

Starksboro Selectboard Special Meeting
Minutes of 9/28/21
Unapproved

Board members present: Nancy Boss, Eric Cota, Koran Cousino, John Painter, remote participation: Carin McCarthy
Others present:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Koran Cousino.

Changes or Additions

- Update on hiring of road crew member – Executive Session

Watershed United Grant

The board discussed the latest information received from the State wetlands office. The town can maintain what we have been doing.

Eric and Nancy both expressed concern about proceeding. Eric said that we already need to abide by the rules to protect the watershed. Overall, the board sees the need for the town to relocate rec fields to a higher elevation at a different location.

The grant money is for an engineering study, not for the work itself. The town does not need to act on the recommendations of the study and would not be able to invest in a study. The only way to address the field drainage is to raise the elevation, which is likely not allowed. John said he can support moving forward if we are assured of permission to continue all current practices. Carin also pointed out that we are seeing more flooding and this is a way to get more information about how to plan for and address issues as they come in the future. The board supports developing the plan for another location for fields acknowledging that project would require a lot of capital. The grant would support better management of the ecological resource.

Motion: John Painter made a motion to pursue the Watershed United grant conditioned upon a binding formal correspondence from the State to record. Carin McCarthy second.

Motion passed – 3 yes (CM, JP, KC), 2 no (NB, EC)

Road Crew Hiring Update

An offer has been made to a candidate and the board needed to discuss contract terms.

Motion: Nancy Boss moved and John Painter seconded the motion to enter Executive Session per 1 VSA § 313(a)(3) regarding personnel matters. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Motion: Nancy Boss moved and John Painter seconded the motion to exit Executive Session at 6:32 pm. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Action taken: The board will make a counteroffer to the candidate as discussed.

Motion: Carin McCarthy moved to adjourn at 6:33 p.m. John Painter second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Elder, SB Assistant