

Town of Panton
Select Board Minutes
May 27, 2014/6:30P.M.

In Attendance:

Select Board
John Viskup
Beth Tarallo

Administration:
Diane Merrill, Treasurer
Jean Miller, Clerk

Guests:
Linda Goodspeed John Goodspeed
Teena Hayden Heidi Mahoney
Rayne Herzog Beverly Biello
Ed Biello Cheryl McEwan
Howard Hall

John Viskup called the meeting to order at 6:30.

Review/Approval of May 13 and May 20, 2014 minutes of Select Board Meeting – John Viskup made a motion to accept the minutes of May 13 and May 20, 2014. Beth 2nd. All approved.

Howard Hall – Select Board Interest – Howard Hall spoke to the Select Board regarding his interest in the open seat on the Select Board.

Liquor/Tobacco Application/Linda Goodspeed – Linda and John Goodspeed are reopening the Panton General Store. They are applying for a liquor and tobacco license. Beth Tarallo will review the process for the Select Board before signing the license to make sure the board follows proper procedure.

Public Comment – Beverly Biello and Cheryl McEwan came in to discuss taxes/delinquencies. John Viskup explained that Barbara Fleming, Delinquent Tax Collector and Kevin Brennan, Attorney are reviewing the delinquent tax policy and drafting some updates. Beth Tarallo told them that the Select Board is meeting with Barb on a regular basis to discuss the delinquencies. Beverly suggested that the Select Board give the Delinquent Tax Collector an expectations checklist so there would be no question on what needs to be done and the process could be evaluated. Beth explained that the challenge in small Municipal Government that many people are elected and that the Board does not have oversight over other elected officials. The Select Board cannot give them parameters and hold them accountable. Moving to appointed positions for Clerk, Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector, the Select Board will have the ability to provide feedback and reviews, as these people will report to the Board.

Beverly also thought that the Town might look for other sources of revenue such as solar fields, cell towers etc. She will start looking into some of these and other options to help bring in more revenue for the Town. Beth said that when the next budget is started that the Board would look at the revenue sources and see how long they have been the same, see if there are potential areas for changing fees slightly to increase revenue. Cheryl McEwan wondered if there was some way to give people some incentive to get things started and then little by little adjust it.

Ed Biello brought up the issue of junk. He would like to see something done to clean up the junk at various residents in Town. John Viskup stated that the Select Board has been and is working on a junk ordinance but it is not completed. Beth explained that a draft would be sent to VLCT for legal review and once the Board was satisfied with it, the Select Board would then need to adopt and post it for 60 days before it would go into effect, if it is not appealed.

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Teena Hayden – DRB Board Interest – Teena Hayden spoke to the Select Board regarding her interest in a position as an alternate on the DRB.

Jean Miller will check with the VLCT to see if there can be more than one alternate for the DRB.

Heidi Mahoney – Select Board Interest – Heidi Mahoney spoke to the Select Board regarding her interest in the open seat on the Select Board.

Race Vermont – Lake Champlain Maritime Museum – Fund Raiser – Rayne Herzog – The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum has hired Racevermont.com to run a canoe/kayak triathlon. The first leg of the race is a canoe/kayak that goes toward New York a mile out and a mile back. Participants will then get on their bikes ride out Basin Harbor Road to Panton Road, take a right on to Panton Road following the flow of the traffic to Jersey Street bear right to Button Bay Road returning to Maritime Museum get off their bikes run out School Street and back to the Museum. There will be a lead vehicle and a follow vehicle which will pick up signs that have been placed along the route and to help ensure safety of the participants.

Beth Tarallo made a motion to give approval for Rayne Herzog/Race Vermont to use the Town of Panton's roads for the triathlon to be held August 2, 2014. John 2nd. All approved.

A certificate of Insurance will be sent to the Town.

Review & Approve Bills - Bills were reviewed and approved.

Financials will be reviewed at the June 10th Select Board meeting.

Letter – Environmental Court – Beth Tarallo made a motion to appoint Ed Hanson, Zoning administrator as the spokesperson and contact for the Vermont Superior Court Environmental Division regarding appeal of the DeGraaf Change of Use Permit. John 2nd. All approved.

Draft of Drug & Alcohol Policy for CDL Drivers/Driver w/Commercial Vehicle Licenses – Review – This is a very large policy to review. It is tabled and will be on the agenda of June 24, 2014 for review.

Reserve Fund Rainy Day Fund – This fund has been discussed by the Select Board at previous meetings but has never been set up. To establish this fund it will need to be placed on a warrant for the voters to vote on at Town Meeting. There will need to be two articles; one to establish the fund and the second to fund it. It must have voter approval before it can be set up. The Select Board will start work on a policy of how the reserve fund can be used and the process. Then if the Reserve fund is approved by the voters and they ask how it will be used, there will already be a draft of a policy that the Select Board is comfortable with and it can be explained to the voters.

Financial Policies Check In – There are quite a few policies that fall under this category, ten to thirteen. A list will be made and it will be prioritized of which to establish first.

Dental Renewal and ANWSU Billing – The prices have not changed on the dental policy. In 2012 a decision had been made not to extend dental coverage to age 26 on dependents. Discussion ensued regarding this decision.

Beth made a motion to continue dental coverage and to extend dependent coverage to age 26 until June 30, 2015. John 2nd. All approved. This will not change what the Town is currently paying for dental coverage.

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It was brought to the Town's attention that other Towns bill ANWSU for their expenses when a there is a revote on the school budget. Panton's Treasurer wanted to check with the Select Board for their approval. The Select Board approved and ANWSU will be billed.

Microfilm at State Archives – Some of the microfilm that has been stored at the State Archives may have vinegar syndrome which may have caused some deterioration. The Select Board have given their approval to have Good-Way Document Service access the microfilm to see if any damage has taken place.

John made a motion to reappoint Geraldine Marshall to service a 3 year term on the DRB Board. Beth 2nd. All approved.

Correspondence – Correspondence was reviewed.

John adjourned the meeting at 10:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Jean Miller, Clerk