

1 **SELECTBOARD MEETING**

2 November 17, 2021

3 Attending the meeting in person; Merrily Lovell, Maggie Gordon, Dennis Place, Phil Pouech, Mike Loner,
4 Todd Odit, Brian Bock, Chief Anthony Cambridge.

5 Attending the meeting remotely; Joy Dubin Grossman, Andrea Morgante, Chris Haviland, Scooter
6 MacMillan, Bob Heiser, Adam Morse, Pat Mainer, Lenore Budd, Carolyn Lawrence, Jonathan Trefry.

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8 Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

9 Agenda Additions or Deletions

10 None

11 Public Comment

12 Andrea asked that the Board mention the 11/30 informational meeting and the 12/7 vote regarding the
13 possible change to voting by Australian Ballot.

14 Selectboard Forum

15 Phil said he heard on VPR that the Legislature is getting together to look at passing legislation to allow
16 towns to do a mask mandate. If they do, the Selectboard will need to address the question. Merrily said
17 she does not hear anyone in Town saying they are looking for the mandate and added when in the local
18 stores people are wearing masks.

19 Merrily announced that there will be an informational meeting on 11/30 for the upcoming vote which is
20 on 12/7. This will be a Town wide vote on the question of whether we will vote the budget and public
21 questions by Australian Ballot.

22 Approve Minutes of 11/3/21 and 11/10/21

23 Phil moved to approve the minutes of 11/3 with any agreed upon edits. Seconded by Maggie and
24 approved with 5 yes votes.

25 Phil moved to approve the minutes of 11/10 with any agreed upon edits. Seconded by Maggie and
26 approved with 5 yes votes.

27 Consider Acquiring 291 +/- Acres for HTF and Conveying a Conservation Easement to the Vermont Land
28 Trust and Vt Housing and Conservation Board on the 1,125 acre HTF

29 Todd explained to move forward with what the Board previously voted to support, they will need to
30 approve a conveyance of the land to the Vermont Land Trust and the Vt Housing and Conservation
31 Board and post a notice of the conveyance. And authorize Merrily as Chair of the Board to sign the
32 conveyance as well as any further documents related to the transaction.

33 Phil said the Board supported this but has not yet approved it. Phil asked for an explanation of the fact
34 that the Town is not giving the land to the Land Trust, we are providing the conservation easement.

35 Bob H, of the Vermont Land Trust, said the Town takes ownership of the Carse property and is
36 conveying a conservation easement on the larger Town Forest. That will conserve it as a Town Forest
37 and the Town still owns the property. Phil noted we don't own the Carse land at this time. Bob said the
38 closing is scheduled for February. At a simultaneous closing the Town will acquire the land and at the
39 same closing convey the Town Forest to the Land Trust.

40 Pat M said just one management plan is required. The current one is due for review so the committee
41 will come back with a Management Plan for the entire 1100 acres.

42 Mike asked if there will be public comment for the Management Plan? Pat said there will be
43 opportunity for public comment.

44 Maggie moved to approve the Resolution of Conveyance of Easement to the Vermont Land Trust, Inc.
45 and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and post a notice of Conveyance of Interest in
46 Municipal Real Estate pursuant to 24.VSA §106(a)(1) for the same. Seconded by Mike with an
47 amendment to authorize Merrily to sign. Maggie accepted the amendment. Motion voted and
48 approved with 5 yes votes.

49 Consider Approving the Interim Management Plan for the 291 acre Carse Property Addition

50 Phil moved to approve the Interim Management Plan that includes the 291 acre Carse property
51 addition. Seconded by Maggie.

52 Pat said this was put together by a subcommittee of the Town Forest Committee with input from Bob H.
53 They held a public hearing at the last Town Forest Committee meeting.

54 Jon T said the plan was reviewed by the Land Trust and some suggested changes were made to the plan.
55 Motion voted and approved with 5 yes votes.

56 Phil asked Bob what future hurdles they have going forward. Bob said fund raising and some legal
57 documents that need to be completed.

58 Consider Appointments to the Trails Committee – Brian Bock

59 Brian said he is a frequent user of the trails and can support the Committee's mission through his
60 experiences.

61 Maggie asked if he has attended a Trail Committee meeting. Brian said he attended one meeting so far
62 at which he became aware of the Committee's involvement with the sidewalks and interconnectivity in
63 Town.

64 Merrily asked what he will bring from his small business experience. Brian said dealing with limited
65 resources in terms of budgets and people and prioritizing these.

66 Mike asked if he had any projects or vision as to what he would like to work on. Brian said the work on
67 the turnpike area which is always soggy was interesting and he would like to see more work done on the
68 perimeter trail.

69 Phil moved to appoint Brian Bock to the Trails Committee for a term to expire in 2024. Seconded by
70 Dennis and approved with 5 yes votes.

71 Review FY 23 Police Dept Budget and Discuss the Number of Full-time Officers for FY 23

72 Chief Cambridge was present to review the proposed budget.

73 Todd noted that it is not clear regarding the COPS Grant if the number of officers can be reduced. He
74 will seek an opinion from the Town Attorney.

75 Dennis asked what coverage is equal to how many officers? Merrily said she would like to know if
76 Charlotte is satisfied with State Police coverage.

77 Anthony said everybody is short on personnel, including the State Police. The State does not have the
78 staff to be able to cover Hinesburg. He does not think contracting with the State Police is an option.

79 Merrily asked if anything further has been done in attempting to share the work regionally. Anthony
80 said Hinesburg is doing well and has a great working model, do we want to take on another agencies
81 problem.

82 The Board asked to be provided with call data for CVU as well as the entire Town.

83 Todd said there is not enough time to make a fair comparison of 6 vs 5 officers. He recommends
84 including 6 for the budget and that will allow time to look at data. Mike said at least if we have the data
85 now, we can start to look at it.

86 Andrea mentioned the two things the Board is wrestling with; what are the citizens expectations for
87 level of service and officers' safety.

88 Todd will contact the Town Agent about the grant.

89 Phil said generally the salary costs will go up when the COPS Grant runs out. He asked if there is a policy
90 of police response for medical calls and the required level of medical training for the officers. Anthony
91 said there is no written policy – police are not primary responders but will assist. Phil said he would like
92 to have a written policy. Todd said when the ambulance comes on line it will be clear who responds.

93 The Board will come up with some questions to ask towns that are served by the State Police.

94 Discuss How the Budget Will be Warned for Town Meeting Vote

95 Todd gave examples of three options on presenting the budget.

96 The Board is leaning toward option three which is a hybrid of the way the budget has been warned in
97 the past while consolidating some departments and agencies into the general budget.

98 Discussion of Selectboard Goals

99 The goal of affordable housing was discussed. What does this goal mean for the Board, how can the
100 Board support this? Maggie suggested requesting the PC look at ways to implement this goal in specific
101 ways. Phil suggested including the Affordable Housing Committee in the discussion.

102 Review Budget Adoption Schedule

103 The 12/1 meeting will start at 6 p.m. to review the Fire Department budget prior to the regular SB
104 meeting.

105 12/8 Selectboard budget work session at 7p.m.

106 Consider Approval of Second Class Liquor License Application

107 Mike moved that the Selectboard, acting as the Local Liquor Control Board, approve a second class
108 liquor license to Bushel Market INC, dba Bushel Market. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes
109 votes.

110 Consider Approving Warrants

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

113 Executive Session Pursuant to 1 VSA §313(a)(3)

114 Phil moved the Board go into executive session Pursuant to 1 VSA §313(a)(3) to discuss the evaluation of a
115 public employee, premature disclosure of which could prejudice the Town. Seconded by Mike and approved
116 with 5 yes votes. The Selectboard entered executive session at 9:22 pm.

117

118 Phil moved to exit executive session at 9:26 pm. The motion was seconded by Mike. The motion passed 5-0.

119 Phil moved to approve the Selectboard's Town Manager evaluation form. The motion was seconded by Mike.
120 The motion passed 5-0.

121 Phil moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mike. The motion passed 5-0.

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123 Respectfully submitted,

124 Valerie Spadaccini, clerk of the Board

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