

TOWN OF WORCESTER, VERMONT

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD REGULAR MEETING

20 April 2020

Select Board members present: Ted Lamb, Roger Strobridge and Paul Hill, Jr.

Select Board members absent:

Guests present: Katie Winklejohn, Michael McCleese, Mara Brooks, Brea Galdenzi

The Board has begun meeting via the Zoom online conferencing service. Ted called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

The minutes for the 03/16/ 2020 meeting, moved by Ted and seconded by Roger, were approved.

Public Input: None

Road Commissioner's report –

Town Clerk's report – Katie reports...

- Katie has been very proactive in dealing with delinquent tax accounts, now under \$40K with one-half attributed to one account. The Board discussed extending a waiting period of up to 90 days before sending out tax collection notices.
- Katie is waiving the late fee for dog licenses this year.
- Town offices are still closed
- Listers will be on the next agenda, discussing tax bills and grand list issues.
- Volunteers for the Worcester neighbor Network are stepping up; donations, Mini Hill and Katie wrote the grant to acquire a \$1,000 to purchase materials for making free masks. The WNN committee is now meeting every two weeks.
- Roger asked if Meals on Wheels is still rolling, Katie replied yes, food is pre-packed, reducing handling. Karen Hoekig is still running the food shelf program and is not doing the weekly lunch program for a while.

New Business: The issue of baiting coyotes with large dead animal carcasses on Shepard Hills trail. Michael "Mike" McCleese, Mara Brooks and Brea Gladenzi all participated in the discussion to make their concerns about this activity as unacceptable. Concerns are about resident's safety, both from the possible health effects of leaving large dead animal carcasses openly exposed as well as the evidence of fire arms discharged in the shooting of coyotes. The Board responded with its concern of not being able to change or stop these activities since they don't appear to be illegal. Mike has had conversations with one resident, who doesn't appear to be a year-round resident, that didn't provide any resolution. A warden from VT Fish & Wildlife has had discussions with the same person as well as Board chair, Ted Lamb to no avail with stopping or compromise. Ted and Roger both offered to go again to talk with this person who seems to be the one most active in this activity. There may be other "camp" owners who also participate. In closing, Ted said the Town has no ordinance that prohibits this activity. Ted asked Mike to draft some language he could suggest to address this issue. The process to have an ordinance approved by town voters could be lengthy, and finally, enforcement would be complicated, but the Board would consider next steps.

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Old Business:

Correspondence: None

Bills: Signed as presented.

Announcements: The next regularly scheduled Select Board meeting will be held at the town office on 04 May 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Attest: Paul Hill, Jr.