SELECTBOARD MEETING APPROVED

June 21, 2023

Attending the meeting; Merrily Lovell, Maggie Gordon, Mike Loner, Dennis Place, Todd Odit, Joy Dubin Grossman, Pat Mainer, Joe Pasteris

Attending remotely; Paul Lamberson, Margaret McNurlan, Alex Weinhagen, Anne Sullivan.

Meeting called to order at 6:00p.m. via zoom

Agenda Additions or Deletions

The Howard Center is not able to attend. In place of that item on the agenda there will be appointment of the Fire Warden.

Public Comment

none

Approve minutes of 6/7

Merrily moved to approve the minutes of 6/7. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

Selectboard Forum

Paul wanted to recognize Beth Royer who is leaving the library and all the wonderful work she has done for the library.

Mike said the DEIB committee is working on committee policies.

Merrily acknowledged the Summer Solstice.

Town Forest Committee Interview – Joe Pasteris

Joe frequently uses the Town Forest and has been working as a volunteer on the new signs and said in working with members of the committee he has a good understanding of the work they do.

Merrily asked Joe how he sees the Town Forest Committee fitting into the overall picture of Hinesburg. Joe said he sees it as a partnership with other committees, specifically the Trails Committee.

Merrily moved to appoint Joe Pasteris to the Town Forest Committee for a term expires on 4/1/2026. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

Appointment of Fire Warden

Todd said Ed Waite’s position expires the end of June and the recommendation is to re-appoint him.

Maggie moved to appoint Ed Waite as the Fire Warden for a three-year term. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

Consider Creation of Town Common Committee

Alex wrote a committee charge which is in the packet for tonight’s meeting. Maggie said she knows of four people interested in being on the committee.

Alex said once there is a committee, they can walk through the steps more deliberatively and with more energy.

Todd said that he and Alex met with the ACT 250 representative about a month ago to ask what if anything on the plan would require ACT 250 approval in addition to maintaining the barriers at the Police Station. He has not heard back yet.

Mike asked if it would make sense to broaden the scope so it does not apply to just one park, but to have a park committee so these things are all working together. The committee should be considering the green spaces and parks in Hinesburg collectively.

Maggie said that makes sense but she sees this as a short-term committee for the Town Common project. Maybe a parks committee could grow out of it.

Todd said if the Board decides to go ahead with this community there should be communication with the Recreation Commission to be sure plans are aligned and complement each other.

Merrily said she sees this as an ad-hoc committee that focuses on the Town Common and when the project is done the committee is done. Mike said the proposal is not an ad-hoc committee but set up with staggered terms.

Alex said he likes Mike’s idea to have a parks and recreation committee to augment the Recreation Commission.

Merrily moved to approve the creation of a Town Common Committee. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

Consider Adoption of Amended Personnel Policy

Todd said there has been one addition since last reviewed. A definition for a full-time seasonal employee has been included.

Merrily moved to approve the amendments to the personnel policy. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

Consider Approval of Request to use Highway Right of Way

Waitsfield Valley Telecom is expanding broad band service and requesting placing three poles on private property on Magee Hill Rd.

Dennis asked why they are not being required to go underground? The DRB requires underground for new development.

Todd said the proposal is not put the poles in the Town right of way, they will be on private property.

Merrily asked Dennis to look into this further. Dennis said he can check with Mitch.

Todd asked Joy to follow up with Alex.

Town Manager Report

* Aldrich & Elliott will be doing an addendum to the preliminary engineering report
* Crosswalks, stop bars and fog lines have been painted
* Met with Richmond and the State Police about dispatching and the Richmond contract. Dennis asked if we are charging enough to cover all costs including vehicle maintenance. Todd said he will evaluate it after a period of time. It seems we are but it may not be, we wanted to help them out. So far, we have not been patrolling, we respond when there are calls.

Margaret McNurlan said it is a good idea to help our neighbors. She did a calculation from the police budget and came up with $100 to $200 an hour cost for the basic expenses of the police department and feels we are subsidizing Richmond. Todd noted State Police contracts with communities’ charge $50 to $60 an hour. Margaret will share her figures with Todd.

* Joy said last week CGR was here and met with the focus groups. A survey has since been launched.
* Joy also noted some calls were received regarding the lead water service line inventory asking if it is real. Joy said as noted on FPF it is real and MSK engineering employees will now carry credentials with them to be more identifiable.

Approve Warrants and Payroll

Merrily moved to approve the warrants signed by herself and Maggie, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

Adjourn

Maggie moved to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Seconded by Merrily and approved with 5 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Spadaccini, clerk of the Board