

SELECT BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.
Town of Plymouth Municipal Building

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by board chairman, Jay Kullman
In attendance were Rick Kaminski, Keith Cappellini, Terry Bascom, Craig O'Briskie, Carol Goodwin, Tina and Mark Fletcher, Mark Nilges, Bruce Pauley, and Joan Rubin, via Zoom.

Jay announced the following changes to the agenda: the annex building roof, a Second Amendment Resolution, an Inclusion Resolution, the cell tower, and the Constable.

Carol Goodwin spoke regarding a probable future increase in property taxes to the residents of the Town of Plymouth. The Windsor County Supervisory School District will be discussing the construction of a new high school facility for Woodstock, possibly financed by a 74 million dollar bond issue. If this proposal is approved, the residents of the 5 towns in that district will see a significant increase to the school portion of their property tax bill.

In light of that future tax increase, she spoke to the near future and more pressing need to upgrade the existing municipal building. She asked the Select Board to wait until we get the results of the next audit of town finances this fall, before asking the town to vote on the issue.

The Woodstock Ambulance Contract was discussed. In addition to the annual contract per capita fee, the town is charged for services for those calls not covered by a patients' insurance. Jay Kullman made a motion to approve the contract, Rick Kaminski 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

Rick Kaminski said the dangerous curve and speed warning signs for Kingdom Rd. have been delivered and will be installed by the town road crew.

The Stickney Bridge project and accepted bid were discussed. The base bid was \$307,000. Rick negotiated that price down to \$277,575. The town received a grant for this project for \$190,800, which left a balance of \$86,775. The town already has \$30,000 in the bridge budget, reducing the balance to \$56,775.

Rick added a contingency fee of \$2838 to that balance bringing the total unfinanced amount to \$59,613. Rick made a motion to move \$60,000 from the Winter Sand budget to the bridge budget, thus financing the total cost of the repair of the Stickney Bridge. Jay Kullman 2nd the motion, all were in favor. Rick acknowledged the town has purchased winter sand at a discount this summer, and has an adequate supply to manage town roads this winter.

Jay announced an advertisement has been placed in the Vermont Journal for an Administrative Assistant, to record minutes of Select Board meetings and post them to the town web-site.

Next on the agenda was a discussion of the request to discontinue TH 39 known as Macawee Pond Road, a class 4 trail that intersects private property on Hale Hollow Rd. After a long discussion in which all audience participants expressed a desire to come to an agreement that Mark and Tina Fletcher would deem fair; Rick Kaminski proposed barricading the spur of TH 39 that goes up to the Fletcher property with a gate.

In addition, the town will place a concrete barrier to block off the washed - out section of TH 39, with a sign stating the area is closed to wheeled vehicles.

Mark and Tina Fletcher agreed with this proposal and said they will put up the gate. They reminded the board there is still one culvert to be replaced.

Jay Kullman will write an official decision letter and statement regarding the agreement.

The Select Board had questions regarding a Cemetery funds request. There is a Perpetual Care Account within the town budget for the Cemetery.

Midge Tucker, as the Trustee of Public Funds, manages the restricted accounts that are not in the town budget.

Craig O'Briskie asked if there is a way to donate money to a cemetery?

The select board reviewed the 4 ARPA grant requests: Salt Ash Inn, Tyson Community Church, Good Commons, and The Inn at Waters Edge.

The maximum amount to be dispersed to a qualifying town business and non-profit is \$7,500.

Keith Cappellini made a motion to disperse the funds to the 4 applicants. Rick Kaminski 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

Rick Kaminski said he would like to have the town vote on the 2 options to finance the municipal building renovation at the Primary Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

He would like to hold a warned special meeting before election day so town property owners can hear and discuss the details of the proposed renovation and the ballot questions.

Also, town voters will be able to vote to approve or decline a Declaration of Inclusion for the Town of Plymouth and decide if the town should declare itself a Second Amendment Sanctuary town.

Since November election ballots will be mailed to all registered voters by the State of Vermont, the deadline to submit the ballot questions specific to the town must be submitted to the Secretary of State's office by August 17, 2022.

Rick Kaminski noted the Annex building roof is in bad shape and asked to place an ad in the local paper for bids to replace the roof as soon as possible.

He also stated the town should adopt a record request policy and the process for dealing with unreasonable freedom of information demands.

Rick made a motion to proceed with adopting a model form supplied by VLCT. Jay seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Joan Rubin asked a question regarding the link to join Select Board meetings via Zoom. Jay stated the Zoom link on the town web-site is a recurring link. He will include it on the agenda in the future.

The Minutes of the July 18, 2022 meeting were approved as written.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Elaine Paulay