

1 **SELECTBOARD MEETING approved**

2 March 29, 2023

3 Attending the meeting; Merrily Lovell, Maggie Gordon, Mike Loner, Dennis Place, Paul Lamberson, Joy
4 Dubin Grossman, Taylor Melcher, Jackie Chase, Jon Robichard, Nick Baker, Eric Spivak, John Lyman,
5 Diane Barber, Rob Bast, Brennan Neil, Gill Coates, Bill Lippet, Aaron Miller, Andrea Morgante, Steven
6 Roy, Alan and Nancy Norris, James Mangrum

7 Attending remotely; Kat Moody, Kelsey, Mike Hoey, Pamela Robichaud, Alex Weinhagen, Jamie Cudney,
8 Patty Whitney, Patti Drew, Jonh King, Mary Jo, Dale Wernhoff, Chuck Reiss, Doug Taff, Steve Gladstone,
9 Katie Charbonneau, Marianna Holzer, Carl Bohlen, Claire Weis, Carrie Heustis, Lenore Budd.

10 Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. via zoom

11 Dog Bite Hearing for "Charger" of 3012 Baldwin Rd.

12 Merrily said there have been complaints about bites from the dog and the police provided reports on
13 the instances. She noted when the Selectboard has had complaints like this previously they have
14 required the dog to be evaluated by a trainer and training completed at the owner's expense.

15 Maggie noted there are few things the Board can require. The dog be confined and be muzzled when
16 outside. She noted the problem is that the dog has charged through the door several times and charged
17 off leash when leashed. They could require the dog be turned over to the Humane Society

18 Taylor, owner of Charger, stated she has history records from where they previously lived stating the
19 dog has never had an incident of aggression. She talked about the calm behavior in the house with her
20 children. The dog is 7 and has never been trained. Taylor said the statement of the Animal Hospital
21 noting previous aggression is false.

22 Maggie said she understands what Taylor is saying but noted the two sworn statements from people
23 who have been bitten and the Board needs to take action.

24 Taylor said they are taking precautions; they have purchased a harness and leash to attach the dog to a
25 post in the back yard. They plan to fence it in and the dog will be muzzled when outside. Taylor said she
26 is willing to look into training.

27 Board members agreed to require an assessment be done by April 12 and if correctable with training to
28 have follow up training.

29 Kat Moody spoke about the incident when the dog bit both her arms she said the dog bolted through a
30 closed door. She said it is reassuring these steps are being taken.

31 Pamela Robichaud said she appreciates all the steps being taken. She noted when she crossed the plane
32 of the front of the house the dog came through the front door and no one was home.

33 Merrily moved the Board require the dog be taken to Blue Line K9 or another equally qualified trainer
34 for assessment and hopefully training and the Board will receive documentation of this by April 12.

35 Seconded by Mike with an addition to the motion that the dog is muzzled, harnessed and only outside
36 with Luke walking him on leash.

37 Motion approved with the addition of Mike's comments with 5 yes votes.

38 Possible Executive Session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(3)

39 Merrily moved the Board go into executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(3) and include Joy
40 Dubin Grossman. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

41 Mike moved to come out of executive session. Seconded by Merrily and approved with 5 yes votes.

42 Presentation of Town Hall and Fire Station Improvement / Replacement Concepts

43 Steven Roy, of Weimann Lamphere Architect firm, reviewed the following areas of their proposal.

- 44 • Scope of study
- 45 • Town Hall building deficiencies
- 46 • Fire Station deficiencies
- 47 • Site evaluation

48 Questions and comments on the Town Hall proposal.

49 Andrea asked what the criteria was to determine square footage, the population projection and staffing
50 that is being accommodated. Steven said the process was going over with Joy and Todd determining the
51 long term needs and which groups of people they might want to bring into the building.

52 Paul L said he hopes this would have maximum roof top solar potential which he does not see in the
53 design. He also said to be aware of projects developing at the same time, for example there is space for
54 a teen center and the vestry building is proposing a teen center. He does not want to duplicate efforts.

55 Rob Bast noted the purchase of the adjoining property done years ago was for possible future expansion
56 of the Town Hall. He agrees with Paul's comment about solar and the roof lines.

57 Questions and comments on the Fire Department proposal.

58 Maggie asked the proposal price includes property purchase and building the necessary road. Steven
59 said it does. The price used is the appraised value.

60 John L asked about the cost of relocation in option A. Nick B said it was around \$10,000 and is factored
61 in. The plan is to house the trucks at the Town garage.

62 Merrily asked about proposing a flat roof in this climate. Steven said the design is based on a snow load
63 and the snow would melt and drain internally into roof drains. Merrily asked if it is possible for the
64 existing fire department to remain at that location while building is going on. Steven said it is not
65 possible due to lot size constraints.

66 Andrea asked with the comment about the Fire Department being located at the Town garage has there
67 been any consideration of making that site overall a permanent location. The current population
68 density is in that north east portion of the Town. Has there been ideas of using that Town owned land
69 for any kind of public facility. Nick said that parcel was not considered as being located in the Village is
70 optimal.

71 Brennan said he sees this as an opportunity to not only improve the Fire Department but also improve
72 the Town core. He likes option 1 the best.

73 Mike L asked about accessibility to the ambulance bay from inside the building. Steven said even
74 though there is a line on the plans it would be open to that space.

75 Paul L asked about the stormwater concerns at the Commerce St location. Steven said that is always an
76 issue. They have located the station on the dryer area.

77 Mike L asked about the road to Mechanicsville Rd in option 2. Steven said an engineered constructed
78 crossing over the water would be required. Mike asked if we go with option 2 what does the existing
79 Fire Station become. There are no plans for the building at this time.

80 Rob B said it would be useful to show the connection to Mechanicsville Rd for option 2 so people know
81 what it would look like.

82 Andrea asked what the population projection is that this is going to serve. What is basing the decision
83 for amount of equipment we will need. Understanding the programmatic criteria used for these
84 building ideas both Town Hall and Fire Department is critical for voters to understand what we are
85 looking at and how it compares to population growth in surrounding towns.

86 Alex W said he thinks three access points for option 2 is a lot

87
88 Approve Minutes of 3/15

89 Maggie moved to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

90 Approve Loan Quote for Police Cruiser

91 Maggie moved to approve the Union Bank loan option 2 for \$42,400 with a five year term and 4.65%
92 interest rate with the first payment on 7/15/23. Seconded by Paul and approved with 5 yes votes.

93 Consider Re-appointment to Trials Committee – James Mangrum

94 Mike moved to re-appoint James Mangrum to the Trail Committee for a three year term ending
95 3/31/2026. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

96 Consider Whether to Award Bid for Village Sidewalk Project

97 Alex commented that the bids were all much higher than the consultants estimate. The
98 recommendation is to conditionally accept the low bid contingent on award of grant funds (will know by
99 4/3). Also noted was for the Town to contribute \$40,000 of ARPA funds, the developer will agree to pay
100 an additional \$80,000 over what they have paid to date

101 Paul asked what will happen if the grant is not awarded. Alex said we would likely reject the bids and
102 continue to seek further funding. He is in favor of what the recommendation is and said he would like to
103 have some structure around the awarding of ARPA funds.

104 Andrea said the public does not have the benefit of reading what is in the memo and it would be good
105 to know what the costs are. Alex reviewed the project costs; low bid was \$366,281.00. Additional bids

106 were all over \$400,000.00. Using the low bid the total project cost will be \$477,000.00. Funding from
107 two bike/ped grants total \$235,00.00.

108 Mike moved to accept the low bid from Don Weston Alternative 2 in the amount of \$366,281.00, upon
109 the following conditions:

- 110 • Approval of limiting the developer's further contribution to the sidewalk to no more than
111 \$80,000.00, not including the \$12,777.65 they have already committed, and
- 112 • The Town receiving an award of no less than \$105,600.00 in DTF grant funds not including the
113 required local match, and
- 114 • The remaining local match obligation is paid for out of the \$100,000.00 in ARPA funds that the
115 Selectboard has discussed allocating toward new sidewalk construction

116 Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

117 Adjourn

118 Paul moved to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

119 Respectfully submitted,

120 Valerie Spadaccini, clerk of the Board

121

122