**MINUTES**

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, November 4, 2019 @ Town Garage 6:00PM**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Present: Selectboard: Chair Joe Pollio, Cathy Siano-Goodwin, Al Sands, Stan Mack, and Chris Wallace.

Others present: 1st Sgt Lakin Windsor Co. Sheriff, Dottie Cannon, Joan Lake, Christine Tattersall, Liisa Kissel, Sam Battaglino, Galen Pinkham, Danny Taylor Highway Foreman, Kim Record Clerk/Treasurer and Bill Kearns Town Administrator.

FACT8 TV Matt Farkas

1. Adopt Agenda. The Chair asked that two items be corrected, no exec session for advice of attorney and Minutes of Oct 21 not Oct 7. As amended, motion by Al Sands, second Chris Wallace to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve Minutes: Minutes of October 21, 2019. Al Sands moved, second Chris Wallace to approve minutes as written. Motion passed 4-0 with Stan Mack abstaining.
3. Warrants were presented for October 21, 2019.
4. Sheriff Department – 1st SGT Lakin addressed the Selectboard talked of his background of 20 years on the Department and a bit about the new Sheriff Mark Anderson. Sgt. Said he hoped to be at our meetings once a month to listen, answer questions and give information. He spoke of changes in animal control and that the Sheriff is exploring a program to get the Department more involved, more helpful to the Towns. He spoke of their shorthandedness, down from 27 at one time to 13 now and the problems of recruitment and the lack of applicants not only on the Department but on the Police Academy, which just cancelled one of 4 scheduled yearly academic classes due to lack of applicants. The Department wants to know our desires for Sheriff presence. The Department now does about 2 hours a week and will continue that unless the Selectboard would like it to focus more time at certain times of the year. As for income, the money from the towns and service to the towns are break even, but details on traffic for construction and so those details take time from Town work. Sgt was thanked for his being at the meeting.
5. Highway Report
	* Fire alert – on one telephone line. Discussion focused on changing to connection to alert system by internet. That will be investigated, with the plan to rid the system of the cost of telephone service for a one time hook up cost and no continuing telephone fees for the alarm system at Highway. If internet is not used, the Selectboard needs to consider whether to get a second line at highway. At the town hall the alarm uses lines we need to have in any case, so no need to change reporting to web.
	* Trees and shrubs in ROW. Reference 19 VSA 904 Brush removal. The TA provided the Selectboard with a copy of the law 19 VSA 904. Discussion of enforcement and then side discussion about Tree Warden and the law regarding those duties. Bill Kearns stated it is clear Sec 904 gives town the right to trim or remove trees in ROW. Danny Taylor stated the law is all he needs, and he will notify and discuss with landowner before acting. Motion by Stan Mack, second by Al Sands to adopt 19 VSA 904 as Grafton’s policy for Highway Foreman to follow, along with his notification and discussion with landowner. Motion passed unanimously.
	* Danny Taylor and Bill Kearns are working on Better Roads (formerly Better Back Roads) grant application for hydrologically connected segments.
	* The salt shed is full.
	* P&L Trucking, Palmer Goodrich, has asked that we help him keep the truckers speed down by posting two signs each for each end of Eastman, a Trucks Limit 25 MPH and a No Jake Brakes. He will pay for sings and their installation. Motion Al Sands, Second Chris Wallace to order and erect two No Jake Brakes and 2 Trucks Speed Limit 25 MPH and post them at each end of Eastman Rd at the request of P&L trucking, who will pay for signs and installation. Motion passed unanimously.
	* Danny Taylor asked for, and was given permission to, put together specs for the Freightliner replacement and send them out for bids, because he is being told construction of such a truck is one year out from the date it is ordered, and it was to be replace next spring. No motion required.
	* Beaver Dam on Route 121 West threatening to keep water level high on road thus damaging the road. Danny Taylor wants to remove it. Selectboard gave the go ahead if Scott Jensen, Stream Alteration Engr. at ANR was consulted and permission was received.
6. Acceptable Management Practices Reference “Vermont Water Quality, Acceptable management Practices, Manual for Logging Professionals, VT ∙ 2019” a publication of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Forests, parks and Recreation. (The referred to publication contains the current AMP rule, effective on August 11th, 2018). Al Sands stated that this policy has been in effect since 1986. This manual had to be followed by professional loggers if there is to be a discharge into a stream, and the purpose of the AMPs is the maintenance of water quality. This manual should be referred to and be required to be followed in Grafton by specific reference and policy in the Town Plan. Thus, he said he raised that issue here in preparation for the next hearing on the Plan in a few days. He had provided all the SB members of a copy of the Plan and asked that they read it before this meeting. The Ledge Road Access Permit contained an item requiring that the AMPs be followed. (See next item).
7. Ledge Road. The GIA is planning a logging operation on their land on Kidder Hill. The GIA wants to use both the Class 3 and Class 4 section of the Ledge Rd. for logging trucks to haul logs from the landing on Kidder Hill out to Rte. 121 East. Danny Taylor, Peter Durgin who is doing the logging, Roberts of the Pinnacle Hill Association and Al Sands walked Ledge Road from Kidder Hill out to the Class 3 portion of the road and discussed the work that Durgin was intending to do to the road and within the ROW for clearing trees and brush, where necessary, for its use by logging trucks and returning the to its original good condition afterward, all as spelled out in the Town Access Permit. The Access Permit covers the Class 4 portion only as there is no intention to alter the Class 3 portion. Bill Kearns showed the SB the Access permit issued by Danny Taylor on Oct 29, 2019 which included the terms discussed above.
8. Selectboard Budget workshop dates: The SB set the following dates for workshops:
	* Thurs Nov 14th upstairs in TH at 10:00 AM
	* Monday Nov 25th “ at 10:00 AM
	* Thursday Dec 12th “ at 10:00 AM
	* Capital Budget would be there the 14th and work sheets for Fire, Rescue, PC turned in by 14th or be there at the meeting.
9. The roads off Otis Road. Add to map. Bill Kearns stated he had been approached by several persons and VAST to return the roads between Otis and Hall Ranch roads to the VTrans Town Map. He has researched and found the roads and asked the SB if he could continue with the intent of restoring these roads to the Official Town VTrans Map. The SB agreed he could go ahead. When the SB acts, it will take the time to consider and determine Class of Road or Trail.
10. Town Health Officer. Cathy Siano-Goodwin stated that the THO committee had written a letter to Jay Karpin, the contents of which they would discuss in Exec Session later. The State has recognized Jay with the State Health Officer for Life Certificate. The committee would like to do so for the Town and ask that he assist Rich Thompson, the deputy in his new duties as health officer. They will so hone Jay Karpin at the Vets gathering on Nov. 9 at river Ledge.
11. Public Comment. For the AMPs (above) to be enforceable, there should be a town policy spelling out the requirements and the enforcement means.
12. Other Business. There was none.
13. Next meeting Nov 18th, 2019
14. Motion by Al Sands, second CW to go into Exec Session for personnel at 7:33 PM. Motion passed unanimously.
15. Motion to exit Exec Session at 7:46 PM. No action taken Letter honoring Jay was approved by agreement and will be signed and presented to him at the dinner tomorrow.
16. Adjourn at 7:47 PM on motion for As Sands, Second Chris Wallace.

Respectfully presented,

William G. Kearns