

MINUTES

SELECT BOARD MEETING

TOWN OF COVENTRY

Monday February 15 2021 AT 6:00 PM

Board Members Present:

Scott Briere, Chair; David Gallup; Phil Marquette

Town Officials Present:

Ned Connell, Town Administrator; David Barlow, Town Treasurer; Deb Tanguay, Town Clerk, Kate Fletcher, Assessing Clerk.

Guests:

Dominique Giroux, Chair Coventry Fire District – Prudential Committee; Rory Merritt; Martha Sylvester; Brian Carrol, The Chronicle; Robin Smith.

This meeting was offered to the public via Zoom video conference.

1. **Chair Scott Briere called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.**
2. **Changes or Additions to the Agenda**
 - No Changes were made to the agenda.
3. **Public Comment**
 - Martha requested that a quote be part of the minutes. The quote is listed below.
“The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all”-JFK
4. **Coventry Fire District**
 - Dom presented the current needs of the CFD to the Select Board.
 1. He is the only elected official and is in need of a Clerk as well as at least one other committee member before being able to conduct official fire district business.
 2. The Select Board clarified what actions can be taken to conduct daily business.
MOTION: Scott moved to allow David Gallup and Ned to collect additional information and guidance from VLCT on the next proper course of action and work with CFD in furthering the proper transaction of business.
5. **2021 Treasurers report**
 - David Barlow presented the Town Treasurers report for January 2021.
 - All accounts balanced as expected.
6. **VTrans Road Mileage Certification**
 - Ned presented a completed certificate to confirm the towns highway mileage.
 - Phil made the motion to certify the highway mileage for the year ending February 10, 2021 per VTrans regulations. Scott seconded the motion and it was accepted.
7. **Other Business**
 - Ned presented a letter from the Census bureau asking for any changes regarding the town border
 - The Select Board confirmed that there were no boundary changes and it will be reported as such.

- Ned informed the board that a state grant for \$3000 was applied for to assist the disposal of household hazardous waste.
- A supplement for the Newport Daily Express thanking first responders was discussed and will be issued in the near future.
- Deb reported that all absentee ballots have been mailed and expressed thanks for the help of David Barlow and Martha with the process.
- Deb reported that the annual Town Report due to printing error will be missing some graphics and photos but will contain the information needed. A discount will be given to the town for the mistake.
- An extension has been granted for the CTCL grant for \$5,000 from last year and will help cover costs of voting.
- David Barlow updated the board on the kitchen renovations. All renovations are on schedule however appliances are proving hard to find right now and may take longer to acquire.
- David Barlow also updated the board on the church. The boundary lines have been completed and now he is calling on the previously formed committee to assess the value for the deed restrictions.
- Martha expressed concern that the town is not as involved as they should be in the matters pertaining to Casella leaving the town lacking oversight and potential liability.
- Deb asked for the Town Resident Gym membership policy be on the next meetings agenda.

8. Warrants

- All warrants were discussed, accepted, and signed electronically.

9. Minutes

- **MOTION:** Phil moved to accept the minutes for January 4 2021, January 11 2021, January 18 2021, January 25 2021, February 1 2021, and February 15 2021 with changes as discussed. David seconded and the minutes were accepted.

10. Meeting adjourned

- Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:23pm.

Scott Briere/ Chair

David Gallup

Phil Marquette

Ned Connell/ Town Administrator