

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

Select Board Minutes
March 27, 2023
Town Office and Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrew Smith at 7:02 PM. Other members present: Regina Hazel and Darryl Perkins. Also present: William Hetu, Cheryl Slayton, Carl Bayer, Nelson Elder and Elizabeth Page.

Minutes of March 13, 2023 were reviewed. Darryl moved to approve the minutes as printed, Regina seconded the motion and it carried,
Public Comment and Possible Additions to the Agenda.

Carl Bayer asked to discuss the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP). This is the grant program for help with our Geothermal Project and Town Buildings.

Set date and time to meet with VTRAN's District 7 for the annual meeting and Whitehill culvert project. Darryl moved to accept the 2 additions to the Agenda, Regina seconded the motion and it carried.

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl asked about a bill from Great Planning Tech for computer support for services last July- November. The bill is for setting up the Select board laptops and maintenance of the clerk's and listers computers. The Board agreed to pay the bill for the Select Board laptops out of the ARPA Fund. The remainder will be paid out of Lister's and Town Office computer support. The Treasurer also received an invoice from NEK Broadband for their request for ARPA Funds. The Board has a few questions about the NEK Broadband and the spur projects on Witherspoon Rd and Barr Dr. The Clerk will ask Shawn Burroughs, NEK Rep. to attend the next meeting. The Board reviewed the remaining bills.

Road Report: Spring operations and some sanding and salting. The roads are slowly thawing. The motor finally came for the garage door. McCullogh Crushing(Blue Mountain Quarry) called to have Nelson open the further end of Stone Rd, but the road is not ready for truck traffic yet. Nelson will have trade numbers for the 2015 truck, bid opening for new 2024 truck and body at the next meeting.

*The annual meeting with VTRAN's and Whitehill culvert project will be April 7th at 10:00AM at the Town Office.

*A meeting with ARC Mechanical to get an updated estimate for the Geothermal Project is scheduled for April 11 at 10:00 AM at the Town garage.

*The Board instructed Nelson to hire an excavator to move the sand pile away from the boundary line with Richard Balzano.

FOR ACTION:

* The Board reappointed Shawn Burroughs as Ryegate's NEK Broadband Representative and Nelson Elder as the Alternate. Moved by Regina and seconded by Darryl and the motion carried.

*The proposal for Engineering Services/S. Ryegate Wastewater system from Weston & Sampson was reviewed.

Darryl moved to accept Weston & Sampson proposal for Annual inspection for S. Ryegate wastewater system, Regina seconded the motion and it carried.

*Little Rivers Health Care-Request for ARPA Funds. After discussion, Darryl moved to donate \$25,000.00 of ARPA Funds to LRHC for their Capital Fund, seconded by Regina and it carried.

*Class 4 Roads and Trail Policy- No discussion

FOR INFORMATION:

ACT 250 Jurisdictional Opinion/2853 Witherspoon Rd was reviewed by the Board.

Public Comment and Additions to the Agenda:

MERP (Municipal Energy Resilience Program) Grant-Regina applied for mini-grant and there is an upcoming webinar on this grant program that Board members will attend.

Public Comment: William Hetu asked how much it will cost for customers to acquire NEK Broadband.

The Board said this is one of the questions we will ask Rep. Shawn Burroughs when he attends the next meeting.

There being no further business. Darryl moved to adjourn at 8:35 PM, Andy seconded the motion and it carried.

_____ Elizabeth Page, Clerk for the Board