

Grand Isle Select Board Meeting Minutes for June 20, 2022 06:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Members Present: Adam White (Chair), Josie Leavitt (Vice Chair), Jeff Parizo, Couper Shaw, Eric Godin

Community Members Present: Diane Cota, Colleen Bushway, Ron Bushway, Rachael Griggs, Melissa Boutin, Suzanne Moquin, Emily Clark, Ellie Parody, Susan Lawrence, Mike Donoghue, Lucille Campbell, KC Fantoni, Bianca Adams, Esther Blow, Jean Prouty, Linda Ethel, Randy Gover, Kristina Botala, Joe Longo

Board Members to Amend Agenda for Matters Not Listed:

July 4th meeting
IT Update
Cannabis Cultivation Letter

II. GUEST OPEN COMMENT

ARPA funds
Listers

III. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES

Jeff Motions to approve the Monday, June 6th, 2022 minutes. Josie seconds. Eric abstains. No discussion. Jeff Parizo, Couper Shaw, Adam White, and Josie Leavitt approve. The motion passes

IV. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT / BUILDING FACILITIES MANAGER UPDATE

- The Hatchery and Lovers Lane are graveled and graded, took several loads of gravel for the Hatchery.
- Roadside Mowing almost complete, Faywood Road is the last road getting the 1st pass.
- Sections of Quaker Road, Reynolds Road, South of Sean Lanphere's house (near a culvert), East Shore North are being paved.
- Currently \$84 a ton compared to \$75 a ton to pave last year.
- Applied for and received an \$8,000 grant for a Hydro Seeder (full cost about \$16,000).

- Need to budget for new truck, old one is a 2012. They take over a year to get. Adam Recommended checking the state website.
- Annex child health care is open- Chris Boyd accepted plumbers receipt for inspection

V. NEW BUSINESS

July 4th Meeting: Cancelled, ok with IT update occurring on July 18th.

Listers:

- Had a meeting with South Hero and North Hero to discuss hiring a shared assessor. Listers board would still exist and provide oversight. The town would decide how to divide the wages for the assessor. Select Board is asking for budgeting and numbers, and for the Listers to go to VLCT to learn about filling the role of the assessor.
- Wish to have Mapping and Lister Cards computerized, to save time and create efficiencies. To be added to the 18th agenda.
- Only 1 grievance from appraisal letters, person seemed fine after discussion.

Cannabis Cultivation Letter: Cannabis Control Commission requires towns to follow state regulations with regards to cannabis cultivation. Scott Brown would like a letter from the town to present if people have questions. Select Board approves the letter.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VELCO street lights (4): Updating from HPS to LED lights costs \$175/light with a \$100 incentive to upgrade- would cost \$300 after the incentives have been applied. Decreases lighting electrical cost from \$31/light to \$8.38/light.

Adam moves to proceed with Vermont Electric Coop Changing 4 street lights from HPS to LED fixtures, Eric Seconds the motion. No discussion. Jeff Parizo, Couper Shaw, Adam White, Josie Leavitt, and Eric Godin approve. The motion passes.

Storage policy Moved to July 18th Meeting

Blaisdell permit refund request Wanted permit costs back after issuance due to financing falling through.

Adam moves reject the request for a refund for the Blaisdell permit request, Jeff Seconds the motion. No discussion. Jeff Parizo, Couper Shaw, Adam White, Josie Leavitt, and Eric Godin approve. The motion passes.


Turn to Joy- Town Garage Evacuation: Ron and Jeff to reach out to Turn to Joy regarding them using the highway garage as an evacuation site. VLCT advised to have Turn to Joy name the town as insured on their insurance policy.

Highway department MOU with fish hatchery \$24,000 will go to unassigned funds for FY '22. Should be budgeted correctly for FY '23 and go to the Highway Department. Budgeting for the listers in July, using the unassigned funds.

FY 2022 Audit Update RHR asked that the selectboard sign a letter to have open communication with Batchelder, Adam would like to preemptively get a letter signed for the same purpose with Sullivan Powers & Company.

Adam moves to approve the letter for RHR Smith & Company to have open and free discussions with Sullivan, Powers & Company regarding the Grand Isle town audit of the past for the purposes of Sullivan, Powers & Company for their FY 22 Audit, Josie Seconds the motion. No discussion. Jeff Parizo, Couper Shaw, Adam White, Josie Leavitt, and Eric Godin approve. The motion passes.

Sullivan, Powers & Co Letter of engagement to be discussed at July 18th meeting.



Batchelder Audit Update: Just received the invoice breakdown. Josie wants to know the progress of the audit along with the breakdown. Bonnie and Helen just returned from vacation so there should be more information once they have time to review the download they received. Jeff wishes to clarify that Bonnie is not auditing the auditor, they are doing an independent audit from scratch (full blown audit). The independence of the Batchelder audit was questioned, RHR Smith and Batchelder have had discussions to clarify questions.

IT Update: Alburgh uses VTC Tech (they gave positive review, used ARPA funds for this) thought costs were around \$20,000 for year, South Hero uses TCI Net \$700/month. Discovered that VT has a minimum level of IT security required. We will need to get multiple bids due to the cost.

There may be money already budgeted for FY '23 across multiple departments for IT support.

It was questioned whether it would be fair for VTC Tech to come do an assessment prior to bidding. VLCT to be contacted for references for an IT audit, 2 companies will be contacted and notified that the town will get back to them. Chuck has not provided a list of his responsibilities.

ARPA No new updates. This lump sum is a once in a generation opportunity to try to leverage it to do other things. Trying to obtain village designation to qualify for the highest number of grants-hopefully will hear news within a month.

2 Microsoft Office licenses were purchased.

2 vacation pay checks for 2 employees: Each employee has 4 weeks' vacation/year.

VII. REVIEW AND SIGN WARRANTS

Jeff motions to approve the warrants and let the select board chair sign on behalf of the select board, Eric Seconds the motion. No discussion. Jeff Parizo, Couper Shaw, Adam White, Josie Leavitt, and Eric Godin approve. The motion passes.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Eric moves to adjourn this meeting at 7:11pm, Josie Seconds the motion. No discussion. Jeff Parizo, Couper Shaw, Adam White, Josie Leavitt, and Eric Godin approve. The motion passes.