



Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Selectboard Meeting

September 24, 2019

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

At 6:35pm, 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 12, 2019 minutes, with no corrections. Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed. Teresa Smith moved to approve the September 10, 2019 minutes, with no corrections. Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.
4. Public Comments – There were no public comments.
5. Meeting Policy – The Board discussed the upstairs of the Town Hall as a new location for Town - associated groups to hold meetings and suggested moving the location would be a good way to separate the groups from the business of the Town Office. Howard Hall moved to adopt the meeting policy with the added amendment that the user is responsible for any damages, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed. The Board further discussed the use of the downstairs versus the upstairs by Town Boards such as the DRB/Planning Commission. Zachary Weaver moved to have either a Selectboard member or a Town employee present if a group representing Town business would like to use the downstairs and fill out a meeting policy form for the use of the upstairs, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed.
6. Review/Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant, Timesheets, and Financials – The accounts payable warrant, timesheets, and August financials were reviewed. Zachary Weaver moved to accept the August financials as written, Teresa Smith seconded.

The Board briefly discussed Town investments and accounts as a question posed by an internal Auditor of the Town.

7. Communications – Pam Correia advised the Board that she had not contacted Richard Catchpaw regarding the Dog Warden position. She added that he is believed to be a resident of Vergennes; therefore, he cannot be appointed to fill the term of the position as he would need to be a Panton resident and elected by Australian Ballot in March.

Howard Hall stated that Hans Vorsteveld has placed signs on his hemp fields alerting that the fields are

boobytrapped and conveyed his concern about hunters walking the land if it is not posted land and is indeed boobytrapped. Howard advised the Board that the Sheriff's Department has been notified and the Board agrees that if there is a problem, the complainant should call the Sheriff's Department.

Pam Correia advised the Board that as a result of the letter written to the Vermont Community Foundation requesting the disbursement of the remaining unspent grant funds for the cupola restoration, the \$17,500 has been received from the Walter Cerf Community Fund.

Howard Hall advised the Board as a representative of the TAC Committee that multiple towns voted on grants and added that Panton did not get the \$10,000 grant requested for the traffic study regarding the speed limit. Howard stated that 40mph would be prudent due to the school buses and suggested changing all the roads to be uniform specifically Lake Road, Pease Road, and Jersey Street to 40mph but leave Panton Road at 45mph. Howard suggested that the Town should also find another representative to serve on the TAC Committee and keep him on as an alternate.

The Board discussed the Vergennes Economic Corridor in relation to Vergennes City Manager Matt Chabot's request for a letter of support for a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study (PELS). The Board further discussed the potential of the boundary moving east and bringing 100% of the bypass through Panton. Zachary Weaver suggested waiting and see how it plays out. The Board concluded that Howard Hall will draft a letter to the Department of Transportation saying they are not opposed.

Pam Correia gave the Board an update on the Right-of-Way Ordinance and advised them that September 25, 2019 is the last day a petition can be filed and the ordinance will become effective on October 11, 2019. Howard Hall suggested that the ordinance be forwarded to all the utility companies to make them aware of the new law.

At 7:27pm, Teresa Smith moved to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation under the provisions of 1 VSA § 313(a)(1)(F) of the Vermont Statutes, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed.

At 7:32pm, Howard Hall moved to leave executive session, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed.

Teresa Smith moved to accept the recommendation of the Town attorney to add the additional party to the pending litigation, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed.

At 7:33pm, Zachary Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Correia
Town Clerk/Treasurer