

Starksboro Selectboard Meeting
Minutes of 7/19/22
Unapproved

Board members present: Nancy Boss, Eric Cota, Koran Cousino, John Painter, Carin McCarthy
Others present: Rebecca Elder, Josh Martell, Robert Turner

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Koran Cousino at Town Clerk's office and via Zoom.

Additions/Changes

none

Road Foreman report

Discussion about purchasing t-shirts and sweatshirts for the road crew. Josh is collecting quotes from local vendors and will have items screen printed with "Town of Starksboro". The town will plan to give each road crew employee an annual allowance to also include one pair of OSHA approved work boots. Rebecca will setup a town account at Agway. Research on whether wearing shorts is OSHA approved. Policy draft was discussed and Rebecca will enter edits and recirculate for review.

Setting Municipal Tax Rate

Motion: Nancy Boss made a **motion to approve the municipal tax rate of .6092** to raise a total of \$1,034,205.90 for Fiscal Year 2022-23. Eric Cota second.

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Setting Homestead Penalty

Motion: Eric Cota made a **motion to set the homestead penalty at 8%**. Nancy Boss second.

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Other Financial action:

Motion: Eric Cota made a **motion to authorize the treasurer to disburse child support payments** for an employee. John Painter second. **Vote:** Motion approved unanimously.

Motion: John Painter made a **motion to accept the federal annual mileage rate of \$0.625/mi.** Carin McCarthy second. **Vote:** Motion approved unanimously.

Motion: John Painter made a **motion to accept the proposal from NEMRC for accounting services not to exceed \$1,160 as quoted.** Nancy Boss second. **Vote:** Motion approved unanimously.

Town Clerk Updates

- Townwide Reappraisal – As noted previously, the appraisal was moved up and the process will begin this year. The appraisal team will start with camps and seasonal homes first and to complete unpaved roads before winter season. The appraisal will be complete in 2023.
- Primary election – There is a new tabulator. The members of the BCA should see Amy for an intro to the machine.

Jerusalem Fire Station #2

The board engaged in a detailed discussion with 3 members of the JCC committee about the current status of the Fire Station #2 application and updated zoning information. In summary, the "site plan" review hearing was closed in March and the DRB gave their recommendations for the applicants (the

Town) to consider before bringing a revised final plan for review. Given this, the Selectboard and committee members agreed to a new charge.

The Selectboard asks the Jerusalem Community Center Committee to seek information on additional services from GVV (the current architectural firm on the project) for a revised proposal to address the issues noted by the DRB. The committee is to determine if the Town is still in a contract and costs for moving forward to a different phase with revised plans.

Personnel policy review

postponed

Warrants

Motion: Nancy Boss moved to approve the warrants for bills, orders, and payroll as presented. Eric Cota second. **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: John Painter moved to authorize the Treasurer to pay payroll and liabilities out of warrant cycle for reoccurring bills. **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Eric Cota made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the request to reappraise the Town of Starksboro properties and authorize K. Cousino to sign on behalf of the board.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Town Green Pavilion Update

- Tree behind the preschool – It is dead and needs to be removed. The tree may be on a boundary line. Carin will follow up with the landowners.
- The community group helping to organize is hoping to have an event to generate funds and donations to support the pouring of the concrete slab to support the future structure. Carin asked if the Selectboard or others in town want to collaborate on an event?
- Lawn maintenance – Volunteers are currently doing it but there needs to be a plan for the area to be taken care of for the town. Ask Scenic Valley to quote since they there with equipment.
- Portolet is being delivered and will be placed next to the bus shelter. It will be accessible and provided during warmer weather months while the community garden is open and area is in use.

Review of Minutes

Motion: John Painter moved to approve the minutes of July 5, 2022 with spelling correction as noted. Nancy Boss second. **Vote:** Motion approved unanimously.

Motion: John Painter moved to approve the minutes of July 12, 2022 as presented. Eric Cota second.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Motion: John Painter moved to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters per 1 VSA 313 (a) Carin McCarthy second. Rebecca Elder was invited into the session.

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Motion: Carin McCarthy moved to exit executive session at 8:30 p.m. Eric Cota second.

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Actions taken:

The board confirms the termination of an employee who, upon receipt of the pre-termination notice, declined the pre-termination meeting or any other hearing. Employee indicated obtained work elsewhere. The termination was of the zoning administrator.

Motion: John Painter made a motion to appoint Rebecca Elder as the Zoning Administrator. Nancy Boss second. **Vote:** Motion approved unanimously.

Motion: Eric Cota moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Carin McCarthy second.
Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Elder
SB Assistant

Next regular meeting: August 2, 2022 at 6 p.m.

DRAFT