

Fayston Select Board Meeting Minutes Teleconference – April 28, 2020

Present at Robert Vasseur Municipal Building

Select Board Members: Jared Cadwell (Jared)

Select Board Assistant: Patti Lewis (Patti)

Mad River Television: Vinny Yasi (Vinny)

Via Phone

Select Board Member: Chuck Martel (Chuck)

Minutes Recorder: Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa)

Guests: Craig Snell (Craig), Don Simonini (Don), and John Weir (JB)

Jared called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. He thanked all first responders and folks on the front line during this pandemic especially grocery clerks, convenience store workers, and health care providers.

1. Chuck made a motion to approve the minutes of April 14, 2020. Jared seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

2. Craig Snell – Emergency Management Update
 - As of this afternoon (4/28/2020), there are 862 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Vermont. Twelve patients are hospitalized and there have been 47 deaths. 15,215 total tests have been administered. The State has expressed cautious optimism as officials are seeing a decrease in the number of new cases.
 - Vermont Department of Health released a town by town map of people who tested positive for COVID-19. Only towns with more than six cases were listed. No Valley towns were listed but Waterbury and Bristol each had six cases.
 - Fred and Carla Messer, Waitsfield Health Officers, have compiled a list of senior households (70+) in the Valley but it is currently in a format that makes it hard to distribute. Craig will try to get the list in a better format and send it to the Select Board and Town Clerk for review. The goal is to make sure there are no seniors who have been overlooked or who have not been contacted for a wellness check. Jared mentioned that there has been a fair amount of networking in the Valley regarding Meals on Wheels, Senior Center offerings, and Interfaith Council initiatives and cautioned against duplicating efforts.

3. Road Foreman Update:
 - Weather permitting, and with State COVID-19 guidelines allowing more flexibility, the road crew will begin some of their basic spring road maintenance tasks: ditching, hauling gravel, grading and resurfacing.
 - Chuck mentioned that he saw all members of the crew out and working today on Randell and N. Fayston Roads.
 - Stuart has researched the cost of excavators and has received a quote from Volvo. The SB will be discussing the budget next week to look at upcoming income and expenditures.

4. Front Office/Administration Report:
 - Last week, the front office was opened to title searchers by appointment only. Only two people are allowed in the office at one time including staff and researchers. Next week, Sarah and Patti

will go back to their normal working schedules, including two days when they are in the office at the same time. They have been, and will be, following sanitizing protocols and wearing masks.

- Doug Mosle, Lister, and John Weir, Zoning Administrator, will begin coming back to work at the office but will alternate days. The proposed schedule is Doug will be in Tuesday and Thursday, and John will come in on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. As both currently have children that are being homeschooled, this schedule will be flexible.
- Office staff and Select Board have taken an on-line course on COVID-19 procedures that can be found on the Department of Labor website.
- JB reported that the zoning permit requests are beginning to come in. He has issued several permits already and there are three upcoming DRB hearings.

5. Video Conference (Zoom) Discussion

- Depending on how long State mandated social restrictions last, the Select Board will entertain the use of ZOOM or some other video conferencing platform at their next meeting. All SB members have video and audio functions on their home computers. Patti does not but JB will help her access conference audio functions using her cell phone. The SB decided to hold their next meeting via video conference.

6. Town Owned Land

- The Town owns a 12-acre parcel off Murphy Road between Phen Basin and the Wheeler property. Scott Wheeler has expressed an interest in potentially purchasing the land or entering into an agreement with the Town to tap the maple trees. The SB will go up to walk the property boundary with Scott on Thursday at 3:00 pm. Lisa asked the SB to keep the Conservation Commission apprised of their plans for that parcel.

7. Liquor License Applications

A liquor license was signed for the Swanson Inn.

8. Excess Weight Permits

Excess Weight Permits were signed for Harrison Redi-Mix Corporation and Veilleux & Son Trucking, Inc.

9. Other Business:

- The SB will meet on Tuesday, May 5th at 1:00 p.m. to take a close look at the Town budget and proposed expenditures over the next 6 months. This is due to a possible delay in tax bills going out and a delayed income tax filing date. One lister will need to be present to talk about the status of the Grand List compilation. There is a bill that has passed the Senate but has not been considered by the House yet that could give towns the latitude to set a later date for the payment of tax bills and could allow the SB to possibly forgive penalties on late tax filings.
- SB read the orders and Jared signed the office copy. Chuck will come in and sign on Thursday.
- Jared reviewed questions he had on two reserve funds with Patti. Patti will have revenue estimates when the SB meets on Tuesday to discuss the budget.
- Chuck met with the Boyce Hill Town Forest Steering Committee earlier today. The SB decided not to allow the dock to be placed in the pond at the BHTF due to liability concerns. There is some scrap pipe between the gate and the pond that Mike Quenneville has expressed interest in. Lisa will ask Stuart to determine if it is usable. The road crew intends to work on improving Boyce Road and create a parking area at the top of the hill during the 2020 season. Lisa told the

SB the pond blockage had been cleared by Mike Jordan and Ky Koitzsch last week. She reported that the Fayston Conservation Commission will be working on an RFP for a Natural Resource Inventory over the next month and the Vermont Land Trust will be conducting an invasive species inventory of the property sometime before August.

At 5:50 p.m. Chuck made a motion to adjourn the SB meeting. Jared seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

The next SB meeting is **May 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.** via video conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa O. Koitzsch

Approved: Jared Cadwell