

DRAFT
Town of Panton
Select Board Minutes
February 23, 2016 - 6:15 P.M.

In Attendance:

Select Board:

Howard Hall

Beth Tarallo

John Viskup, Chair(6:35P.M.)

Administration:

Jean Miller, Clerk

Diane Merrill, Treasurer

Guests:

Doug Dows

Jason Fearon

Jeff Glassberg

Hans Vorsteveld

Diane Raphael

B. Tarallo called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M.

B. Tarallo made a motion to add Jersey Street Mr. Porter's alleged salvage yard violation to the agenda. H. Hall 2nd. All approved.

B. Tarallo made a motion to add Town Meeting Day prep to the agenda. H. Hall 2nd. All approved.

H. Hall made a motion to add Town Hall Repairs and Status of Solar Array Project to the agenda. B. Tarallo 2nd. All approved.

Public Information Hearing on any Public Question to be Voted on by Australian Ballot at Town Meeting – All articles on the warning for Town Meeting were reviewed.

Review/Approve Minutes of February 9, 2016 – **B. Tarallo made a motion to accept the minutes of February 9, 2016 as drafted. J. Viskup 2nd. All approved.**

Review/Approval of Bills – Bills were reviewed and approved.

Review Paystubs – Paystubs were reviewed and approved.

Financials – Financials were reviewed. **B. Tarallo made a motion to accept the Financials dated January 31, 2016 as presented by the Treasurer. J. Viskup 2nd. All approved.**

Authorize the Opening of the Reserve Fund Acct. – **B. Tarallo made a motion to authorize Treasurer, Diane Merrill to open up an account with the National Bank of Middlebury to establish a Contingency/Rainy Day Reserve Fund in the amount of \$47,216. H. Hall 2nd. All approved.**

B. Tarallo made a motion to add Jean Miller, Town Clerk as a signer on all National Bank of Middlebury Accounts. J. Viskup 2nd. All approved.

Act 46 Update/Discussion w/Jeff Glassberg, ANWSU Chair – Unification of the schools is mandated and will happen by 2018. There are some incentives if the Towns vote to approve this unification before 2018: decision on how to come together can be made at the local level, small school grants, counting of phantom students and property tax incentives. If this doesn't pass by 2018 these incentives will be lost. Local management of the schools is one of the concerns.

Panton General Store – Diane Raphael – Some residents from Panton and West Ferrisburgh are in the early stages of planning to purchase the Panton General Store and run it as a non-profit coop. They are looking for some major investors. They have talked to Historic Preservation and were told that the building and coop should be run under separate ownership so if the coop fails that they would not lose the building. They would like to know if residents in the surrounding communities/areas are interested in such a project and are putting together a survey for responses.

Public Comment – None

Town Hall Repairs – Efficiency Vermont walked through the building and gave some recommendations. There will be an efficiency energy audit done on the building. The assistant Fire Marshall also did a walkthrough of the building and will

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Send a list of things that need to be done.

The upstairs bathroom is fixed and will be useable for Town Meeting.

Town Meeting Prep – Select Board is scheduling an additional meeting on February 25, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. to finalize Town Meeting prep. SB reviewed what has already been done to prepare and what still needs to be done.

Jersey Street/Porter alleged Salvage Yard Violation – Shawn Donovan with Environmental Conservation sent a violation for running a salvage yard without a permit to R. Porter. S. Donovan has told B. Tarallo that some improvements have been made. It is a long process. All scrape metal will have to be moved into the garage. He has also taken pictures. In the Spring the property will be viewed again. The threshold on the Town of Panton's Junk Ordinance is lower than the State's. Enforcement of Panton's Junk Ordinance will be addressed at April 12, 2016 Select Board meeting.

Correspondence – All correspondence was reviewed.

Status of Solar Array Project (Executive Session) - At **9:30 P.M. motion by B. Tarallo that premature public disclosure of legal counsel's advice re: legal options in connection with the Select Board's deliberations concerning the proposed Green Mountain Power solar field on Panton road, as advised by counsel, will place Panton at substantial disadvantage. H. Hall 2nd. All approved.**

Motion by B. Tarallo to enter executive session in order to discuss the proposed solar field and hear legal counsels' advice, as communicated by H. Hall. H. Hall 2nd. All approved.

9:55 P.M. B. Tarallo made a motion to exit executive session. H. Hall 2nd. All approved.

No action taken.

Select Board to warn special meeting March 3, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss Green Mountain Powers proposed solar field on Panton Road and negotiations.

10:00 P.M. motion by B. Tarallo to adjourn. H. Hall 2nd. All approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Miller, Clerk