



## ***Town of Panton Chartered 1761***

---

**3176 Jersey Street • Panton, VT 05491-9331**

**Ph: 802.475.2333 • Fax: 802.475.2785**

### **Selectboard Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, January 25, 2022**

Attendance: Selectboard Chair Howard Hall, Road Foreman Rick Cloutier, Town Clerk-Treasurer Maggie McCormick, Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) Transportation Planner Mike Winslow

Via Zoom: Selectboard Member Zach Weaver, Emergency Management Coordinator Bob Groff, Rutland County Regional Planning Commission (RCRPC) Senior Planner Barbara Noyes Pulling

Selectboard Member Teresa Smith joined via Zoom at 6:40 p.m.

1. Call to order
  - a. Howard called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. Additions/deletions to agenda: None
3. Approval of the minutes of the January 11, 2022 Selectboard meeting
  - a. Zach moved to approve the minutes as written. Howard seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.
4. Basin Water Quality Council, Barbara Noyes Pulling
  - a. A small slice of the Panton Lake Champlain watershed is in the Rutland district
  - b. The Council is the result of the Clean Water Service Delivery Act
    - i. It is a non-regulatory body
    - ii. The goal is to reduce the total maximum daily load of phosphorous entering the watershed
    - iii. Establishes Clean Water Service Providers (CWSP)
      1. The CWSP for Panton's western sliver is called South Lake Basin
        - a. Coordinated by the RCRPC and Poultney
        - b. \$1M in funds have been allocated to the initiative
        - c. Panton may be able to have a representative on council
      2. Panton is also part of the Otter Creek CWSP
        - a. Panton may be able to have a representative on council
5. FY23 Budget discussion
  - a. Reserve Funds

- i. Should the voted amounts for Digitization and Town Hall Building Maintenance Funds be reduced?
      - 1. This was discussed and the Selectboard decided to leave the fund appropriations as is.
  - b. Highway
    - i. Discussion of adjusting retreatment (paving) line and summer road materials (gravel) to focus on keeping paved roads in well-maintained since they are more expensive to reclaim than gravel roads.
    - ii. Mike Winslow presented a cost-estimating spreadsheet that shows Panton should budget ~\$350,000/year for paved roads.
  - c. Vergennes Bypass Update
    - i. PELS Study is with the Policy and Program Committee
    - ii. Policy Committee will approve or not
    - iii. Public Workshops to determine metrics
    - iv. Determination of town borders not necessary for at this point to determine bypass location, but it will influence the implementation.

Zach moved to accept the revised highway budget to reflect \$115,00 in the retreatment line and \$10,000 in the summer road materials. Teresa seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

- 6. Emergency Management Coordinator's Report
  - a. Bob thanked the Selectboard and staff for their budget work
  - b. Covid cases high
    - i. VT modeling is being done to potentially track the peak of Omicron variant
      - 1. Omicron is 85% of current cases
      - 2. Hospital admittance high—100 hospitalizations per day, 25 in ICU
      - 3. Federal government distribution of Covid home tests
        - a. Four (4) per household available
  - c. State Emergency Operations Office is reactivated due to spike in Covid cases
  - d. FEMA—Covid reimbursement extended through
  - e. Beware of fake masks
  - f. VLCT will participate in the next EM meeting to address Town Meeting and Covid
  - g. VT Alerts for weather updates
    - i. Watch carefully for cold and snow predictions and warnings
- 7. Town Meeting planning
  - a. Important dates
    - i. Town Report must be available by February 19.
  - b. Warning & Articles
    - i. Change poll hours to 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
    - ii. Adjusted Budget per adopted number from Item 5.

Howard moved to publish the 2022 Town Meeting Warning and Articles as adjusted. Zach seconded. All in favor' the motion passed.

- c. Appointment of DRB/PC Chair
    - i. Tabled

- d. Appointment of Tree Warden
  - i. Tabled
- 8. Public comment: None
- 9. Communications
  - a. David Raphael provided DRB/PC and Tree Warden reports for Town Report.
  - b. David Raphael memorial service was conducted at Town Hall on Saturday. Curtains and screens were installed on loan from Katie Werthmann until she wants them back.
  - c. The Selectboard will continue to evaluate the Vergennes fire protection contract
  - d. Howard will move from the ACRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) alternate to the active representative.
  - e. Panton will borrow a tabulator from Burlington for Town Meeting
  - f. Clerk confirmed receipt of Vergennes Panton Water District (VPWD) annual report and will include it in the Panton Town Report.
  - g. A rehearsal for the Town Meeting Informational Meeting will be scheduled.
  - h. Election procedures
    - i. Clerk to document proposed procedures and circulate to SB and BCA
    - ii. Town messaging will promote "absentee" voting.
- 10. Review/approval of accounts payable warrant, timesheets & payroll warrant
  - a. Howard moved to approve the timesheets and payroll and accounts payable warrants. Zach seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.
- 11. Executive session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation
  - a. Not required.
- 12. Adjournment
  - a. Teresa moved to adjourn the meeting. Zach seconded. All in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maggie McCormick  
Town Clerk