

SELECT BOARD MEETING
July 18, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.
Town of Plymouth Municipal Building

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. by board chairman, Jay Kullman. In attendance were Rick Kaminski, Tom Ellis, Donald Martin, and Bruce Pauley. Attending via zoom were Todd Menees and Michelle Pingree.

Jay announced a change to the agenda regarding a letter received from Lauren Skaskiw regarding a safety concern at the Community Center.

Donald Martin addressed the Select Board regarding an article on Vermont Digger about the construction of the existing municipal building. Jay and Rick discussed the article and explained the process of current building code requirements. The existing building does not meet the current codes for municipal buildings. The bid that was received was much more than the amount voted on by the town for the Renovation Project.

Also of concern in the future is the building of a new Woodstock High School, and the additional tax burden to property owners in the school district.

The town tax rate was set following the warning to the legal voters in the Town of Plymouth to raise \$1,250,233 in taxes to pay estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,683,583. The municipal tax rate was set at 0.5075.

Jay made a motion to accept the rate, Rick Kaminski seconded the motion.

The sale of the properties in the Hawk Valley Floor is scheduled to close on July 29, 2022. A wire transfer of delinquent properties at the time of sale has been requested by the town to the closing attorney.

The discussion regarding the Woodstock Ambulance Contract will be continued to the next Select Board meeting on August 1, 2022, as the board has more questions before a decision can be made. Jay indicated that we will continue with both Woodstock and Ludlow ambulance services.

The cell phone tower contract to install an 80Ft. tower at the municipal building was discussed and will also be continued at the next meeting, as more information is needed.

Todd Menees asked about the Inclusion Statement previously presented at a Select Board meeting on June 20, 2022. It is possible the statement can be voted on by the town at the November election.

Tom Ellis spoke to the need for a reduction of the speed limit on certain sections of Kingdom Road, and the need to replace signs to indicate the sharp curves along a stretch of the road. One hairpin curve is of particular concern. Rick Kaminski said he will speak to Larry Lynds regarding reducing speed and adding appropriate warning signs.

The bids for Stickney Bridge were opened. The bids were reviewed. Rick said he would like to delay a decision until he has read both bids carefully before the board decides on the winning bid. A grant of \$198,000 is available for the project, but both bids were significantly more. Rick will speak with Larry to discuss the project further.

Josh Linton submitted a proposal at the previous Select Board meeting on July 11, 2022 to be available for calls between 6:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M. Rick stated he asked Josh in November, 2021 for references, a resume, and a list of duties he can and cannot do. Rick will follow up with him.

Camping without permits along Broad Brook on Hale Hollow Rd, at Five Corners was discussed. The game warden would be the person to contact regarding any issues with use of campsites and panning for gold.

The town will place an advertisement in the paper seeking a person to act as an Administrative Assistant, to take minutes for the Select Board meetings, write the minutes and possibly post to the web-site.

Bruce Pauley asked about the statutory process of changing an elected position to an appointed one.

The letter from Community Center administrator Lauren Skaskiw was read regarding safety issues regarding the gravel pile adjacent to the playground. She asked the board to look into possibly erecting a fence across the top of the berm which separates the gravel storage area from the Community Center property. Jay suggested they have a site visit to review the options available to address Lauren's concerns.

Rick spoke about the building renovation project and the choices the voters of the town will have to make regarding how the town will proceed. Bruce asked about financing the project with a bond. Rick will have all that information before a public meeting on the issue is held. He is also looking into grant monies available for such municipal projects.

Tom Ellis asked where the town stands with regards to the Sanctuary Town Resolution passed by the Select Board on March 16, 2020. Bruce stated their concern is with the procedure in passing the resolution, not with gun rights. Jay Kullman said the Select Board should have a conversation about this and decide if the board should rescind the earlier decision.

Rick Kaminski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M.
Jay Kullman seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted, as draft to be approved

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "N. Elaine Pauley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed text of the document.