

Town of Panton
Select Board Minutes
June 24, 2014/6:30 P.M.

In Attendance:

Select Board:

John Viskup, Chair
Beth Tarallo

Administration:

Diane Merrill, Treasurer
Jean Miller, Clerk

Guests:

J. Paul Sokal
Paul Tippett
Gerard Vorsteveld

Howard Hall
Ed Biello
Heidi Mahoney

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

Review/Approval of June 10, 2014 minutes of Select Board Meeting – J. Viskup approved the minutes of the June 10, 2014 Select Board meeting as amended. B. Tarallo 2nd. All approved.

Howard Hall – Select Board Candidate – H. Hall expressed his interest in the open seat on the Select Board. The discussion that ensued was regarding what the Select Board was trying to accomplish in the near future and what Howard thought he could bring to the Board.

Public Comment – Paul Tippett suggested that the Select Board appoint a Search Committee. The Search Committee would look for people within the Community when a seat became open/vacant on a Board/Committee who had qualifications/experience in that specific field. The Select Board would then make a selection from the list of candidates to fill the vacancy. Paul Sokal added that some residents may not respond to the posting because they would not go to the bulletin board, website or even see the posting but a personal request might make a difference.

P. Tippett asked how the Select Board picked between candidates. B. Tarallo explained that there is a legally required process for posting a mid-term open Select Board seat that is followed. When there is a vacant seat on a Board it is posted in different requisite places in the Town. For the recent vacancy, the board posted notice on the website, front porch forum and sent notice to the Town email list. The open seat is appointed by the Select Board until the next Town meeting when the residents would elect a person to fill the seat for the remainder of the term.

P. Tippett wanted to know when he could see the new delinquent tax policy. J. Miller told him she would email him a signed copy tomorrow.

Ed Biello asked about the Junk Ordinance. The DRB is reviewing the ordinance. The DRB will send the Select Board their comments. The Select Board will make edits if any and sent the ordinance to VLCT for their legal review. If/when the Select board adopts the ordinance; it would then be posted for 60 days so residents could appeal/make any comments or suggested changes. After the 60 day posting period the ordinance would be in effect if no appeals were made.

Heidi Mahoney – Select Board Candidate – H. Mahoney expressed her interest in the open seat on the Select Board. The discussion that ensued was regarding what the Select Board was trying to accomplish in the near future and what Heidi thought she could bring to the Board. During the discussion Heidi

expressed her opinion that she felt that Howard Hall would be the better candidate with what the Select Board was looking to accomplish. Heidi felt that she would be an excellent candidate also and would

like a seat on the Board but with what needed to be accomplished Howard had vast experience and expertise and would be a better fit at this time for the Select Board position. Hats off to Heidi! Thank you for your caring and sharing with the Town of Pantton and expressing your honest opinion and concern for what needs to be accomplished in Pantton.

Parking Ordinance Check In – The amended Parking Ordinance is now in effect. A pdf will be sent to Paul Sokal and Beth Tarallo for posting. The parking tickets have been reviewed by VLCT and are now ready to go to the printers to get a cost for printing.

Fund Balance – Borrowing – Diane Merrill asked if she could move the excess funds from the last two years in a separate account so it was easier to track and if these funds could be used to offset borrowing in lieu of taxes if necessary. D. Merrill will check with VLCT to check the legal process for using a prior year surplus to offset borrowing. Pantton would need, for example, to vote on proposed articles as what to do with surplus funds from prior years at Town Meeting. There is almost nine months until then which poses the question whether using these funds to offset borrowing in lieu of taxes can be done before the Town votes on it. In this scenario, the money would be borrowed in lieu of taxes and be replaced as taxes come in.

Open Meeting Law Changes/Compliance – Minutes of meetings are supposed to be available within five days of the meeting. These are calendar days. The minutes now need to be posted on the website not just available within the five days.

Designating Locations – B. Tarallo made a motion to post the agendas at the Town Hall on the outside bulletin board, on the bulletin board at the Little School House adjacent to the Town Garage, on the bulletin board on Jackson Road and on the municipality's website. J. Viskup 2nd. All approved.

Municipality's Website – The website will have the agendas and minutes posted.

Review/Approve Bills – Bills were reviewed and approved.

Financials – Financials were reviewed. J. Viskup made a motion to accept the financials as submitted by the Treasurer dated May 31, 2014. B. Tarallo 2nd. All approved.

Dog License Update - 100 dogs have been registered to date. Chris Morris, dog warden will be given a list of the registered dogs, dogs that were registered last year and not this and people who are known to have dogs but have not registered them to date. She will follow up with these people as needed.

CDL Drug/Alcohol Policy Review – PACIF and the VLCT Municipal Assistance Center has sent the Town a revised CDL Model Drug & Alcohol policy. The Select Board reviewed and made revisions to the current draft policy to fit Pantton. Once the revisions are incorporated the policy will be sent to VLCT for their review regarding the changes that have been made.

CDL Regulation/Enforcement Changes and Potential Impact on Pantton – B. Tarallo has been in contact with Chris Laberge, Sr. Loss Control Consultant at VLCT, who reported there are no changes to DMV

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requirements. They are just enforcing some of the existing laws. The impact on Panton is to: 1) Make sure copies of CDLs are on file and up to date; 2) If any of the drivers work for someone else and are required to have a medical card, for their other work, then the Town needs to have a copy on file to follow best practices recommended by VLCT PACIF; 3) Every year the Town should request a driver's record check for all Town drivers from DMV.

Treasurer, Clerk & Delinquent Tax Collector – Progress Update on Draft Job Description and Review/Feedback Process – B. Tarallo has done a draft of the job descriptions of Treasurer, Clerk & Delinquent Tax Collector. She has received some feedback from Treasurer and Clerk and will make some edits. She needs to review Delinquent Tax Collector job description with Delinquent Tax Collector. This topic will be added to the next agenda for further review and discussion.

B. Tarallo made a motion to appoint Howard Hall to serve on the Select Board until the next Town Meeting. J. Viskup 2nd. All approved.

Correspondence – All correspondence was reviewed.

J. Viskup adjourned the meeting at 10:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Jean Miller