

Starksboro Selectboard Meeting
Minutes of 4/19/22
Approved

Board members present: Nancy Boss, Carin McCarthy, Eric Cota, Koran Cousino
Others present: Rebecca Elder, Amy McCormick, Mark Kinsley, Nancy Cornell, Herb Olson

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Koran Cousino at Town Clerk's office and via Zoom.

Additions/Removals

- Liquor license and tobacco license for Jerusalem Corners Country Store
- Signature on onboarding form

Motion: Nancy Boss moved to enter executive session for personnel interviews. Eric Cota second.
Motion approved unanimously.

Road Crew Interview was conducted in Executive Session. No action was taken.

Road Foreman's Report

- Tony Porter has submitted his resignation. His last week is May 2. The board expressed appreciation for his many years of service and wished him well.
- The board will work with Tony have a system in place for receiving/responding to emails and phone calls. Tony will work with Rebecca and Mark to ensure they know where documents and files are kept regarding grants and other reporting needed from the highway department.
- Guide rails were installed on Big Hollow Road.
- No FEMA updates

ARPA Funding Planning

Guiding section needed – create a one-sheet reference document

Committee should have access to the documents (studies, proposal guidance, etc) – goal is to help answer many questions and help guide proposals to ensure they have
Rebecca will help make a binder to be kept at the office for the committee to refer to during meetings and a corresponding links/electronic reference docs.

VLCT has extensive FAQ

For 5/3 meeting:

Review draft charge to the committee – Koran suggested everyone review the statements submitted by those interested in service on the committee along with the charge. Finalize at the next meeting. Since there are more than 10 people interested, the statements will be reviewed and then 7 members selected randomly. Potentially 2 alternates in case a committee member needs to step down in the future.

Special Town Meeting

- Discussion about legal guidance regarding how the vote needed to be conducted. Because the emergency order is no longer in effect regarding COVID-19 pandemic, the town can no longer vote by Australian ballot because the town votes all articles from the floor and in person.
- The SOS group will hold an informational meeting on Thursday, 5/5 at the Robinson School and via Zoom. The goal is to provide information about the articles that were proposed on the petition that was presented to the town.
- Koran is contacting Keegan Tierney about moderation for the Special Town Meeting on May 10. The articles will be read aloud and discussion will occur as at regular town meeting.

- The SOS group will be posting a series of Q&As on FPF and on their website. They will be doing broad outreach to the community including a mailing to all residents.

Richmond Trail Running Club Footrace

The group requested use of town roads for a footrace on July 9, 2022. The runners will travel over Shaker Hill and Big Hollow Roads. There will be a water station at parking area at the corner of Big Hollow and Hinesburg Hollow Roads. All runners use their own water bottles, there will be no paper cups left behind, signage is minimal and will be removed immediately following the race. Runners must be single

Motion: Nancy Boss moved to approve the request from the Richmond Trail Running Club for a footrace on July 9. Carin McCarthy second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Eric Cota signed the **XX** on behalf of the board.

Liquor and Tobacco License

Motion: Nancy Boss moved to approve the liquor license and tobacco license for the Jerusalem Corners Country Store. Carin McCarthy second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report

Recycling donation process – The recycling and audit team jointly recommended a new process to help mitigate risk. The values of donations (\$100-150 per event) don't warrant further security risk mitigation beyond the team's recommendation. The Selectboard agreed and supports the proposal.

VLCT insurance audit is underway for 2021. They do not accept bids as contracts. Mark has created contracts for 5 contractors including all town mowing and the cleaning services.

Motion: Nancy Boss moved to accept the Scenic Valley bid for 2022 services as quoted. Eric Cota second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Motion: Nancy Boss moved to approve the slate of contracts to include cleaning, Cota field mowing, landscaping, cemetery mowing with correction to Cota field contract as noted. Carin McCarthy second. **Motion approved KC, NB, CM. Eric Cota abstained.**

Warrants for Orders and Payroll

Motion: Nancy Boss made a motion to approve the warrants as presented by the Treasurer. Eric Cota second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

LEMP Approval

Motion: Eric Cota made a motion to approve the Starksboro Local Emergency Management Plan. Nancy Boss second. The board authorized K. Cousino to sign and E.Cota for completion of training. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Town appointments

Energy Committee positions still need to be reviewed and appointed. Richard Faesy will be contacted about positions that are up. Rebecca will contact Richard about vetting interest from current members and the positions will also be posted to FPF for new volunteers.

Minutes Review

Motion: Nancy Boss moved to approve the minutes of 4/5/22 as presented. Carin McCarthy second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Selectboard Roundtable

Thank you to Rebecca for preparing the request and letter of interest to Rep. Welch's office for FY23 appropriations funding for Starksboro Fire Station #2 in South Starksboro. The proposal was submitted for \$450,000. The town will receive a response by May 6.

Carin noted that DRB feedback to the JCC committee is needed to proceed with the site plan review for the Fire Station #2. Koran stated they sent a list of points that they should be aware of. She noted that it may be helpful for a member of SB to attend a meeting in the future. Some pro bono feasibility work is being done to assess the site work needed on the land. Guidance on how to proceed would be helpful for the committee. The PC would be valuable in shedding light on the zoning regulations and helping the town and JCCC respond and adapt the project proposal to address any zoning concerns. The project also needs to be acceptable voters in terms of final price tag. Applicants should have the opportunity to point out ways to interpret suggestions in the bylaws and seek ways to address suggested items such as design and address any safety concerns to ensure the project's viability and service to the community's greater good.

Fundraising items re: Pavilion project – donation jar at the library; donation “thermometer”

Federal Grant interest: Connor Timmons from Camp Common Ground contacted the town about potential collaboration for community development funds and grants and economic opportunities.

Executive Session

Motion: Carin McCarthy moved to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. for discussing interview. Nancy Boss second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Motion: Eric Cota moved to end the Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. Nancy Boss second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Motion: Eric Cota moved to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Carin McCarthy second.
Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Elder
Selectboard Assistant