending were Mike Strait, Jeanne Gervais, Heather McElroy, Anne Budrewicz, Andy Martin, Bruce Rumball, Bruce Webster, Olivia Craig, Ed Barber, James Ozone, Joel Cope.

1. Chairman Strait called the meeting to order at 6:02.
2. Updates to the Agenda: Electric Panel estimate, Deputy Health Officer, Town Manager
3. Public comment: Anne Budrewicz asked about the town manager search. Mike Strait said that the board would be meeting with staff from VLCT who the town may pay to help find the appropriate person for the job. The meeting date has not been set, but it will be warned and the public may attend. Bruce Rumball asked if there would be a committee involved in the search. Mike stated that a committee was not planned at this point and the hiring would be a decision of the selectboard ultimately.
4. Road Dept report:
  - Andy Martin said that the contracted sand sweeper will be coming back into town to do some more work.
  - DI's will be cleaned out June 13.
  - Reclamation work on Pleasant street might be done in July.
  - Engineering continues on the RR bridge on Head of the Pond Road.
  - The estimate for the walk path on Pleasant Street is around \$70,000. Mike has applied for a grant from Bernie Sanders' office for the funds to create the path, which would run on the lake side of Pleasant Street.
5. Buildings and Maintenance Report
  - Bruce said that he had Fred Sykes come out and look at the flat roof on the town hall due to a leak. Bruce did some patch work himself but Fred will have to come back and do a more involved job.
  - Bruce will get an estimate from Fred for a new rubber roof on that part of the roof.

- An estimate will also be obtained for re-pointing the chimney on the town hall.
- The baseball field has been graded and the goose fence is up. He will be working on the flower gardens.

6. Heather McElroy will be point person for GreenUp Day.
7. The board approved having the electric panel moved to a better spot upstairs in the town hall.
8. The board reviewed changes to the town's civil ordinances. Right now only certified police officers can enforce those ordinances by issuing tickets. The board proposes to allow certain other specific persons to enforce these ordinances. The board directed Joel to have our attorney review these ordinances before the changes are adopted.
9. The board appointed Milinda Sterling as Animal Control Officer. The rate is the current \$1,000/year, paid monthly. Mileage is allowed from her home to work-related functions.
10. The board appointed Renee Falconer as Poundkeeper. The board adopted a policy that the town will only pay for dogs that are impounded to be kept at the pound for five days. The rate for owners to recover dogs is \$25/day. If the town has to cover the cost of board if a dog is not recovered by the owner then the rate is \$13/day.
11. The board appointed John Furino as Deputy Zoning Administrator. Anne Budrewicz expressed interest in the job as well if it should open up. Joel advised she should put in an application.
12. The board asked Andy Martin to find out what the police car the town owns is worth. The Essex Sherriff's office has expressed interest in purchasing the car. The board and others present said they are pleased with the performance of the Sherriff's office.
13. The board approved the minutes of March 2 and April 20
14. Town Manager discussion: Mike said that before the board meets with VLCT, it would be good to have some discussion about what the board has in mind for a job description of sorts for the manager. Mike said the manager would have general administrative duties and be familiar with accrual accounting methods, and

be comfortable with computers. The person would be in charge of employees, but with our current staff there would not be that much need for significant oversight other than is needed for effective communication. Joel suggested the person needs to be a steward of the infrastructure to make sure our water, sewer, roads, buildings are kept up to standards and function properly. The person has to be a good grant writer, able to implement grant projects and administer them financially. The person will be the administrator for the water and sewer boards. General knowledge of Vermont law is important. Community development should be the focus of this person's efforts. The person should be comfortable with the town's current effort to develop an outdoor recreational economy.