

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday February 27, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

AGENDA:

- **ADDITIONS & DELETIONS**
- **TED FLEISCHER – JAY PEAK RESORT EMPLOYEE/RESIDENT**
- **SIGN ORDERS**
- **REVIEW MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2024**
- **ROAD COMMISSIONER UPDATES**
- **OTHER BUSINESS**

SELECTBOARD:
Darren Pion-Chm.
Wayne Richardson
Jennifer Blay

MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF LOWELL
Meeting held on February 27, 2024.

Board members present:

Darren Pion, Chm., Wayne Richardson, Jennifer Blay

Christy Pion- Clerk/Asst. Treasurer/Selectboard Clerk

Calvin Allen-Road Commissioner

Darren, via cell (speakerphone), gave Wayne the floor to call the meeting to order at 5:28 p.m.

Guests:

- Christina Adams – Health Officer
- Troy Adams – Deputy Health Officer
- Ashley Callahan – Animal Control Officer
- Ted Fleischer – Resident/Jay Peak employee
- Anthony Moccia – Rasputitsa Bike Race Consultant

Additions and Deletions:

- None

Ted Fleischer – Resident/Jay Peak employee:

- Ted Fleischer came to the meeting to talk to the Board to discuss the reason that they did not approve the Rasputitsa Bike Race at their previous meeting. He explained to the Board that he was very puzzled about why our Town said no to the race and all the other towns said yes. He explained more about what Jay Peak helps fund and discounts for towns and schools and that they absorb the burden of such high costs.

Ted also explained that the riders do not even get a glimpse of the trail until 10 a.m. the morning of the race. He said he understands that not knowing all the particulars is a trust issue for the Board members.

Jen stated to Ted that her answer is still no. He asked why and she said she felt that Steve's letter was a threat to take away the discount skiing for the school. She also stated that with the death of a racer in Burke during the same type of race, she feels it is too great a risk.

Anthony spoke on his behalf and stated he cannot speak about what has and is happening in Burke but can speak to what the insurance covers and the risks are very minimal.

Jen said she would like to see how the race goes this year in the other towns before bringing it to our town. Considering how small and low funded Lowell already is, we cannot afford to take on an event that appears to be too risky.

Ted explained that Lowell was chosen because it made the best race for this event.

Calvin mentioned that we did not have a reasonable amount of time to plan for this with the townspeople. Anthony said he got a late start on this, and it was his fault for not getting us the information sooner.

Ted feels that finding out the number for the insurance would show that it could benefit our town as well as the other towns.

Ted asked us to hold our final decision – the Board agreed to hold it until Town Meeting Day.

Ted also asked the Board to please respond to Steve Wright's email. The Board agreed and during the meeting they wrote and sent a response.

Sign Orders:

- The Board reviewed the financials for the Treasurer. They were approved and signed.

Minutes from January 30, 2024:

- Minutes from January 30, 2024 were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Road Commissioner Updates:

- No updates from the Road Commissioner.

Other Business:

- Christina Adams came to the meeting to discuss the fact that the State of Vermont is trying to change the way town policies are enacted and that they are putting these in place without our input. Ms. Adams says that without a Conflict-of-Interest Policy and Ethics Policy our Town is about 5 years out of compliance and we may have issues in the future due to this fact.

Christina also explained how her role as the Town Health Officer has changed. She has to fill out a form for each complaint and send it to the Vermont State Police and hope that someone from the VSP will come out and address it.

Christina will be speaking at Town Meeting to inform the Town of how her role has changed.

- Troy Adams complimented the Town Clerk on the outcome of the Town Report. He also came to explain that he was mis-quoted in last year's Meeting minutes. He was informed that they are available on the Town website within two weeks after Town Meeting and are to be addressed at that time, not a year later. He will be reiterating his thoughts at Town Meeting to fix the misunderstanding of what was said.
- Municipal Weight Permits were approved and signed for the following: RBR Structures, Inc., Black Ox Trucking and Dale E. Percy, Inc.
- Christy presented the Board with Carol Wood-Koob's Letter of Resignation as a Trustee. Illness and family losses will prevent her from performing her duties as Trustee to the best of her ability.

Board Warrants:

➤ **General Order # 6** \$ **10,039.30**
➤ **Payroll Order # 5** \$ **6,944.80**

\$ 16,984.10

**Signed by the Board for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling -
Meeting adjourned at 7:48 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted by Christy M. Pion

Next meeting date: March 11, 2024 at the Town Office Building.

Darren Pion-Chair

Christy M. Pion-Selectboard Clerk

Wayne Richardson-Select Person

Jennifer Blay-Select Person