

**SHARON SELECTBOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
July 6, 2021**

**MINUTES**

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

Participating via Zoom from Town Offices: Margy Becker (SB Assistant), Deb Jones, Finance Manager, Participating remotely: Kevin Gish, Mary Gavin; Joe Ronan (absent); Tom Kennedy (Greater UV Solid Waste District).

**Call to Order:** The Vice Chair convened the meeting at 5:00PM.

1. **Review Approve Agenda:**

**Mary Gavin made the motion, which Kevin Gish seconded, that the agenda be approved without changes. The motion carried unanimously.**

2. **Public Comments:**

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

3. **Review/Approve Minutes:**

Approval of the minutes was postponed until July 19.

4. **Approval of Warrants:**

**Kevin Gish made the motion to approve AP WARRANT for the Period Ending 7/3/21 with a cash draw of \$13,335.91. Mary Gavin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish made the motion to approve AP Warrant #1184 in the amount of \$4,700.85 for payment of FY21 invoices with one exception\*: Clarks Truck Center \$80.86 (filters), Compucount Inc \$169.00 (payroll for June), Eastern Sales \$171.00 (envelopes), EC Fiber \*\$158.00 June and one invoice from July), Evans Motor Fuels \$701.48 (diesel), GMP \$3.63 (garage), The Herald of Randolph \$127.47 (display ads for grievance hearings and sand hauling), Lucky's Trailer \$158.05 (beacon light for tractor), Royal Auto Parts \$18.26 (capsule), Southworth Milton Cat \$3031.10 (service and repairs, EGR valve 930k loader); and VT Fire Extinguisher \$82.00 (garage). **The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.****

**Mary Gavin made the motion to approve AP Warrant #1185 in the amount of \$29,649.39 for payment of FY22 invoices from Community Bank NA \$24413.39 (last loan**

payment for FY17 Freightliner), TRORC \$2,298.00 (FY22 membership dues), VLCT \$2,938.00 (FY22 membership dues). **The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish made the motion to approve AP Warrant #1186OSH in the amount of \$186.00** for payment of FY21 invoice from VT Fire Extinguisher \$186.00 (service and inspect OSH fire extinguishers). **The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.**

**Kevin Gish made the motion to approve AP Warrant #1188 in the amount of \$5,750.00** for payment of the FY22 appropriation to Pine Hill Cemetery. **The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.**

**5. Finance Manager Reports:**

Deb Jones reported on the VLCT's change in insurance provider for short-term and long-term disability and life insurance. The transition is slow and is posing administrative challenges. The matter will be discussed again July 19<sup>th</sup>. The SB will also discuss compensation to the Town Clerk acting as assistant Town Treasurer at the July 19 meeting.

**6. Highway Business:**

Sand Hauling Bid Award: Selectmen and Deb Jones discussed four bids received for hauling winter sand. Bids were received from Chase Site Services (\$5.35/cubic yard), D&D Excavating (\$7.00/cubic yard), Adam Stone Trucking LLC (\$7.49/cubic yard), Noel Eastman Excavating (\$12.00/cubic yard).

**Kevin Gish made the motion to award the sand hauling bid to Chase Site Services, as low bidder, to haul 3,100 cubic yards of sand to Sharon Town Garage from the D&D Excavating pit in Hartland for a price of \$5.35/cubic yard. Mary Gavin seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Grant Agreement: Better Roads Grant: Margy Becker explained the purpose of the grant is for Mosher Lane ditching and culvert upgrades along hydraulically-connected road segments. The State awarded the Town \$7100; the Town's projected match responsibility will be \$1,774 if project costs come in as budgeted for \$8,870.

**Kevin Gish made the motion to approve and sign the FY22 Better Roads Grant Agreement #BR0890 with the VTRANS Better Roads Program. Mary Gavin seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**7. GMP Authorization for Flag Placement on Utility Poles:**

Discussions were postponed until July 19 in light of the Chair's absence.

**8. Tree Warden Appointment:**

**Motion by Kevin Gish to appoint Vince Gross as Tree Warden. Seconded by Mary Gavin. The motion carried unanimously.**

9. **South Royaltown Rescue Advisory Board Appointment:**

**Motion by Mary Gavin to appoint Tom Lober to succeed Carol Flint as Town representative to the South Royaltown Rescue Advisory Board. Kevin Gish seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

10. **Lebanon Landfill Agreement:**

Tom Kennedy joined the meeting to discuss the status of the Lebanon landfill and the City of Lebanon's proposal to more carefully control the ACCESS to the landfill. Greater Upper SW District Towns, including Sharon, will be asked to make a decision whether to enter into an agreement directly with the City on behalf of their residents or to opt to have residents purchase access permits individually. The City is proposing to adopt a system similar to "EZ Pass", a digital payment system. There are implications for town clerks if the City does so.

The Hartford transfer station does not accept all waste streams, including construction and demolition debris, thus Sharon residents and contractors do self-haul to Lebanon upon occasion. The solid waste district's attorney has performed a legal review of the proposed agreement. When negotiations with Lebanon are finished, Tom Kennedy indicated the District will convene a meeting of all member towns to further discuss. Mary Gavin expressed interest in attending an upcoming meeting with the City's DPW. The matter will reappear on a future agenda later in July or August.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Status Reports:**

11. **Selectboard Assistant Reports:**

Margy Becker will meet with Jacob Mayer regarding front walkway repairs at Baxter Library. She will contact another vendor with respect to fire alarm upgrades at the Old School House, as Fifield Electric has decided against submitting a bid. The Town is in receipt of Tasco's proposal, but procurement policies dictate a competitive solicitation.

Margy Becker further noted that exterior paint bids (for OSH and Town Offices) are due July 15 and are scheduled for review at the July 19<sup>th</sup> SB meeting.

Margy will follow-up with Horizons Engineering concerning the potential for a revised estimate to draw up construction specifications for library drainage improvements. SB members set aside Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> and/or Monday, July 26 to convene a special meeting with Seven Stars and School representatives regarding future maintenance of drainage infrastructure, if it is to be shared. Mary Gavin noted she thought most of the discussions seem relevant to the School and Seven Stars. Kevin Gish noted, however, that it is Seven Stars Center that is hoping to tie into the Library's drainage system.

12. Ashley Forest:

Kevin Gish reported the negotiating committee is proposing some changes to the draft conservation easement. Deb Jones has been providing input, upon request, regarding options for oversight and accountability for the funds which will be dedicated for the Sharon-Strafford community forest.

13. Coronavirus planning/updates:

It was noted that the Incident Command Team has decided reduce its meeting frequency from monthly to quarterly meetings. SB members will follow-up with SFD regarding this announcement to inquire about the procedure for 'lifting' the local coronavirus state of emergency. Mary Gavin also will continue to follow-up with the SFD regarding designating the Fire Station as the future SB meeting location.

Margy Becker reported several boards and commissions are expressing an interest for in-person meetings. SB members restated concerns that the conference room in the Town Offices is too small to accommodate social distancing, if required due to vaccination status. The preference is to continue with videoconferencing or teleconference meetings, in keeping with the open meeting law. But IF a meeting does take place in the conference room, all attendees will be requested to wear masks.

14. Harlow Road:

SB members reported on increased traffic on Harlow Road, even though the two major offenders are still in prison. The SB will contact the VSP. Mary Gavin suggested Windsor County Sheriffs be asked to assist the Town with creation of neighborhood watch areas.

15. Adjournment:

**Kevin Gish made the motion to adjourn at 6:52PM. Mary Gavin seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Submitted by Margy Becker