

**SHARON SELECTBOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
JUNE 28, 2021**

**MINUTES**

*This meeting was held in compliance with the Vermont  
Open Meeting Law with Electronic and Telephonic Participation*

Participating via Zoom: Selectboard members Joe Ronan, Kevin Gish; Absent: Selectboard Member Mary Gavin; Margy Becker (SB Assistant), Deb Jones, Finance Manager, Frank Rogers, Road Foreman; Shawna Pinette and Bill Raymond, Threat Owl, LLC; Claude Weyant, Windsor County Sheriff's Department.

1. **Call to Order:** The Chair convened the meeting at 6:30PM.

2. **Review Approve Agenda:**

**Kevin Gish made the motion, which Joe Ronan seconded, that the agenda be modified to acknowledge the sudden and tragic loss of Jon Sears. The motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Public Comments:**

There were no public comments apart from the items on the agenda.

4. **6:30PM 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Final Review:**

Shawna Pinette of Threat Owl, LLC joined the meeting. Threat Owl, Town officials, and staff have completed a mandatory five-year update of the 2015 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to satisfy FEMA requirements for maximum federal and/or state share of assistance during natural disasters. The focus of this revised 2021 Plan is to identify ways the Town can lessen, prevent, or mitigate the worst impacts from disasters.

Shawna began the planning meeting with a summary of the major components to the Plan, including the hazards ranking completed April 22 and re-visited May 20<sup>th</sup>. She confirmed that FEMA *will* be doing White River watershed mapping, yet not within the next 5 years. Hence there is no impact on the 2021 plan, but there will be potential implications of such a study on the 2026 and subsequent plans.

Shawna confirmed that SB comments have been addressed. It was agreed that pages 11 and 14 needed further modifications and corrections, including deletion of the reference to the 'White River Task Force' – which no longer exists as an advisory committee to the Selectboard.

SB member Joe Ronan commented he felt the plan as an acceptable overall presentation of ranked hazards and mitigation strategies. Kevin Gish concurred.

**Motion by Kevin Gish to approve the draft 2021 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan with updates to pages 11 and 14 as discussed. Joe Ronan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Threat Owl staff will submit the plan to VT Emergency Management (“VEM”) for review and comment. There may be some back and forth concerning plan content with VEM. Threat Owl will then be back in touch with the SB about final plan adoption.

**5. FY22 Windsor County Sheriff’s (‘WCS’) Contract Renewal:**

Joe Ronan led a review of his proposed changes to the contract, which include modifications to certain sections of the contract, addition of a new section to address indemnification provisions, and a proposed addition of Appendix A which addresses the increased level of service to 20 hours per week with a new focus on ‘community policing’. Joe indicated he had relied upon the St. Albans’ contract with Franklin County Sheriff’s Department as the basis for his proposed amendments.

Discussions acknowledged the expiration of the existing WCS contract on June 30 and the tight ‘turnaround time’ in which to get a replacement contract in place. An approach to negotiations with WCS was agreed to as presented in the following motions:

**Kevin Gish moved, and Joe Ronan seconded, to propose an extension of the FY21 WCS Contract for two weeks and through July 15<sup>th</sup>, or until the date a revised FY22 contact has been executed if earlier. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish moved, and Joe Ronan seconded, to approve and transmit to WCS for consideration, the revised (Rev.2) FY22 WCS contract. The motion carried unanimously.**

**6. Road Reports: School Parking lot paving and access road impacts:**

Frank Rogers explained Landmark Excavating has inquired as to the Town’s intentions for paving the section of roadway adjacent to the parking lot. Landmark indicates the depth of excavations and proposed depth for placement of underdrain in the parking lot, will require re-setting the drainage inlet at the corner of the parking lot and roadway culvert. Frank also noted a paving seam at the edge of the parking lot will impact plowing the roadway.

Frank summarized Landmark’s recommendations for base improvements to the adjacent segment of roadway to include pulling pavement, excavations to agreed upon depth (20-30 inches), placement of fabric and dense grade stone. He indicated that if the SB decided to go ahead with the work, the Town could supply the culvert and perhaps the fabric (he will check in the garage).

It was agreed that Landmark will be asked to provide a detailed estimate for base work and paving of the road segment adjacent to the parking lot and extending towards the OSH to include the location of the culvert reset. Landmark will be instructed to submit the cost estimate to the Town by Wednesday at 3PM. The SB will further discuss the estimate at a special meeting on Thursday morning, July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**7. Approval of Warrants:**

**Kevin Gish moved, and Joe Ronan seconded, to approve AP Warrant #1183 in the amount of \$5,490.53** including payments to Consolidated Communications \$290.72; Evans Motor Fuels \$1,215.25; Green Mtn Power \$420.04 for 3 power bills for Jun/Jul; GUVSWD \$298 for stickers; Valley News \$190.40 for DRB and sand hauling notices; VT Fire Extinguisher \$180 for annual inspection and service at Town Offices; VMERS DB \$2838.13 for June 2021; and WB Mason \$57.99 new keyboard for Deb Jones & water cooler rental at garage. **The motion carried unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish moved, and Joe Ronan seconded, to approve AP Warrant #1182 (Revised) with a revised payee of Madison National Life for July's Life, AD&D, Weekly Income and LTD premium for \$246.67. The motion carried unanimously.**

**8. Other Business:**

Margy Becker noted the School Board's suggestion (received from Will Davis) as to a 3-way discussion during the SB July 19<sup>th</sup> meeting on Baxter library lot drainage improvements. The School, Seven Stars Arts Center, and the Town need to collaborate on this project. SB members concurred with this addition to the July 19 agenda.

Selectboard members closed the meeting with a **tribute to Jon Sears and all his contributions to the community.** Condolences are sent to the Sears family. Joe Ronan noted a July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1:30PM memorial service at the TSA high school gymnasium has just been announced.

**9. Adjournment:**

**Kevin Gish made the motion to adjourn at 7:57PM. Joe Ronan seconded. The motion carried 2-0-0 in favor.**

(Submitted by Margy Becker)