

1 **SELECTBOARD MEETING**

2 September, 1 2021

3 Attending the meeting; Merrily Lovell, Maggie Gordon, Dennis Place, Phil Pouech (remotely), Mike Loner
4 (remotely), Joy Dubin Grossman, Todd Odit, Katelynn Cannon, Anthony Seagroves, Wyatt Seagroves,
5 Allen Bickmore, Samantha Bickmore, Charlie and Shirley Thomson. Attending remotely were; Doug Taff,
6 Anne Bueche, Barb Forauer, Philip Stolz, Mia, Jeremy Hulshof, Scooter MacMillan, Floyd Wood, Alicia
7 Marshall.

8 Merrily called the Vicious Dog Hearing Case #21HB00945 to order at 6:00 p.m.

9 Katelynn gave an account of the incident when her son was bitten. As a result of the attack, her son
10 needed surgery to his arm. She reports the dog is known to be vicious and attack people.

11 Phil commented about the reported behavior of the dog in the past. He added he was a member of the
12 Selectboard when there was a problem in the past. There was an order to keep the dog in a fenced in
13 area and the owners did not comply.

14 Mike said this is the 11th reported incident. The past orders required coyote rollers installed on the top
15 of the fence to be sure the dog could not get out. The owners have violated this order.

16 Maggie said it was also ordered the dog be muzzled and confined. Confinement did not work and she
17 does not know how long the order to muzzle was followed.

18 Phil asked if there was any more testimony. There was none. Phil said the Board can order to take
19 measures to provide protection as deemed necessary.

20 Phil moved the Board take the action necessary to have the dog destroyed. Second by Maggie. Phil
21 apologized to the family of the boy who was attacked. Motion voted and approved with 5 yes votes.

22 Phil asked what the next steps will be. Todd said a certified letter will be sent to the owners and a Police
23 officer will deliver the letter. Todd said the best case scenario is that the owner will bring the dog in to
24 be destroyed.

25 Merrily asked about the medical bills as in a previous incident the Marshalls were ordered to pay vet
26 bills for a dog that was bitten. Todd said that is a civil issue.

27 A resident said the Marshall's keep getting more dogs and asked if anything can be done to take the
28 dogs from the Marshall's.

29 Dennis asked about the Park Association and suggested they should step in.

30 Phil said he does not know if the Selectboard can do anything proactive. He said there should be
31 discussion with the Police Department, as the animal control officer, to bring any issues of dog bites to
32 the Selectboard immediately and perhaps come up with a policy for multiple complaints.

33 Mike would like to explore if the Town can bar a resident from owning an animal when there is a history
34 like this.

35 Floyd Wood, father of Alicia Marshall, joined the meeting by zoom at this point. He said he came into
36 the yard after the incident and told the police officer in charge he would take people into the house to
37 calm them down. He said he showed the officer the yard stating the dog cannot get out. He feels the
38 dog was let out by someone else.

39 Phil said the meeting was properly warned and stands by his motion.

40 Maggie moved to close the hearing at 6:40 p.m., second by Mike and approved.

41 Respectfully submitted,

42 Valerie Spadaccini, clerk of the Board