

TOWN OF WORCESTER, VERMONT

MINUTES OF THE SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING

December 5, 2016

Select board members present:

Roger Strobridge

Cheri Goldstein

James "Ted" Lamb

Guests present: Rick Hopkins, Brian Powers, Katie Winkeljohn

The meeting was called to order by Roger at 6:30 p.m.

Cheri moved to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2016 Selectboard meeting. Roger seconded. Motion passed.

Roger moved to add Rick Hopkins from the Cross Vermont Trail Association to the agenda. All agreed.

Public Input: None

New Business:

Rick Hopkins from the Cross Vermont Trail Association informed the Selectboard that the association is raising funds for their keystone project, which will be a pedestrian bridge across the Winooski River near the hydro dam at the eastern edge of Montpelier. He stated that the goal of the association is to raise approximately \$1.00 per person from the communities surrounding Montpelier to help fund the 1.6 million dollar project (the association has already received a 1.3 million dollar federal grant and has raised \$226,275). The Selectboard agreed that the association would need to petition the town voters in order to have their request of approximately \$900 placed on the warning at town meeting.

Katie and the Selectboard discussed possible role definitions of the Town Service Officer and explored options for funding the position. A detailed description of the role and duties of the Town Service Officer is expected to be presented at the next regular meeting.

Katie reviewed the delinquent tax report. The new town policy requires that property owners who are more than six months behind on their tax bill, and who have not set up a payment plan with the town, be turned over to the town lawyer.

Old Business:

Katie presented a proposed general government budget for 2017. The budget was reviewed and discussed. Cheri motioned to that the line item "Recreation: Supplies" be converted to a rolling fund. Roger seconded. Motion passed.

Brian presented a revised 2017 budget proposal for the highway department. The budget was reviewed and discussed and is expected to be presented in the town report to be voted on at town meeting.

Correspondence: Bill Haines sent a letter to the Selectboard with suggestions on how to improve transparency and citizen engagement.

Announcements: The next regularly-scheduled Selectboard meeting will be on December 19th at 6:30 pm at the Worcester Town Clerk's Office.

Bills: Signed as presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Attest: James "Ted" Lamb