

Minutes

Select Board Meeting Town of Coventry Monday June 3, 2024

This meeting was recorded on Zoom and then posted to YouTube. The link to the Town's YouTube channel is at www.coventryvt.org.

Board Members Present

Scott Morley
Kerry Keement
Dan Webster

Town Officials Present

Phil Marquette, EMD
Matt Maxwell, Town Administrator
David Barlow, Treasurer
Israel Sanville, Planning Commission

Public Present

Bobby walls-Thuma
Dawn walls-Thuma

1. Order

Matt called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Persons present introduced themselves.

2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

Treasurer Report moved to the beginning

3. Allow for public comment

Dawn and Bobby Walls-Thuma from Nebelski Road were in attendance to speak about the noise and drug issues on their road. Bobby Walls-Thuma thanked the select board for an increased sheriff's presence and stated that an eviction notice has been served on the occupants of the property. However, the big issue right now is the noise level in the evenings. Dawn Walls-Thuma said that the noise affects the health of everyone on the road making it difficult to sleep or get comfortable. Dawn has been collecting data on the noise disruptions over the past few years and shared this info with the board. Both Bobby and Dawn would like to see a noise ordinance put in to place so that the police can make noise related arrests when things become too loud. The board thanked Bobby and Dawn and will look into an ordinance for town meeting if it becomes necessary.

4. Treasurer's Report

David Barlow went over the April Treasurer's Report with the Select Board, April was not a busy month for the town. \$35,000 in reserve spending went to East Engineering for work on Coventry Station Road. Dave B got rid of the "do-to, froms" as instructed by the audit report. There is still some adjusting that has to occur for the solid waste fund. Dave B mentioned that interest came back on some CD's the town previously purchased. Dave B shared a budget summary dated May 30, which showed a snapshot of the town finances as we close in on the end of the fiscal year. There was some discussion on moving payment of the paving and town truck to fiscal year 2025 and the board would like to see a breakdown of all grants that the town is engaged with. The board thanked David for his report.

5. Coventry Fire District – Prudential Committee Vacancies

Scott M and Matt M met with Dom Gervais of the Coventry Fire District. Scott M explained the current situation with the CFD, currently there are two vacancies on the Prudential Committee. It falls under Select Board authority to fill the vacancies. A mailer will be sent out to Fire District residents to find individuals to fill the two vacancies.

6. ARPA Funds - CFD

The Select Board decided not to approve the warrant for the CFD until they can see some invoices for the proposed work.

7. Coventry Fall Festival

Phil Marquette was present to update the board on the Fall Festival. Everything is progressing nicely and Coventry should expect another great day of music, food, and vendors. Phil had the fireworks contract for approval by the board. Dan W mentioned that the race he is organizing for the festival will begin at 9am. Phil also said there has been some discussion with the local ATV club of doing a poker run to coincide with the Fall Festival. Dan W made the motion to approve and sign the fireworks contract. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous.

8. Hancock Hill – Gravel Pit Parcel

Scott M spoke with the town attorney about the deed that town entered into with the Ofsuryk family when purchasing the gravel pit and adjoining land on Hancock Hill. Scott M and Matt M met with the Ofsuryks' and discussed how to update the deed so that both parties are happy and protected. Matt M will reach back out to the Ofsuryk family before the June 17 board meeting.

9. Salary and Wage Approval

The board was presented with a draft salary and wage sheet with a 3.2% cost of living adjustment for all employees. The board discussed the sheet and what changes they would like to see made

before final approval at the June 17 meeting.

10. Security Light at Old Ballfield

The select board decided to leave the light disconnected for the time being. If the need arises to have it functioning, they will contact Vermont Electric.

11. Other Business

There was a brief discussion on the maintenance of the town's dry hydrants.

12. Approval of Minutes – 5/20/2024

Kerry K made the motion to approve the minutes. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

13. Warrants

Scott M made the motion to accept the Warrants, except the CFD. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

14. Executive Session – Personnel

Dan W made the motion to enter Executive Session for a personnel discussion. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous. Executive Session entered at 6:34pm. The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:16pm.

Scott M made the motion for pay scale for full time employees starting July 1, 2024 to be as follows: Josh Larocque \$26.80/hour, John Buchanan \$28.90/ hour, Nathan Standish \$33.00/ hour, Matt Maxwell \$37.00/ hour. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous. The Select Board thanked all their employees for doing a great job.

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:20pm