

**MINUTES
SELECT BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF COVENTRY
Monday July 12th, 2021 AT 6:00 PM**

Board Members Present:

Scott Briere, Chair; Phil Marquette; David Gallup

Town Officials Present:

Ned Connell, Town Administrator; David Barlow, Town Treasurer; Deb Tanguay, Town Clerk

Public Present:

Valerie Taylor Autry; Carleen Taylor Leonhardt; Martha Sylvester; Rudy Percy; Donna Griffes; Rory & Joi Merritt; Kevin Chickering, BLRR; Lee Curtis, BLRR; Deb Lucas, Senior Meals

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

- 1. Order**
 - Chair Scott Briere called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
- 2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda**
 - No changes or additions were proposed.
- 3. Public Comment**
 - Carleen L asked regarding online access to the Assessing data. There was then a wide discussion and the consensus was to ask Bill K our Assessing consultant to come to a future meeting to review online to the assessing data.
 - Martha S asked about the Lister positions on the 2019 Town Meeting ballot. This was discussed as the assessors' contract comes to an end. This will be discussed further before any action can be taken.
- 4. Deb Lucas**
 - Deb L asked the Select Board when she would be able to utilize the Community Center kitchen to begin hosting meals for seniors.
 - Scott B inquired on the program's insurance status. Deb replied that she has a quote available and could have necessary insurance when the facility is available. Scott B and Ned C will contact VLCT for COI requirements that will be passed along to Deb L.
- 5. Switching to Australian Ballot for Town Meeting as it Relates to ACT 60.**
 - Deb T outlined the steps to be taken in order for the Town to vote by Australian Ballot for the next Town Meeting.
- 6. Emergency Service invoice for Larry Royer on July 29, 2019.**
 - Emergency services invoice was discussed. It was decided that a burn permit had been obtained for the fire. Said fire was then made intensified by fluid leaking from the excavator. Causing the excavator to catch fire, resulting in the fire department being called.
 - Emergency services contract will be reviewed before any action may be taken.
 - Deb T suggested that emergency service invoices be subject to review by the Town Fire Warden, Pedro G, to assure accurate billing.

- David G recommended that all future fire/burn permits be accurately recorded via email with a distribution to various town officials, so that we do not have to rely on memories and for future accountability. Ned C was instructed to take this action.

7. American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funding for Coventry

- Scott B made a motion to accept the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and appoint Scott B the Authorized representative and David B the contact person. David G seconded and the information will be submitted.

8. Coventry Community Church rehabilitation bid

- Scott B made a motion to accept a bid from Jan Lewandowski for timber restoration of the Church as per his contract and approve an additional \$50,000 in funds to use towards the roof, painting, and further repairs. David G seconded and the restoration work will begin as discussed.

9. Paving bid

- David G suggested that the town only complete part of the proposed paving project this year as the weather will not allow proper installation of asphalt later in the year.
- Bids will likely need to be resubmitted.
- Scott B suggested a 2-year schedule for all the project locations with Coventry Station Road from VT Route 105 to the RR tracks done before September 15 2021 and all the remaining sections done during June 2022. He instructed Ned C to contact Pike, the lowest bidder, to see if their bid/price was still valid and if they would agree to that schedule.
- No action was taken and this topic will be discussed further at the next regular meeting.

10. Treasurers Report

- David B presented the Treasurers report for June 2021. All accounts balanced as expected and the Select Board thanked David B for his continued hard work and careful maintenance of the Town's finances.

11. Warrants

- Scott B made a motion to except and sign all warrants with the exception of a Work Place Safety invoice that will be reviewed further before payment with some items being returned and not supplied under this invoice.

12. Minutes of June 21st 2021

- Phil M made a motion to accept the minutes from June 21st, 2021 with changes to wording and residents listed as discussed. Scott B seconded the motion and the minutes were updated and accepted.

13. Other Business

• Nicom Contract

- Phil M made a motion to accept the bid from Nicom for road repairs on Alderbrook road for \$4,200.00. Scott B seconded the motion, all members voted in favor and the contract will be signed.

• Winter Sand

- Scott B made a motion to accept the bid from RG Gosselin Inc. in the amount of \$21,875.00 for sand for the winter. Phil seconded the motion. Scott B and Phil M voted in favor, David G abstained from the vote.

• Community Center use

- Deb T asked on behalf of the Northeast Kingdom Mental Health Services when the community center would be available for public use again.
- The Select Board agreed that the Community Center could now be open for public use with the addition of a sign in sheet for visitors.
- **ATV trail rerouting along VT Route 105 near Reed Road for BLRR**
 - Kevin C outlined the proposed crossing of Route 105 due to trail closure.
 - Scott B made a motion to accept and sign the landowner permission form on behalf of the Town presented by BLRR. David G seconded the motion and the application will be sent to the State for review.
 - Lee C and David G discussed the installation of a culvert needed on Cutting Road. The Town will work to replace the culvert.
 - Ownership of portions of an old county road was discussed. This topic will be researched by BLRR before further discussion can occur.
- **Rename Church**
 - Ned C explained that the transfer of property ownership was contingent on changing the official name of the church and new name will be used on all future paperwork.
 - There was a consensus that the Coventry Community Church will hereafter be referred to as “The Elijah Cleveland Meeting House” with the subtitle of “Formerly the Coventry Congregational Church”.
- **Martha Sylvester - Fall Festival**
 - Martha S informed the Select Board that the Fall Festival Steering Committee is looking to finalize the preparation for Fall Festival.
 - Scott B made a motion to allow the committee to enter a contract with ADA in the amount of \$4,000.00 on behalf of the Town for signing, traffic control and security. David G seconded the motion and the contract will be signed.
 - Scott B made a motion to allow Phil M to accept the bid of \$7,000.00 from North Star Fireworks. David seconded the motion.
 - Added patrol by the Orleans Sheriff’s office will be reviewed as necessary.

14. Executive Session

- This topic will be presented at a later meeting when all board members can be present.

15. Adjourn

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:32.