

## Minutes

### Select Board Meeting Town of Coventry Monday July 22, 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](http://www.coventryvt.org).*

#### **Board Members Present**

Scott Morley  
Kerry Keement

#### **Town Officials Present**

Deb Tanguay, Town Clerk  
Matt Maxwell, Town Administrator  
David Barlow, Treasurer  
Israel Sanville, Planning Commission  
Kate Fletcher, DTC

#### **Public Present**

Katherine Sims  
Chris Roy  
Karen Hack

#### **1. Order**

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

#### **2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda**

None

#### **3. Allow for public comment**

Katherine Sims introduced herself to the Select Board. Katherine is running for State Senate in Orleans County and is in the process of visiting towns and attending meetings in the county. Katherine explained that she has served two terms in the State House of Representatives and is highly motivated to serve the community. Kerry K and Katherine spoke about the high cost of housing, food, and fuel and what can be done at the State level to make these staples more affordable. Scott M and Katherine discussed the flooding that has occurred over the past couple years and the need for infrastructure improvements along the major rivers in Coventry.

Scott M and Katherine also talked about the future of Waste Services in Vermont and the direction things will go once the landfill in Coventry has reached its capacity. The Select Board thanked Katherine Sims for attending and speaking with them.

#### **4. Masonic Motorcycle Ride – Pat Sloan**

Scott M explained that the motorcycle ride was a charity that Pat Sloan had supported for years. Scott M feels that the town should be consistent in what it does after the passing of a town official and give as good as we can for their memory. Kerry K made the motion to donate \$500.00 to the Masonic Motorcycle Ride in memory of Pat Sloan. Scott M made the second and the vote was unanimous. Kerry K explained the nature of the charity to Chris Roy.

#### **5. Coventry Fire District Business**

Scott M shared that he had received the CFD by laws and had a very productive meeting with Dom Gervais on Friday July 19<sup>th</sup>. Scott M detailed some of the CFD issues that he and Dom went over and possible solutions to each. Kerry K suggested that Board might consider a special meeting at a later time in the evening to ensure that Dom is able to attend. Kerry and Scott discussed sitting down with Dom and the CFD's attorney, as well as, the town attorney to try and get business of the Fire District back to acceptable levels. The Board heard from Kate Fletcher, a Coventry resident and member of the Fire District. Kate asked if the Select Board was aware of how Fire District business was being conducted without any officials, annual meeting, or budget. Scott M answered Kate by explaining to the best of his knowledge how the CFD is currently running its business. Scott stated that the town stance and the CFD stance differ at the moment and probably needs a legal interpretation. Scott and Kerry both agreed that it is necessary for Fire District members to come to a meeting to discuss the future of water service in the village. Scott said that the town may end up managing the Fire District, as is the case in many towns throughout Vermont. Scott M and Chris Roy had a discussion about the issues with the Fire District going back several years. Katherine Sims and Kate F both added comments to the discussion regarding public records from the Fire District and water quality testing. CFD business will remain an agenda item until fully resolved.

#### **6. Dog Ordinance Update**

Copies of the current and updated dog ordinance were sent to the town attorney for review. The feedback from the attorney will be sent to Deb T and Renee Falconer for consideration and the Select Board will review at the next meeting.

## **7. Town Landscaping**

Scott and Kerry both felt that the town needs to spend some money on landscaping in the village. Dave Gallup did a great job with it when he worked for the town, but since his departure the role has been left unfilled. Kerry and Scott discussed who is responsible for certain town maintenance and how to ensure it is being completed. Scott M and Dave B talked about where the cost of some flowers would come out of the budget. Kerry K made to motion to authorize spending \$1000 for village landscaping. Scott M made the second and the vote was unanimous.

## **8. Fall Festival – ADA Contract**

The Select Board reviewed the contract for traffic control at the Fall Festival in August. Kerry K made the motion to accept and sign the contract with ADA. Scott M made the second and the vote was unanimous.

## **9. Phish Film**

There is a film about the Coventry Phish concert being released on the 20th anniversary of the event. The film maker was hoping that Coventry would host a pre release screening of the 30-minute film sometime before August 4<sup>th</sup>. The Select Board was supportive of the idea.

## **10. Other Business**

Deb T and Kate F discussed the tax sale from May and an unlanded mobile home that was purchased at the sale.

## **11. Approval of Minutes – 7/8/2024**

Kerry K made the motion to approve the minutes of 7/8/2024. Scott M made the second and the vote was unanimous.

## **12. Warrants**

Kerry K made the motion to accept the Warrants. Scott M made the second and the vote was unanimous.

## **13. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:27pm

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