



Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Selectboard Meeting

October 21, 2019

Selectboard Member's present: Chair Howard Hall, Teresa Smith, and Zachary Weaver. Also present was Town Clerk/Treasurer Pam Correia, Road Foreman Rick Cloutier, Mike Winslow, and Mary Rudd.

At 6:35pm, Howard Hall called the meeting to order.

2. Additions, Removals, or Adjustments to the Agenda - Howard Hall advised the Board that he spoke with Adam Lougee of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) regarding the VTrans letter of support. Howard added that Mike Winslow of the ACRPC was in attendance to help clarify ACRPC's position. Teresa Smith moved to add Mike Winslow to the agenda, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed.

3. Teresa Smith moved to approve the October 8, 2019 minutes, with no corrections. Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.

4. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

Mike Winslow of the ACRPC stated that his attendance was regarding Panton's letter of support for the Planning and Environmental Linkage Study (PELS) and what the next step needs to be for Panton. Mike suggested that the Selectboard submit an additional letter with amended language in support of PELS. Teresa Smith stated that she sees no harm in writing an additional letter and understands the concern of the people. Mary Rudd stated that with the pending open questions and issues, she is not necessarily in agreement to proceed and would like to see the boundary adjustment cleared up. Mike confirmed that the point of the study is to resolve those issues. Howard Hall stated that he does not want to get the Town into a snowball position. Teresa stated that she is most concerned about displacement and advised that she would like to change participate to partner in the proposed language. Howard suggested consulting with the Town attorney to produce a letter with specific needs. Zachary Weaver followed by asking Mary

for specific needs to include in the letter. Teresa Smith moved to use an attorney to draft a letter to VTrans that better states the position of the Town after further review from the Planning Commission and Mike Winslow in the best interest of the Town, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed. Mary Rudd advised that the issue will be taken up at the November Planning Commission meeting and following the meeting, a position letter will be emailed.

5. Highway Department Storage/Salt Shed – Rick Cloutier advised the Board that after seven years, the unthinkable happened and further advised the Board that the side blew out and roof blew off the storage/salt shed. Rick stated that the carpenter he spoke to does not believe it is worth putting money into. Howard Hall expressed his concern for safety. Rick stated that there is no time to get a new shed up now and will try to block the building so that it can't move any further. He added that the fuel pumps will need to be moved. Discussion followed regarding the cost of a new shed and grant funding. Mike Winslow stated that there is funding through the Lake Champlain Basin Program Grant of which applications are due October 31st and the grant can award up to \$20,000. Mike further advised the Board that the need for grant funding would be more convincing if the application makes a case focused on water quality and includes documentation that shows protection for water quality; therefore, the grant funding will come through in February. The Board further discussed the possibility of funding a new storage/salt shed through a bank loan, touring other comparable town garages, and storage space for Town equipment. Rick Cloutier stated his concern that the equipment is now not under cover and suggested a pole barn for now with a roof to keep the machinery under cover. Rick is also seeking immediate storage for the grader as it should be under cover as well and close by if needed in inclement weather conditions. Zachary Weaver moved to pursue the Lake Champlain Basin Grant for the salt shed, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed. The Board agreed to pursue an insurance claim and meet to tour the Ferrisburgh storage/salt shed on Saturday, October 26, 2019 at 9am.

Rick Cloutier advised the Board that the recycled asphalt shingles would be applied to Adams Ferry Road on November 1st.

6. Review of Personnel Policy – Town employees Pam Correia and Rick Cloutier conveyed to the Board the possibility of (PTO) paid time off being front-loaded annually versus earning the time as you go. The Board was not in agreement with this concept as they expressed concern for individual employees using the accrued time before earning the time. Holiday time was discussed for full-time employees as well as eight- vs ten-hour per day paid holidays. Teresa Smith moved to go into the system to have all full-time have nine (9) eight-hour fixed and floating holidays for a total of nine (9) holidays, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed. Pam and Rick stated that they would like to see the existing three (3) floating holidays changed to fixed holidays in addition to the already six (6) existing fixed holidays. The Board agreed with changing the floating holidays to fixed holidays as requested for a total of nine (9) paid fixed holidays and asked that employees come up with a list of the desired holidays to be considered.

7. NPO Litigation/Exclusion Request Form – Pam Correia reiterated that a Class Action Notice had been received and a class, which included Panton, had been certified regarding a class action lawsuit against opioid manufacturers. The Board briefly discussed the option of whether to opt out or take no action and remain in the class. Teresa Smith moved to do nothing which invites us to do nothing in the NPO litigation, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.

8. Review/Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant, Timesheets, and Financials – The accounts payable warrant, timesheets, and September financials were reviewed. Zachary Weaver moved to accept the September financials as written, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed. Pam Correia advised the Board that the accounts payable warrant included some expenses such as grass seed and topsoil necessary between the new driveway and Town Hall. Pam requested that these expenses be covered by the Town Hall Restoration Fund. Howard Hall moved to move \$653.57 for the funds to be allocated from the Town Hall Restoration Fund for the repair of the building, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed.

9. Communications – Howard Hall stated that he had talked with Adam Lougee from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission about Panton’s position and advised there is no position from Panton.

Pam Correia advised the Board that she had received a request from Green Up Vermont for the selection of the 2020 Green Up Day Coordinator. After brief discussion, Howard Hall moved to keep the Green Up Day coordinators the same as last year, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed.

Howard Hall expressed to the Board that it may be good for the Town’s internal auditors to come to the next Selectboard meeting to discuss the situation of no money to rebuild the salt/storage shed.

At 8:02pm, Zachary Weaver moved to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation under the provisions of 1 VSA § 313(a)(1)(F) of the Vermont Statutes, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.

At 8:04pm, Zachary Weaver moved to leave executive session, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed. No action was taken.

At 8:05pm, Zachary Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Correia
Town Clerk/Treasurer