

Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Monday, December 14th, 2020
Via Zoom Meeting

Present: John Harvey, Nick Notte and Jayne Pratt

Others Present: Mary Ann Goulette, Mike Moser and Steffanie Bourque

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by John with the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Approval: Motion by Nick seconded by Jayne to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes Approval: Nick made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 9th meeting. Jayne seconded. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: None

Action Items:

- a) **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan** – The local team of Mary Ann, Jeff, Frank, Seth and Chief Skaza worked with Steffanie Bourque from the Rutland Region Planning Commission to formulate the draft plan. The plan is meant as a guide in identifying all natural hazards facing the community, ranking them according to local vulnerabilities and developing strategies to reduce risks from those hazards. Once formally adopted, the document is not legally binding but instead outlines goals and actions to prevent future loss of life and property. The draft will be open to public comment and then will be sent to Vermont Emergency Management for feedback. The Selectboard will then adopt the plan and it will serve for the next 5 years. The board thanked Steffanie for her assistance.

- b) **Mountain View Estate road and sewer request** – Dave Stewart is inquiring if the Town would consider taking ownership of the development's sewer and road. Discussion on the Town's road and sewer standards, settling of the road and completion of the lot development. Motion made by Nick to consider taking over the road and sewer of Mountain View Estate if the construction is according to Town's standards including pavement of the road after all six lots are sold and constructed. Seconded by Jayne. Motion approved.

Discussion Items:

- c) **Upcoming legislative changes to Town Meeting** – Ongoing discussion concerned about voting indoors, possibility move to May or mailing of ballots. Mailing would cost the Town approximately \$2K.

- d) **Town Manager Report** – looking at a historic preservation grant to restore windows at the Town Hall but having a hard time finding a contractor to call back. Water leak at the top of Highland Avenue.
- a. **Budget Discussions** – Keeping expenses down as much as possible as revenues are also down. Looking at little to no increase for next year, will finalize in January.
 - b. **Better Roads Grant** – Mary Ann and Frank putting a \$20,000 grant application for ditching on Clark Hill Road. Will need to hire Fabians to remove some of the ledge. Local match is 20%
 - c. **Covid Expense Reimbursement** – We have applied for reimbursement for the digitization grant of \$25,000 and \$21,000 for sanitization and facility improvements. We also received \$17,000 for 32 customers for help with past due water and sewer bills.
 - d. **Otter Creek Broadband Feasibility Report** – Mary Ann enclosed the report. The project is feasible but we will need to look for funding options and/or partnering with another District

Executive Session: Nick made a motion at 6:42pm seconded by Jayne to enter executive session for legal. Motion approved. Motion made by Nick seconded by Jaye at 6:46pm to exit executive session with no action taken. Motion approved.

Adjournment: Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:47pm and Jayne seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette