

Starksboro Selectboard
Minutes of 1/23/19
Unapproved

Board members present: Koran Cousino, Keegan Tierney, Peter Marsh, Tony Porter
Unable to attend: Eric Cota
Others present: Rebecca Elder, Dan Dubenetsky, Susan Jefferies, Robert Turner

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Koran Cousino.

Town Meeting planning

The board discussed with Dan Dubenetsky, Town Moderator, the order of events for the meeting. Because there is no school meeting or school budget discussion, the order will be different from past years. Koran and Dan will contact the representatives (Caleb Elder, Mari Cordes, Ruth Hardy, and Chris Bray) regarding time to speak (15 min for school related matters and 15 min for legislators). Robinson Principal Edorah Frazer plans to speak briefly and answer questions as well.

The board reviewed the draft warning to be included in the Town Report:

- There are no school board positions to vote on. (delete portion of first sentence of 2nd paragraph)
- In Article 1 – Add a 3-year auditor term (note the position is the 2 -yr balance of a 3-yr term that has been vacant.)
- Article 4 – Fire Equipment reserve \$47,373 (per Robert Turner)
- Article 8 – tandem dump truck – Amount not to exceed \$199,916
- Article 9 (proposed draft reserve fund for town-owned building maintenance) – deleted
- Renumber remaining articles 10-13
- Article 10 (In-town requests) – add Food Shelf \$2,000
- Article 13 – delete first comma in first sentence

Theme of report this year is churches. Elsa Gilbertson will provide the narrative and photographs.

Dan Dubenetsky departed.

Changes to be incorporated in the budget by the Auditors:

- Separate line items for Assistant Clerk and Assistant Treasurer
- Eliminate a few unnecessary lines under “Other Receipts” as discussed
- Make adjustments to payroll and health insurance benefits as discussed
- The board will bring the following budget to the voters for approval:
 - Total expenses \$1,014,211
 - Less receipts of \$257,600
 - Less carryover surplus from FY17-18 of \$51,507
 - For a total of = \$705,104

Motion: Keegan Tierney made a motion accept all edits as discussed on the warning for Town Meeting, including the budget to be presented to the town voters on March 5, 2019. Peter Marsh seconded.

Motion carried.

Board member Tony Porter departed. Robert Turner and Susan Jefferies departed.

The board adjusted its meeting schedule for the next two months as follows:

February 12 and 26

March 12 and 26

The board expressed its appreciation to Robert Turner and Susan Jefferies for their work on the budget and reserve fund reports.

Current business:

DuPont accessibility permit – Louis DuPont and Ellen Spring are having logging work done on their land on Ireland Road (the former A. Johnson land). They applied for an accessibility permit for access to/from the log landing. No culvert is needed.

Motion: Keegan Tierney made a motion to approve the accessibility permit application from Louis DuPont and Ellen Spring pending no objections from the Road Foreman. Peter Marsh seconded.

Motion carried.

Website expense: Rebecca asked the board to review the memo she presented on 1/15/19 regarding some upgrades needed for the town website. Most important is the security certificate. The SSL certificate can be purchased in a bundle with a dedicated service to support the site. The board agreed.

Motion: Keegan Tierney made a motion to approve the purchase of the suggested upgrade to the website hosting package to include an SSL certificate for security. Peter Marsh seconded.

Motion carried.

Building Maintenance

- Walkway clearing for the library – request received at the Town office. Motion sensor light is not turning on when visitors leave the library at night and walk the path to the parking lot. The path has been difficult to walk, especially in the evening for events. Caller reported ice and drifted snow over the path. The board discussed various remedies and will ensure a bucket with sand is available along the path. The foodshelf also requested snow removal. The town provides plowing up to the building and sanding, but the walkway must be cleared by the tenant(s).

Items for future agendas:

Figure out a lease with the food shelf – give them a space and provide utilities.

Painting schedule for 2019.

Mowing bids for 2019.

Motion to adjourn: Keegan Tierney made the motion and Peter Marsh seconded at 8:20 p.m.:

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Elder
Selectboard Assistant