

APPROVED MINUTES
TOWN OF RYEGATE
PO BOX 332
RYEGATE, VERMONT 05042

SELECT BOARD MINUTES
MAY 8, 2023
Town Office & Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 by Chairman Andrew Smith. Other members present: Regina Hazel and Darryl Perkins. Also present: Dee Bourtelle, Kyle Bourtelle, Cheryl Slayton, William Hetu, Nelson Elder, Carl Bayer, Sally Wilson, Jeffrey Haslett, David Punt, Doug Morrison and Nikki Barrett. Zoom: Jocelyne Barrett, Alex Nuti-DeBiasi and Andrew McGregor.

Minutes of April 24, 2023 were reviewed. There was a brief discussion on the recording of the minutes and what should be included in the meeting minutes. Andy moved to delete Peter Musty's paragraph in the unapproved minutes and included the *following paragraph,* Regina seconded the motion and it carried.

There were no other corrections to the minutes.

*Peter Musty was present to restate his concerns and issues with the Board's actions regarding both Stone Rd and Meader Rd. Peter disagrees with the report and opinion that surveyor Kris Jurentkuff provided the Select Board that concludes that the actual laid out mileage of Stone Rd leaves it with an end point in the middle of Blue Mtn Quarry. The Board has sent the report to the Mapping Division at VTrans and are still waiting to hear back from them before taking action on the discrepancy between the State highway map and the original layout of Stone Rd. Peter has a meeting scheduled with Kris Jurentkuff and is planning to meet with the Mapping Division to present his information before they make a decision on the discrepancy. Peter also feels that his prior appearances at select board meetings have not been adequately reported in the minutes and demanded that he be quoted verbatim in the minutes. Peter then stated he has been treated with disrespect by the Board for many years. As a Board member with no prior involvement in Peter's various issues with the Select Board, Regina was able to ask several questions about the matter. He is also disappointed that the Board chose not to have the location of the western end of Meader Rd marked by Chase & Chase Surveyors as a final step in their work of surveying the road.

Public Comment and Possible additions to the Agenda:

* Jeffrey Haslett had a couple of questions regarding the recordings of the meeting minutes.

*Andrew McGregor from the Caledonian Record asked if he could record the meeting via zoom.

The Board granted him permission.

*Regina asked to add to the agenda a discussion about MERP and info on the mini grants.

*Public Comment: Carl Bayer wanted to commend the Board's persistence on the MERP program. For information Carl stated, "The Blue Mtn Community Solar Array is put on hold for now".

Presentation by Kyle Bourtelle-Ryegate Associates/Vermont BioCarbon:

Kyle Bourtelle Project Manager of Vermont BioCarbon presented a power point of the upcoming project at Weesner Dr in East Ryegate. * Attached is a project summary. *

Treasurer's Report: The Board reviewed bills and signed orders.

Road Report: The Town received the Class II Roads & Resurfacing Grant, that will be used to pave a section of the Groton/Peacham Rd. Other paving in Town will include a section of Stone Rd, Hall Rd and Cowie Hill.

The Board signed the Structures Grant request for reimbursement form for Whitehill Culvert Project.

Nelson found 3x6x18 inch waste blocks for \$40.00 each to contain the sand pile. It will require 31 blocks to build a 3ft wall, 100ft long. The board agreed to purchase the blocks.

Started replacing a few culverts throughout Town. 2017 Freightliner side dump cylinder was sent to Littleton hydraulics to be repaired. The Loader was serviced. Received magnesium chloride to treat dusty roads.

FOR ACTION:

*Office of Delinquent Tax Collector Vacancy:

The Board reviewed the rules on filling the vacancy, "the Board should promptly fill the vacancy by appointment and the interim will serve until the Annual Town Meeting". Regina moved to appoint Cheryl Slayton as the Interim Collector of Delinquent Taxes, Darryl seconded the motion and it carried.

*Vermont State Police Contract: The contract was reviewed, Darryl moved to approve and sign the contract, Regina seconded the motion and it carried.

*The Board signed a letter to Richard Balzano, in response to his letter.

*The Board reviewed the 2 proposals for mowing Ticklenaked Beach and the sign in E. Ryegate from Tim White and George Carbee. Darryl made a motion to accept the proposal from Tim White, Regina seconded the motion and it carried.

*The Board received a proposal from Fremont Nelson Lawns for the Town Office, Town Hall and Mound System. Same price as last year. Andy moved to accept the proposal, Regina seconded the motion and it carried. The Board requests the Town Office be mowed more often.

*Class 4 Roads and Trail Policy-No action.

FOR INFORMATION:

Trash on N. Bayley Hazen Rd. The Board suggested if mail was found in the trash to report it to the Sheriff.

Public Comment and Additions to Agenda:

MERP x2

The Town received the mini grant of \$3999.00 from the MERP Program. Applications for the Large MERP Grant and assessments will start soon.

Public Comment: None

There being no further business, Darryl moved to adjourn at 9:05 PM Regina seconded the motion and it carried.

Elizabeth Page, Clerk for the Board