

Starksboro Selectboard Meeting
Minutes of 3/2/22
Unapproved

Board members present: Nancy Boss, Carin McCarthy, John Painter, Eric Cota
Unable to attend: Koran Cousino
Others present: Rebecca Elder, Tony Porter, Susan Klaiber, Dennis Casey, Nancy Cornell, Liz Sayre

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by John Painter at the Town Clerk's office and via Zoom.

Changes or Additions

- None

Visitor's Business

None

Road Foreman's Report

FEMA projects – Waiting on response from FEMA on both projects.
New temporary employee is able to help through the end of plowing season.
Road crew position ads will continue – only one application received so far.

Annual Board organization

Motion: Nancy Boss made a motion to nominate Koran Cousino as Chair. Eric Cota second.
Motion approved unanimously.

Motion: Nancy Boss made a motion to nominate John Painter as Vice Chair. Eric Cota second.
Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting schedule and information:

Regular meetings will continue on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Town Clerk's office and via Zoom.

Agendas will be posted on the town website and FPF calendar with physical posting at the Town Clerk's office. New posting requirements no longer require physical posting in 3 locations though staff will continue to post at the Post Office and Jerusalem Store when possible. Carin also suggested a physical posting of the regular meeting schedule information for all meetings including Zoom links and direct people to the website to confirm details and agenda. Rebecca will do this.

Newspaper of record for legal notices: Addison Independent

Town Appointments

Annual appointments for town positions include Regional Planning Commission delegates, AC Solid Waste Mgmt District delegates, Maple Broadband Board delegates, and DRB members (in June).
Listers – Larry Shepard is no longer serving. Chuck Webber and Norm Cota are continuing.
Rebecca will contact people who are currently serving in roles to gauge interest in continuing. A message will also be posted to FPF. The board will make appointments at an upcoming meeting.

Starksboro Save Our Schools Update

The group thinks it is time to start collecting signatures on a petition to withdraw from the MAUSD. The group does not want to go in the direction as the real desire is to ensure that the town has the opportunity to vote on whether Robinson School would ever be closed or repurposed. The group wishes to ensure the voters of the town have this right. The group is asking the Selectboard for its input on proceeding with the petition and the timeline that such a petition would require for a town vote.

Herb Olson presented information about the history of steps and conversations to date in the effort to avoid a withdrawal vote. He also presented draft language for the petition that the group is considering presenting to the public. The petition would include two articles: the first asking if the voters support withdrawal and the second asking the voters to authorize the Selectboard to terminate the withdrawal process if the proposed merger Articles include the provision to ensure a town vote prior to any closing/repurposing OR if the proposed merger is not approved by the voters.

The Selectboard will consider the information presented tonight and will provide a response at the March 15 meeting.

(Materials presented included: Process and Timeline for Withdrawal, Timeline of the Effort to Save Robinson School, analysis of potential costs if withdrawal were to occur, and draft petition language.)

Selectboard roundtable:

Brief discussion about items related to financial coding for road related invoices and timing of mail processing and date stamping.

Preparation for March 8 special meeting: To be held in person and via Zoom webinar to receive public comments. Shawn Kimball from NeatTV will assist with sound system. Speakers will be asked to sign in and come to the podium to speak. Comments are to be directed to the board members.

[Minutes review](#)

Motion: Carin McCarthy made a motion to approve the minutes of 2/22/22. Nancy Boss second.

Vote: 3 yes, John Painter abstained.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm: Eric Cota moved. Nancy Boss second.

Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Elder
SB Assistant