

**Sharon Selectboard
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 21st, 2023 FINAL**

Participants attending In Person: Nicola Shipman, Selectboard Assistant; Kevin Gish, Selectboard Chair

Participants attending via Zoom: Mary Gavin, Selectboard Vice Chair; Lucy Pierpont, Finance Manager

Participating via Phone: Frank Rogers, Road Foreman

Not in attendance: Sarah Pfeiffer, Selectboard Clerk

Call to Order:

Kevin Gish called the meeting to order at 6:33PM

1. Review/Approve Agenda:

Kevin Gish made a motion to accept the agenda with Item #11 deleted. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

2. Public Comments:

No public comments.

3. Selectboard Member Reports

No reports.

4. Finance Manager Reports

Lucy Pierpont said she posted the open highway position on Indeed, in the Valley News and the Herald and on listservs starting last Monday. There is one applicant currently.

Lucy also provided an update regarding June 2023 and July 2023 actuals.

Kevin Gish asked if the appropriations for the Sprouty had been mailed out. Lucy said she would double check.

5. Road Foreman Reports

Frank Rogers reported that road grading has restarted as the weather has improved. He also reminded the Selectboard that Joe's last day is tomorrow.

Frank Rogers is looking at contracting out hauling for hard pack this year, since the Road Crew is currently short staffed and there has been a backlog of work due to the constant rain and damage to the roads during the July 10th flooding.

Kevin Gish asked if it has been possible to do any mowing. Frank said it is on the list, but it has been a challenge to navigate the road repairs, the challenging weather, the reduced staff numbers as well as the grading back log.

Mary Gavin thought it would be a good idea for Frank to brainstorm ideas for those who might be able to help haul hard pack.

6. Selectboard Assistant Reports

Nicola Shipman said that she has submitted the MERP Level 2 Assessment grant application, and she is working on gathering/uploading documents needed to complete the application process.

The lighting conversion project is underway, and painting has started on the Old School House.

Howe Hill Cemetery tree removal project is on hold until the access dries out and is not so muddy. Nicola also reiterated to the Board that the donations are restricted funds to be used for projects identified as acceptable to the donors in collaboration with the cemetery committee and VOCA.

Nicola reported that the in-person meeting with FEMA for the Recovery Scoping Meeting will be on August 31st.

The Broad Brook and Quimby Mountain Road bank stabilization RFP is due August 28th, and the Quimby Mountain Road ditch recovery/shoulder shaping/debris removal RFP will be released this week. The next priority RFP that will need to go out is for repairing pavement on Route 132

Nicola also said the Town has received the complete proposal from Fuss and O'Neil for Scoping Study, and she and Rita are reviewing the documents.

7. Minutes

Mary Gavin made a motion to approve the August 8th minutes (version 2) as presented. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Mary Gavin made a motion to approve the August 10th minutes with minor changes as discussed. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

8. Approve Warrants

Mary Gavin made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1518 in the amount of \$12,631.29 with payments to Bethel Mills \$34.56, Blue Cross Blue Shield \$3,962.57, Casella Waste \$106.96, Chase Site Services \$1,140, Dave Phillips \$100, Evans Motor Fuels \$1,215.36, Foley Services \$110.88, Green Mountain Mowing \$503.33, Innovative Municipal Products \$5,457.63. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Kevin Gish made a motion to approve AP Warrant 1519 in the amount of \$20,076.70 with payments to Magee office products \$56.66, Ryan Haac \$582.82, South Royalton Rescue \$15,496.46, Tarrant, Gillies, & Shems \$1,751.40, Twin State Sand & Gravel \$2,189.36. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Kevin Gish made a motion to ratify the HRA Reimbursement for the period 7/1/23 – 7/31/23 in the amount of \$508.28. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

9. EV Charging Station MOU

Tabled until next meeting

10. Town Plan Adoption

Kevin Gish made a motion to adopt the 2023 Town Plan as presented. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Kevin Gish made a motion to sign and submit the Energy Determination. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Kevin Gish made a motion to request approval of the 2023 Town Plan of the Two Rivers Regional Planning Commission. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

11. Interlocal Agreement for Emergency Services

Nicola Shipman will ask for clarification for the I-89 stretch from Hartford/Sharon and whether the agreement specifies with regards to Northbound vs Southbound service between Hartford/Sharon town line and Exit 2.

Mary Gavin made a motion to sign the Town of Hartford Interlocal Agreement for Emergency Response Services for the period of July 1 – June 30 2024 with a per capita rate of \$35 per person and \$175 response fee. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

12. Village Designation

Mary Gavin and Kevin Gish concurred that the letter submitted by Planning Commission was appropriate and it makes sense to move forward.

13. Health Officer

Mary Gavin made a motion to recommend Keith R. Lyman Jr. to the Vermont Department of Health as nominee for Town Health Officer. Kevin Gish seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

14. ARPA Funding

Tabled until next meeting.

15. Other business

Kevin Gish reported that at least two of the Sharon Connects committees have met.

16. Adjourn

Mary Gavin made a motion to adjourn at 7:21 PM. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Nicola Shipman