

Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Monday, April 11th, 2022
6:00 pm

Present: Chet Brown, Nick Notte and John Center

Others Present: Mary Ann Goulette, Mike Moser, Tom Lacz, Michael Skaza, West Rutland Girl's Varsity Basketball Team, coaches and parents.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Nick with the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Approval: Motion by Chet seconded by John to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Chet seconded by John to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 14, 2022. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: None.

Action Items:

- a) **Consider Fire Truck Purchase** – Michael and Tom have been working hard pulling together a quote for the new truck as there is a \$30-50,000 price increase on May 1, 2022. The truck is a Pierce pumper with a freightliner chassis with an approximate price of \$418,059. We would finance 50% and are exploring options. The old truck is too small is has low mileage but higher hours. Delivery is 20 months out. We will go out to bid to sell the old truck. The Motion was made by Chet to approve the purchase of the new Pierce Fire Truck for the price of \$418,000 subject to final contract modifications and financing to be finalized with Michael and Mary Ann. Motion approved.
- b) **Proclamation to recognize the 2022 West Rutland Girls Division IV Basketball Champions.** – Nick read aloud the proclamation. Motion made by Chet seconded by John to adopt the proclamation as presented. Motion passed.
- c) **Liquor License Renewal: Sweet Caroline's** – Motion made by Chet seconded by Nick to approve the first and third class liquor license for Sweet Caroline's. Motion approved.
- d) **Standard Allowance for ARPA Funds:** Many of the initial restrictions from Treasury have been lifted. VLCT is recommending to all municipalities elect the standard allowance for lost revenue. This will allow municipalities to use the funds to their discretion and to needs of their citizens. West Rutland is expected to receive approximately \$642,000. Motion made by Chet that the Town of West Rutland make the one-time irrevocable decision to elect the standard allowance approach for our ARPA award in the amount of \$642,690.98 to spend on the provision of government services

throughout the period of performance of the grant. Seconded by John. Motion approved unanimously.

- e) **Approve Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement for the Public Works** – This agreement is similar to last years and is between the RRPC and area municipalities to be able to request and received aid. Motion made by Chet seconded by John to adopt the 2022 Mutual Aid Agreement for Public Works Departments. Motion approved
- f) **Approve LEMP** - The plan is similar to last year with some updates on contact information. The Local Emergency Management Plan is part of the Vermont Emergency Management requirements. Motion made by John seconded by Chet to adopt the 2022 LEMP Plan. Motion approved unanimously.
- g) **Adopt NIMS** – Motion made by Chet seconded by John to adopt NIMS National Incident Management System and have Mary Ann Goulette sign the document. Motion approved.
- h) **Amendment to Traffic Ordinance: Pleasant Street Speed Limit** - John Center asked to amendment the speed limit to 35 from 25. In the last two weeks, there have been 4 issues of cars illegally passing. 25 is too slow and it is creating a safety hazard. It's very difficult to travel at such a low speed when traveling up the hill. The speed limit of 35 has been in place for 30+ years and there is no safety issue. Motion made by John seconded by Chet to amend the speed limit on Pleasant Street back to 35 mph. Seconded by Chet Motion approved.

Discussion Items:

- a) **Town Manager Report** - Mary Ann and Steve are working on some recreation area improvements such as a putting green and skateboard park. The baseball/softball season is in full swing.
- b) **Class 2 Paving Grant** – Mary Ann suggests we submit a grant for the paving of one mile of Whipple Hollow Road. The cost to reclaim and pave is approximately \$281,000. We are responsible for 20%. There are a number of other roads that need work plus the Class 1 roads need to be crack sealed.

Board Member Concerns:

Chet – A resident on Fairview inquired about the hedge on the corner of Clarendon Avenue. Mary Ann and Frank have inspected this issue a number of times and find there are no sight issues with the hedge. Where did the donation from Bernie Rogers go? Mary Ann said we ordered signage and items for the highway garage. Where does the ticket revenue go? Mary Ann said its posted to the ordinance/fines revenue account. Do we post a Selectboard vacancy? We will post a vacancy after the election if there is an open seat. The selectboard will solicit letters of interest and appoint a candidate. Steve Czachor – was recognized at the December, 2021 meeting for his 35 years of service as Town Forest Fire Warden.

John inquired about a ditching grant that the town of Ira was working on. Mary Ann said it was the Better Roads Grant and Grants in Aid that funds this work. We currently have these grants

for work on Clark Hill and Boardman Hill. John asked about what hours the sheriff patrols. Mary Ann will print the information for next meeting. Discussion about speeding. Can we get the speed enforcement sign for Main Street?

Mike Skaza did ask about the water running on Blanchard Ave. Mary Ann to price out an underground storm water solution.

Adjournment: Chet made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm and John seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette