

**TOWN OF WORCESTER, VERMONT**

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING**

**18 May 2020**

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

**Select Board members absent:**

**Guests present:** Will Sutton, Judy Knapp, Susan & Robert Connolly, David Stridesburg

The Board began meeting via the Zoom online conferencing service. Ted called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

The minutes for the 05/06/ 2020 meeting, moved by Ted and seconded by Paul, were approved.

**Worcester Fire Dept., Chief's report** – Will Sutton reported things were going fairly smoothly, the department having provided mutual aid in some recent cases. Some scheduled trainings have been canceled due to covid-19 concerns. The coin drop fund raiser has been rescheduled to the Friday before Labor Day. Will is concerned about replacing the aging tanker unit for the department. The last payment has been made. Roger agreed that now may be the time to look at replacing the truck. Will replied that finding a replacement will take time. The unit probably has no trade in value, may be of use on a farm. Ted expressed concern about cost of replacing the unit and asked Will about estimates. Will asked for a “green light” to gather more info on purchasing a replacement unit and Ted said yes, proceed but only on gathering info for further consideration by the Board. Roger asked how the morale of the membership is now. Will said the current force is OK but also that the department still needs new, young members - the fast squad is down to one member. Roger asked about the availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Will commented the department has a good inventory, and members are observing social distancing during meetings

**Town Clerk's report** – Katie is on vacation.

**Public Input:** Judy Knapp asked Will if the department could help out in putting up the American flags. Will said he could make some calls to find volunteers to do this. Judy asked if he could post something on Face Book and Will said he could if Judy could write up some of the information.

Judy brought up a concern about the bags of clothing being left on the porch of the Town Hall. She suggested we need to place a larger sing saying “No Clothing Drop Offs.” Ted asked what could be done with the existing bags. Roger said he could check out if the Salvation Army is open to accept donations.

Judy also mentioned that the July Fireworks display has been canceled and the committee has a new contract with North Star to provide the display. She would like to be on the

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next agenda for further discussions about possibly re-scheduling the display for later this year, potentially for 5<sup>th</sup> of September.

**Old Business:** The issue of baiting coyotes with large dead animal carcasses on Shepard Hills Trail continued. On May 9<sup>th</sup>, Ted, Roger and Paul met with Sue & Bob Connolly at their camp on the Trail. The meeting was only for fact-finding and gathering information. The action of hanging dead animal carcasses offends other residents but the action in and of itself is not illegal. The Board has explained this to those residents raising concerns asking about a possible ordinance that could be developed to address the situation. The Board has agreed to consider further reasonable steps. The additional concern is about the amount of ATVs and other traffic using the Trail to access “mud bog” activities with motor vehicles. i.e., ATVs and 4 wheel drive passenger vehicles such as Jeeps, trucks, etc. Sue & Bob asked if the Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VCLT) might be able to give some guidance in drafting a use ordinance. Ted said the Town does have an ordinance now in place that addresses access to the area by issuing permits. Sue & Bob said many of the users do not have permits and since enforcement has been lax, many don’t feel the need to apply, or those that have a permit don’t know they need to re-apply annually. Ted mentioned a resident had taken down license plate numbers of some users. Roger said he would get that info to Sean McMannis, the Town Constable.

**New Business:** Signage on Minister Brook Road – Chris Guerin had been scheduled to participate but did not show up, so this issue will be on the next Board agenda.

**Correspondence:** None

**Bills:** None presented.

**Announcements:** The next regularly scheduled Select Board meeting will be held at the town office on 01 June 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Attest: Paul Hill, Jr.