

Joint Board Special Meeting  
Rockingham Selectboard & Bellows Falls Village Trustees  
Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Present:

Bellows Falls Trustees: Myles Mickle, Colin James, Evelyn Weeks, Steve Adams, Stefan Golec  
Rockingham Selectboard: Lamont Barnett, Josh Hearne, Ann DiBernardo, Peter Golec, Stefan Golec

Also Present: Willis Stearns, II, Municipal Manager; Kerry Bennett, Recording Clerk; Deborah Wright; Doreen Aldrich; Céline Houlné; Ellen Taetzsch

Press: Alex Stradling, FACT8; Joel Slutsky, The Shopper; Tory Jones Bonenfant, Eagle Times; Maddi Shaw, Brattleboro Reformer; Susan Smallheer, Rutland Herald

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 8:25 by Village President Myles Mickle

Additions to the Agenda for Routine Administrative Matters and/or Pressing Matters that will require ratification at a future meeting: None

Approve Minutes of May 31, 2016 (Joint Board & Tri Board): *Stefan Golec made the motion to approve the minutes of May 31, 2016 for both the Joint Board Meeting and the Tri-Board Meeting as printed. Motion was seconded by Lamont Barnett. Mickle noted that the property on Old Terrace did not show the specific address and would like it to say 34 Old Terrace. Bennett stated that this will be done. Motion passed.*

Public Comment on items not on the Agenda – 3 minutes per person: None

Agenda:

1. IUOE Local 98 Contract Amendment: Stearns stated that there has been a change in the Town Clerk's office hours which has affected a union employee. The amendment in the packets has been reviewed and approved by Attorney Massucco.

*Lamont Barnett made the motion to approve the IUOE Local 98 Contract Amendment as presented and authorize the Selectboard Chair to sign the document. Motion was seconded by Peter Golec. Motion passed.*

*Myles Mickle made the motion to approve the IUOE Local 98 Contract Amendment as presented and authorize the Village President to sign the document. Motion was seconded by Evelyn Weeks. Motion passed.*

2. Award Solid Waste Collection Contract: Stearns noted that RFQ's were sent out to 7 companies and 2 bids were received, one from Ruggiero Trash Removal and one from Casella Waste with Ruggiero being the low bidder.

*Stefan Golec made the motion to award the contract for solid waste collection to Ruggiero Trash Removal for the Town of Rockingham. Motion was seconded by Peter Golec. Motion passed.*

*Steve Adams made the motion to award the contract for solid waste collection to Ruggiero Trash Removal for the Bellows Falls Village Corporation. Motion was seconded by Colin James. Motion passed.*

3. Discuss Green Street property recently destroyed by fire: Peter Golec asked why the Trustees were not taking action under the Unsafe Building Ordinance. Stearns stated that the health order was already in the works and that this would be the best and quickest way to handle this. Stearns stated that it is hoped that the owner, when identified, will state that they will not comply with the health order and then the Town can take immediate action. Mickle asked if the barn was included. Stearns stated that the barn was not a health issue.
4. Review of the Municipal Manager's Review: Barnett stated that he would entertain a motion from the Selectboard to enter executive session for evaluation of the Municipal Manager under 1 V.S.A. §313 (a)(3). Stearns stated that he would like to exercise his right to have this discussion in open session. Barnett stated that there is no such right. *Ann DiBernardo made the motion to that the Rockingham Selectboard enter executive session to discuss the review of the Municipal Manager's review. Motion was seconded by Joshua Hearne.* Peter Golec asked for an explanation as to why the Manager was refused open session. Barnett stated that he does not have that right and that an employee is not evaluated in open session but if the board is discussing it with him he has the right but the Board has the right to go into executive session to discuss it among themselves. Stearns noted that Town Attorney Ankuda was still here in the hallway and asked if the Board would like to check with him. Barnett stated no. Mickle noted that it was unclear if it was appropriate to enter executive session to discuss the review of his review and asked if it was appropriate to do another review. Barnett stated that the Board has the right to discuss the Municipal Manager in executive session without him being present. Stearns stated that the record will reflect that he has requested that this be done in open session and should they find out that it is in fact his right then we will see what goes from there. *Barnett called for a vote on the motion. Barnett, DiBernardo, Hearne and Stefan Golec voted in favor of the motion. Peter Golec opposed.*

Mickle called for a motion from the Village Trustees. *Steve Adams made the motion that the Bellows Falls Trustees enter executive session to review the Manager's review.* Stearns again stated that he wished for this to be reviewed in open session. *Stefan Golec seconded the motion. Motion passed with Mickle, Adams, Golec & Weeks voting in favor of the motion. James opposed.*

Executive Session: See above. The Board went into executive session at 8:40 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 9:50 p.m. No announcements were made.

Other Business: None

Adjourn: *Joshua Hearne made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Motion was seconded by Ann DiBernardo. Motion passed.*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kerry Bennett, Recording Clerk