

**TOWN OF SWANTON
SELECTBOARD MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
Swanton Town Office Building
1 Academy Street, Swanton, VT 05488
Tuesday, June 18, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Daniel Billado, Chair; Mark Rocheleau, Karen Drennen, Members; David Jescavage, Town Administrator; Cathy Fournier, Town Clerk; Elisabeth Nance, Administrative Assistant; Amy Giroux, Zoning Administrator; Derick Billado, Animal Control Officer; Adam Paxman; Christine Sweeney; Lise McDonald; Melissa Colgan; Michael Korte; Shirley Korte; Dale Colgan; John Lavoie; Henry Lambert; Ron Kilburn; Sandy Skeels Kilburn; William Cheney

*All motions carried unanimously unless otherwise specified.

- A. Call to Order – Chair Billado called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Billado led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Agenda Review

Presentation of Resolution – Chair Billado moved this item up in the agenda before Public Comment.

Executive Session – Chair Billado moved this item up in the agenda to follow the Presentation of Resolution.

Town Business – Mr. Jescavage noted b) Review 5-Year Plan was added after publication of the original agenda.

Correspondence – Mr. Jescavage noted a) Letter from VT Council on Rural Development was added after publication of the original agenda

- D. Presentation of Resolution

Chair Billado gave a brief history of Mr. Lavoie’s service to the community of Swanton and read the resolution aloud, noting it was originally signed on February 19, but that the board wanted to wait until Mr. Lavoie was in town to formally present it.

Mr. Lavoie talked about the hard work of the Selectboard and noted he only resigned because work called him out of town.

E. Executive Session

Mr. Rocheleau made a motion at 7:08 p.m., seconded by Ms. Drennen, to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues that premature general public knowledge of would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Motion carried.

Ms. Drennen made a motion at 7:44 p.m., seconded by Mr. Rocheleau, to exit Executive Session. Motion carried.

Action taken: None

F. Public Comments

Mr. Paxman came before the Selectboard to ask that the board consider lowering the speed limit on Spring St. from Monument Road to the village line from 50 to 40. Chair Billado cautioned Mr. Paxman that the process to change speed limits on state-maintained roads is long and that a speed study is required first but that the Selectboard supports the effort. Chair Billado encouraged Mr. Paxman to address enforcement issues as well. Mr. Cheney volunteered to assist Mr. Paxman in his efforts.

Mr. Korte came before the Selectboard to ask about the process for getting compensation for the damage caused by a tractor trailer that went off the road onto his lawn. Chair Billado suggested Mr. Korte contact Swanton Police and/or Fire Departments to get the information necessary to file an insurance claim.

Mr. Kilburn came before the Selectboard to thank them for the honor of naming the depot the Ronald F. Kilburn Transportation Museum. Mr. Kilburn also asked the Selectboard to follow up on the recent vandalism of signs at the depot.

Ms. Colgan, who lives on First St., came before the Selectboard to express her concerns about the proposed sidewalk to MVU. Chair Billado gave a brief history of the project, noting public hearings were held and based on input the Selectboard believes the best solution is the sidewalk along First St. The Selectboard stated they understood the concerns of residents along the route and will keep them informed of the process should the town be awarded the grant.

There was discussion about the safety of kids along the route as well as how much use the sidewalk will have. Residents also expressed concerns about the proximity of the sidewalk to their homes and whether the cost would raise their taxes. To the latter, without the presence of Mr. Clark, who is the Road Commissioner, Chair Billado stated it was not possible to fully address funding.

G. Meeting Topics:

1. Minutes – June 4, 2019 Selectboard Regular Meeting

Ms. Drennen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rocheleau, to approve the minutes of June 4, 2019 as written. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of Resolution

3. Animal Control – Swanton Animal Control Officer Monthly Report

ACO Billado came before the Selectboard and provided a written report. Chair Billado asked Mr. Jescavage to take the lead on a possible case of cruelty and asked that he document everything.

4. Town Business

a) Public Hearing to Discuss FY2020 Feasibility Grant Application for Maquam Shore Rd.

Ms. Nance gave a brief review of what the feasibility study hopes to accomplish, noting part of the study will determine whether the result will be a sidewalk or shared use path.

Ms. Sweeney came before the Selectboard with an update on the efforts to get letters of support and signatures on the petition. Ms. Sweeney noted 1/3 of the petition responders live on Lake St. or Maquam Shore Rd.

Ms. Sweeney asked that the board consider lowering the speed limit in the area and to add markings to the road.

b) Review 5-Year Plan – Tabled

c) Discuss Fireworks Contract

Mr. Jescavage directed the board's attention to the list of fireworks provided by Northstar Fireworks.

Ms. Drennen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rocheleau, to sign the fireworks permit application. Motion carried.

Mr. Rocheleau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Drennen, authorizing Mr. Jescavage to sign the contract with Northstar. Motion carried.

Mr. Rocheleau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Drennen, to pay the fireworks invoice. Motion carried.

5. Community & Economic Development

a) Economic Development Coordinator Updates

Ms. Nance noted she had provided the Selectboard with a list of those items from the municipal plan and VCRD Community Visit report that she has been involved in. Because the list is long any discussion can be done at the next meeting.

Ms. Nance updated the board on the status of the three grant applications, which has been the main focus since the last Selectboard meeting.

Ms. Nance also noted the first public forum for the Marble Mill Revitalization project will be held on Thursday, June 27 from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Holy Trinity Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

b) Approve Invoice for Marble Mill Park Project

Ms. Fournier asked the board to appoint someone to approve the invoices.

Ms. Drennen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rocheleau, authorizing Mr. Jescavage to sign invoices related to the Marble Mill Municipal Planning Grant. Motion carried.

6. Expenditures

a) General Orders

Ms. Drennen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rocheleau, to approve General Orders dated May 22, 2019 to June 18, 2019. Motion carried.

b) Highway Orders

Mr. Rocheleau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Drennen, to approve Highway Orders dated May 22, 2019 to June 18, 2019. Motion carried.

c) Payroll

Mr. Rocheleau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Drennen, to approve Payroll dated May 22, 2019 to June 18, 2019. Motion carried.

7. Highway Department

a) Grant-In-Aid Update – Mr. Jescavage informed the board that after meeting with Bethany Remmers from NRPC it was determined that there is one project on Beebe Rd. from last year that can be funded using last year's funds. There was no determination of projects yet for this year; the town will be eligible for \$13,000 in funds.

b) Other Updates – Chair Billado gave a brief update in the absence of Mr. Clark, noting paving will begin in July and roadside mowing is underway.

8. Correspondence

Mr. Jescavage informed the board he had received a letter from the VT Council on Rural Development looking for a nominee to go to the August Leadership Conference.

Mr. Rocheleau made a motion, seconded by Chair Billado, to nominate Ms. Drennen. Motion carried.

9. Any Other Necessary Business

Mr. Cheney brought to the board's attention erosion and ditch issues along Maquam Shore Rd. and South River St. Chair Billado asked Mr. Jescavage to inform Mr. Clark of Mr. Cheney's concerns.

10. Public Comments (Reprise)

Ms. Buczkowski asked the Selectboard to consider putting meetings on the internet so those without cable can view them. Chair Billado noted this was something the board needs to consider during budget time or at least with the full board. Mr. Jescavage informed the board that next year, due to budget cuts, Northwest Access will be asking for donations from the municipalities.

Ms. Buczkowski directed the Selectboard to the Swanton Arts Council Facebook page for a list of upcoming activities, of which there are many.

11. Upcoming Events

- a) Planning Commission Meeting, Wednesday, June 19, 2019 @ 7 p.m., Town Offices, 1 Academy Street
- b) Friday, June 21, 2019, Summer Begins (Longest Daylight Hours)
- c) DRB Meeting, Thursday, June 27, 2019 @ 7 p.m., Town Offices, 1 Academy Street
- d) Tuesday, July 2, 2019 @ 6 p.m., Selectboard Site Visits Meeting for Road Discontinuance Examinations on Site (see public notice)
- e) Tuesday, July 2, 2019 @ 7 p.m., Next Selectboard Meeting, Town Offices, 1 Academy Street
- f) Fourth of July, Town Offices & Operations Closed July 4th & 5th
- g) Multi-Board Meeting, Wednesday, July 10, 2019 @ 7 p.m., Village Complex, 120 First Street

12. Executive Session (personnel/contract)

Mr. Rocheleau made a motion at 8:57 p.m., seconded by Ms. Drennen to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues that premature general public knowledge of would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Motion carried.

Ms. Drennen made a motion at 9:12 p.m., seconded by Mr. Rocheleau, to exit Executive Session. Motion carried.

Action taken: None

H. Adjournment

Ms. Drennen made a motion at 9:12 p.m., seconded by Mr. Rocheleau, to adjourn. Motion carried.