

Minutes
Select Board Meeting
Town of Coventry
Monday September 9,2024

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 I Webster

Town Officials Present

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

Public Present

Barbara Devost
Rick Devost
Moe Jacobs
Tammy Jacobs
Chris Roy
Martha Sylvester

1. Order

Matt called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm. Persons present introduced themselves.

2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

None

3. Allow for public comment

Rick Devost spoke to the Select Board about the need for a mirror at the bottom of Spencer Hill Road that will allow motorists to see the traffic on Route 14 before they enter the roadway. Kate F and Chris R thanked the Road Crew for the work they did on their driveways.

4. Hazard Mitigation Plan

The town received one bid on the RFP sent out for updating the

town Hazard Mitigation Plan. OPH Consulting was the bidder and also did the previous plan for the town. Kerry K made the motion to award the bid to OPH Consulting. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

5. Coventry Fire District Business

Scott M spoke to those in attendance about the town's efforts in attempting to fix some issues within the CFD. After speaking with the town attorney and consulting with VLCT the town now accepts that Dom Gervais is a Prudential Committee Member, and the Select Board is now prepared to appoint two of its members to the Prudential Committee. Martha Sylvester read a prepared statement detailing her past experiences as a member of CFD and how the issues facing the CFD today are similar to those from previous years. The Board thanked Martha for her statement. The Select Board briefly discussed the idea of appointing Select Board Members to the Prudential Committee and all agreed that it is the logical next step for the town. Kate F commented on the lack of transparency within the CFD and had a discussion with Scott M on gaining access to the CFD financials. Scott M made the motion to appoint Kerry K and Scott M to the Prudential Committee of CFD #1. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous. Chris Roy asked the board about where CFD records are kept and whether they are backed up in case of emergency.

6. Maple Ridge Traffic Concerns

Moe Jacobs spoke to the board about a need for increase in law enforcement presence on Maple Ridge and the surrounding roads. Moe said that speeding and traffic at all hours of the night is making it uncomfortable for residents on the road. Tammy Jacobs asked when Alderbrook road would be striped and was told soon, it is a State responsibility as Alderbrook is a Class 2 Road. The Select Board told Tammy and Moe that they will speak with OCSD about increasing the number of patrols in the Maple Ridge area.

7. Dog Ordinance

Tabled until next Select Board Meeting – 9/23/2024. We did not hear back from the Town Attorney

8. Liquor Control License – Royer's

Dan W made the motion to approve the license for the new owners of Royer's Mini Mart. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous.

9. MERP Grant Application

There will be some grant funds available from the State of

Vermont to help with municipal energy improvements. The Select Board told the TA to include all town buildings in the grant application process and then decisions will be made depending on the amount of grant funds received.

10. Airport Road – Class 2 with Irasburg

The Town of Irasburg would like to upgrade their section of Airport Road from a class 3 to a class 2. This would require Coventry to upgrade their class 3 section of Airport Road to a class 2. The board was in favor of the move and directed the TA to begin the process with the State.

11. River Road Right of Way

The Road Crew completed work on a Right of Way for resident Daniel N. Webster. The ROW was repaired because the town was responsible for the culvert being removed. The Select Board prepared a letter for Mr. Webster saying the future maintenance is now his responsibility. Dan W made the motion to sign and send the work completion letter. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous.

12. Other Business

Scott M spoke to some of the residents on 44 Road and let them know that Coventry will not be plowing any class 4 roads this winter. The Select Board also stated that they are in favor of looking into possibly reclassifying 44 Road as a class 3 due to the number of houses on the road and possible future development. The Select Board spoke with Phil M about EMD duties in town and how they can provide assistance to what is a very important position. Phil outlined a number of training seminars that can be attended either virtually or in person. Phil stated that the more people that have EMD knowledge the easier it is to coordinate responses. Kerry K will take on the EMD liason position for the Select Board.

13. Approval of Minutes

Dan W made the motion to approve the minutes of 8/19/2024. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous

14. Warrants

Kerry K made the motion to accept the warrants. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:40 pm

DRAFT