

TRI BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Rockingham Selectboard, Bellows Falls Village Trustees and Saxtons River Village Trustees Tuesday January 30, 2024

Present:

Rockingham Selectboard: Susan Hammond and Peter Golec, Chair

Bellows Falls Trustees: Jeff Dunbar, Conor Floyd, Wade Masure, James McAuliffe Paul Obuchowski, Village President

Saxtons River Trustees: Matt Brennan, Ellen Lawrence, Kristin Swartwout and Amy Howlett

Zoom: Carl Ball, SR Trustees; Bonnie North and Elijah Zimmer Selectboard and Alyssa Harlow, Finance

Also Present: Scott Pickup, Municipal Manager; Paul Noble, Lister; John Dunbar, RIDWG; Betsy Thurston, BFDDA

Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Village President P Obuchowski

Approve Minutes of November 28,2023: **McAuliffe made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Golec and passed unanimously.**

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

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda (3 minutes per person): **None**

Manager's Report: Pickup told the boards that several trees in the Town have been impacted by the infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer. You will see ribbons around the trees that are affected and according to the Vermont Forestry Division, once they are infected, there is nothing that can be done to treat it so the trees will have to come down.

1. Reappraisal Update: Noble gave an update as to where the reappraisal stands within the town. The process has been started and should be complete by 2026.
2. RIDWG Update: John Dunbar gave a brief update as to everything that happened. He thanked the board for giving them time to present on the work they've done over the last year.
3. Fire Department Financial Feasibility Study Update: The board heard from John Stouffer who is working on the study. This was for informational purposes only.
4. Historic Preservation Conference (HPC) Update: Thurston was present and gave a quick overview as to what would be happening and when it was taking place. **SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY JUNE 5TH 2024 8:00AM-7:00PM**
5. Preliminary Tax Sale List: Pickup gave the board a copy of the policy and the current delinquent list. Harlow said the information has been sent to the Town Attorney and we're hoping to have the sale in June.

6. Town Meeting Survey Update: North was present on Zoom but had technical difficulties, so this item was postponed until April Meeting.
7. Train Station Project Update and ARPA Funding: *After a brief update, Hammond made a motion to authorize \$115,000 of Town of Rockingham ARPA funds to the Train Station Redevelopment project, titled Bellows Falls Intermodal Transportation Center Project. The motion was seconded by Golec and passed unanimously. Hammond then made a motion to authorize the Municipal Manager to write a letter of commitment for \$9,664 for the match from Town of Rockingham ARPA funds. This motion was seconded again by Golec and passed unanimously.*
8. Pedestrian Safety Update: This item was for discussion only and included a brief discussion about the Saxtons River Sidewalks.
9. Town Meeting Warning: Pickup told the board there was a change since the original warning was adopted and asked for approval. *Hammond made a motion to adopt the Town Meeting Warning as presented here tonight. The motion was seconded by Golec and passed unanimously.*
10. Resolution to recognize Brenda Doherty for Meritorious Service: Both boards agreed, and Brenda was presented with the Certificates of Recognition.

Review Agenda Items for Next Meeting April 30, 2024:

- Fire Feasibility
- Tax Sale
- Town Meeting Survey
- Pedestrian Safety Update

Approve Orders, Bills and Warrants: *These are for Selectboard and BF Trustees as Saxtons River has their own. McAuliffe made the motion to approve, and Hammond seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

Other Business: Measure let the board know that the Bellows Falls Fire Department received 5000 Covid-19 kits and they went around to several entities in the community and distributed,

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Hammond at 7:39 pm and seconded by Floyd. Motion passed Unanimously.

Attest: _____

Kathleen Neathawk, Town and Village Clerk