



Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Selectboard Meeting

August 26, 2019

Selectboard Member's present: Chair Howard Hall and Teresa Smith. Also present was Town Clerk/Treasurer Pam Correia and David Rheume.

At 6:31pm, Howard Hall called the meeting to order.

2. There were no additions, removals, or adjustments to the agenda.
3. Howard Hall moved to approve the August 5, 2019 minutes, with no corrections. Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed. The Board tabled the approval of the August 12, 2019 minutes.
4. Public Comments – There were no public comments.
5. Arnold Bay Boat Ramp – Pam Correia presented the Board with two permits associated with the Arnold Bay Boat Ramp. David Rheume and Rick Cloutier were present seeking approval for the project. Pam explained to the Board that the Application for Department of the Army Permit is necessary to authorize the work at Arnold Bay. The work would entail a concrete boat launch 15' x 60' long with added fill as needed for safe and proper access to the ramp. The ramp would extend 40' beyond the mean water level, an excavator will be used to set the ramp, and there will be a turbidity curtain used during ramp placement to control silt from the lake. During construction of the ramp, it is the intent to keep all heavy equipment on shore and out of the water. The purpose of the ramp at the Town Beach is to improve public access to Lake Champlain for all its recreational amenities while cutting down on shoreline erosion and protecting the natural shoreline which will in turn help to protect water quality. The proposed ramp is to be placed at the existing public access area and is adjacent to the Vergennes-Panton Water District's pumping station. It will help to eliminate future erosion of the lake shore from vehicular traffic and improve access to the lake for the general public while helping to protect the Vergennes-Panton Water District's raw water intake pipe. Pam added that the Lake

Encroachment Permit is necessary to complete the work at Arnold Bay and the permit requires a \$305 administrative processing and application review fee be paid.

David Rheaume advised the Board that if the permits are approved and the fee is paid, then they can go ahead and put the ramp in. Howard Hall wondered who would be doing the work, who is responsible for the project, and how it will affect the beach and swimming. David assured the Board that once the work is started, it is guaranteed to be completed. He advised the Board that he will be doing the work and noted that Rick Cloutier will oversee the project to ensure the work meets all Town standards. Rick reiterated to the Board that the boat launch will be going where it is now and the concrete will be poured in place to conform to the 15' x 60' wide ramp. David added that a lot of people won't currently come to the Town Beach because they are getting stuck on the dirt and stone. David advised the Board that the labor will all be donated and he is working on getting the cement donated as well. Dave wondered if the project will need to be warned if someone has a complaint and about notifying the abutting landowners. The Board advised that the item was listed on the August 26, 2019 Selectboard meeting agenda which serves as the Warning. Pam Correia confirmed that there is a list of abutting landowners and letters will be sent to those abutters. Teresa Smith stated that the project will reflect well on the Town. Howard Hall added that the project will enhance the beach, but he is concerned about parking on the beach. A brief discussion ensued regarding unwanted parking issues. The Board determined that the Town Constable could be notified or the Addison County Sheriff's Department could be contacted on the weekend if cars are parking where they are not allowed. The Board was in agreement that the boat launch is a good project and approved both permits. Howard Hall moved to spend the \$305 to cover the application for the Town of Panton's new and improved boat ramp, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed.

6. Delinquent Tax Collection – The Board reviewed each delinquency associated with their respective property with Delinquent Tax Collector Barbara Fleming. The Board expressed that they are not happy about the nearly \$20,000 in delinquent taxes owed by the Estate of William Findeisen and discussed a tax sale on the property. The Board also expressed that they believe there is intent to pay the delinquent taxes owed by the Barbara & Ronnie Childers and Lois Wildasin properties. The Board stressed the importance of the Delinquent Tax Collector doing all aspects of the position as the Delinquent Tax Collector is compensated by the 8% penalty; therefore, the Treasurer's Office does not receive any compensation for work done in relation to delinquent taxes.

7. Jackman's Winter Price Protection Contracts – Pam Correia presented the Board with the Winter Price Protection Contracts for heating fuel for the Town Hall at \$30 per month and the Town Garage at \$326.40 per month totaling \$356.40 per month to lock in the fixed budget program. Brief discussion followed. Teresa Smith moved to accept the Jackman Fuels Price Protection Contract as written, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.

8. Review/Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant, Timesheets, and Financials – The accounts payable warrant, timesheets, and July financials were reviewed.

Pam Correia noted that the first quarterly installment of the Vergennes Fire Protection Contract was included in the accounts payable warrant and presented the Board with the Vergennes Fire Protection Contract for their approval. There was no further discussion. Teresa Smith moved to accept the Fire Protection Agreement for 2020, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.

Pam Correia also noted expenses included in the accounts payable warrant from Brown's Rental Service, North Middlebury Sand & Gravel, and Shelburne Limestone which are associated with the work recently completed at the Town Hall and is seeking the Board's approval to use Town Hall Restoration Funds. There was no further discussion. Teresa Smith moved to authorize the transfer of \$4,744.09 from the Town Hall Restoration Fund to cover expenses associated with the cupola installation and materials for the rear parking and driveway along Town Hall. Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.

9. Communications – Pam Correia presented to the Board for their signatures a letter written to the Walter Cerf Fund Committee expressing their gratitude for working with the Selectboard and Town Hall Restoration Committee to fulfill the goal of replacing the old cupola with a new one for the residents of Panton. The Board also requested Town Clerk/Treasurer Pam Correia compose a letter to Campbellsville Industries to convey their appreciation for the outstanding work of the men who delivered the cupola and properly installed it upon the Town Hall.

Howard Hall suggested contacting Richard Catchpaw to inquire if he has any interest in becoming the Town Dog Warden. Howard advised the Board that he has learned that a salt/sand shed could be a potentially eligible project under a VTrans grant available through the SFY20 Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Grant Program. He noted that the grant should be looked into and the plans should be shovel ready.

At 7:39pm, Teresa Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Correia
Town Clerk/Treasurer