

**MINUTES
SELECT BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF COVENTRY
Monday August 16 2021 at 6:00 PM**

Board Members Present:

Scott Briere, Chair; Phil Marquette

Town Officials Present:

Ned Connell, Town Administrator; David Barlow, Town Treasurer; Deb Tanguay, Town Clerk; Matt Krajeski, Town Assessor/NEMC

Residents Present:

Martha Sylvester; Kelly Collins; Dom Gervais; Amanda Jensen; Sherry Bradley; Praneet Menon; Margeret Maxwell;

Guests Present:

Kelly Gleason, Casella/NEWSVT; Orleans County Sheriff Jennifer Harlow; Joseph Gresser, The Chronicle

This meeting was offered to the public in-person and via Zoom video conference.

1. **Order**
 - Chair Scott Briere called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. **Changes or Additions to the Agenda**
 - No changes or additions were proposed.
3. **Public Comment**
 - Amanda J outlined a gunfire incident in town and stressed the need for more law enforcement as well as possibly utilizing cameras at the park.
 - Phil M added that increased lighting in the area would also help keep illegal activity to a minimum.
 - Several residents complained about high-speed vehicle traffic on the south end of the Airport Road and along most sections of Coventry Station Road was outlined and added enforcement was encouraged.
4. **Update on Errors and Omissions from Assessor**
 - Matt K outlined a change to 201 Covey Road for the difference of 1 acre as it pertains to the appraisal.
 - Phil M made a motion to accept the error and omissions request for Debra Lawes according to the report changing from 7.04 acres to 6.04 acres with an assessment change from \$212,500 to \$211,700 due to a survey filing. Scott B seconded the motion. Both members voted in favor and the change was accepted.
5. **Update from Orleans County Sheriff Harlow**
 - Sheriff Harlow described the new data recording system employed by the Sheriffs Office that will grant greater access to information through an online portal in addition to receiving a monthly report.
 - Patrol for the Fall Festival was discussed and expanded insurance coverage was suggested by Sheriff Harlow and will be addressed prior to the festival.

6. Update from SWIP Committee Regarding Website

- Kelly G outlined the new website as well as the outreach requirements for the program. The importance of recycling was stressed and accountability was discussed.

7. Appointment of Steve Taylor to CFD Prudential Committee

- Dom G stressed the urgency of adding members to the Prudential Committee.
- Proper procedure for appointments was discussed and legal council will be consulted before further discussion.

8. NEK Broadband Update

- David B summarized the goals of the NEK Broadband organization to bring fiber optic broadband accessibility to residents while primarily utilizing existing infrastructure.

9. FY2021 Audit Engagement letter from Pace & Hawley

- David B outlined the auditing contract proposed.
- Phil M made a motion to accept the contract with Pace & Hawley for FY 2021 audit. Scott B seconded the motion. Both members voted in favor and the contract was signed.

10. Treasurers Report for July 2021

- David B summarized the July treasurers report. All accounts are balanced and reconciled as expected.

11. Community Service/ Organization- Use of Community Center

- Ned C outlined small changes to the Community center use agreement as well as described some of the activities and clubs utilizing the space.
- Scott B made a motion to accept the Community Center Use Policy with changes as presented. Phil M seconded the motion. Both members voted in favor and the policy was adopted.

12. Other Business

• Fall Festival Update

- Martha S outlined the planning progress and community outreach as well as the obstacles presented in the gaining approval for a catering event permit.

• Cemetery Commission- Repairs Contract

- A Contract for Repairs to Center Cemetery was discussed.
- Phil M made a motion to approve the Cemetery commission to spend up to \$10,000 for maintenance of the stones in Center Cemetery. Scott B seconded the motion. Both members voted in favor and the spending was approved.

• Update on Reports of Herbicide Spraying within Wellhead protection

- This topic will be discussed when all Select Board members can be present and the complainant are present.

• Elijah Cleveland Meeting House Roofing Contractors

- Ned C stressed the urgency of hiring a contractor for the church roof.
- Some contractor names were offered and will be contacted for bids.
- No roofing contractor has offered a bid for this project.

• VLCT PACIF Cyber Survey

- This topic will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

• VTRANS Municipal Assistance Grants in Aid

- Ned informed the Board that a VTrans grant was received in the amount of \$9,400 for roadside drainage work.

- **Veterans Memorial**

- Dom G stressed the need to update the veterans memorial in town to include Veterans from the more recent wars. Dom G volunteered to compile the information needed to complete the project before presenting it to the Select Board.

13. Warrants

- All warrants were accepted and signed.

14. Minutes

- Phil M made a motion to accept the minutes from July 19 2021 as written. Scott B seconded the motion. Both voted in favor.

15. Adjourn

- Chair Scott B adjourned the meeting.