

Worcester Selectboard Regular Meeting
Minutes 3/21/22

These minutes were approved at the Selectboard meeting on 4/4/22.

Monday March 21,2022, 6:30pm

Selectboard members present: chair, Roger Strobridge, John Kaeding, Carter Stowell
Guests present: Jennifer LeStat, Katie Miller(via zoom), Toni Kaeding, Will Sutton,
John Willard, Olivia LeClerc(via zoom)

Housekeeping

- Roger called meeting to order at 6:30pm
- Roger moved to accept the minutes from March 7, 2022, seconded by John and unanimously accepted.
- Additions/Deletions - Roger moved we add Toni Kaeding presenting amended town plan, as forwarded from Planning Commission, to old business, seconded by John and unanimously accepted.

Department Reports

Town Clerk Report

- Jennifer noted town listers requested consideration of “zip app” for their use. Jennifer thinks she can assist them in work around to fix this problem
Action: Jennifer will work with listers to fix this, Carter has offered his help if there remains a problem.
- Some Worcester residents have requested Selectboard agendas be placed on Front Porch Forum as a courtesy to the town. John moves we provide the Selectboard agenda on FPF, seconded by Carter and unanimously accepted.
- Jennifer noted that warning for SB meeting with agenda must be done 24 hours before the meeting
- Minutes for SB meeting must be posted within 5 calendar days of the meeting and should be marked draft until accepted at subsequent SB meeting.
- Office hours for town clerk are
Monday 12-5
Tuesday and Thursday 9-5
Wednesday Fran is in office
Friday office is closed to the public but Jennifer is often present working without public access.

Treasurer report

Katie reports via zoom

- she has been able to reduce delinquent taxes by half this year
- regarding new fire truck - the tanker is in cue for construction but has been delayed due to Covid. The town is expected to pay 21,000 dollars for ongoing construction in advance of expected completion this coming autumn.

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Fire Departments Report

Will Sutton reports Worcester has one new member of the fire department.

- he reports he will look into cost of “repeaters” for fire trucks which can extend/improve radio contact.
- Will and Roger discussed lack of bids to repair crack in floor of fire department garage.

New Business

HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program

Olivia LeClerc from Central Vermont Prevention Coalition reports their goal is to provide stigma- free methods of care for the community regarding substance abuse/ education. They are working under a grant that runs for another 1 1/2 years. She notes there will be a forum via zoom regarding these issues. It will occur the evening of April 5 and will be advertised on FPF.

John Willard, Shepards Hill Trail Proposal

Mr. Willard requests the Shepards Hill Trail portion on his property be discontinued.

- a neighbor, who lives on landlocked property, would retain “historical use” access to his property
- this matter was tabled until the next meeting

Town Hall Reopening

- John spoke with Vermont State Covid representative, she replied that the state has removed all restrictions except as regards medical facilities.

Roger moves we open town hall for usual activities and rentals, seconded by John and unanimously accepted. People are free to continue masking if they so choose.

Old Business

Planning Commission Update

Toni Kaeding was present representing the Worcester Planning Commission. She presented amendments that consisted of clarifying language to the plan. The amendments had been previously approved on March 17, 2022 by the Planning Commission. Roger moved to accept amendments as presented, seconded by Carter and unanimously accepted.

Tower update

John reported as member of public

Neighbors remain actively involved in discouraging present tower proposal.

Community support, via letters and petitions with comments, remains encouragingly strong.

Review of Fire Department Floor Repair Bids

- Roger noted no bids for repair have been received thus far.

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- he will check with VLCT to see how active the town can be in soliciting competitive bids since open bidding has failed so far.

Bills

Signed as presented

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting will be held at the town office on Monday April 4, 2022, at 6:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Attest

John Kaeding