

Minutes of the Addison Selectboard Meeting July 9, 2024

Present:

Jeff Kauffman, Sr, Alden Harwood, Starr Phillips, Cheri Waterman, (illegible) E. Armstrong, Bettie Cassidy, Lea Cassidy, Steve Torrey, Alma Briggs, Annie Craig, Keith Craig, Steve Kayhart, Bryan Nolan, Roger Waterman, Chris and Jill Stackhouse, Patty Torrey, Robert Hunt, James Larrow, John Spencer, Erin Cashman, Michael Hollis, Geoffrey Grant, Jeff Kauffman, Jr, Kelly Wellings, Jill Bourgeois, Carol Kauffman, Peter Briggs and Billie Jo Forgues.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Jeff Kauffman

There were no changes or additions to the Agenda.

Steve Kayhart came before the board to ask if the Town would upgrade an additional 600 feet of Country Club Road so that he and his wife could build a retirement home there. He mentioned that the town undertook the expense previously. He asked if he could petition the town to improve the road. Alden said it is the homeowner's responsibility according to the regs. Jeff explained why the town upgraded the road previously. John S. said that it is permissible to build on a Class 4 road. Steve will need to bring the issue to the DRB.

John Spencer brought a form required by the state stating that we will put out an RFP for the town-wide reappraisal. Date for the RFP was thought to be July 15. Roger motion/Rob second. All in favor

Elizabeth Armstrong addressed the vice chair as she thought the chair had a conflict of interest, and is interfering with the Planning Commission. She has been attending the Planning Commission Meetings and believes they need to be investigated. She referred to Amber Riley leaving the board because of perceived bullying by the PC chair.

Highway

Bryan reported that the Lake Street culvert project was scheduled to begin but will be postponed for drier weather. He has had some dust complaints. Elizabeth asked him to spray the poison parsnip, but his permit would not allow this.

Roger mentioned a citizen's concern about a no trespassing sign on a class 4 road. Roger will talk with the landowner about the placement of the sign.

Marty Haitz, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported that the Local Emergency Management Plan had been received. He spoke about FEMA 404 program for failed roads, and being able to use this to fund culvert replacement before they fail. A Local Hazard Management Plan needs to be in place to access these funds. Marty said it would cost about \$10,000 to have this plan written. He asked if the Board would be interested in getting quotes to get a better idea for budgeting. Rob made the motion to have Marty prepare an RFP for quotes on the LHMP, Roger second, all in favor.

Marty asked about the possibility of enrolling the Town in the VT Alert system. It is an emergency text service that could be sent to all who desire. It would be on a sign-up basis. Marty will bring more information to the next meeting.

Marty asked about renewing the agreement with the Red Cross to use the Community Center for the Local Emergency Shelter. They will need to look at the space before renewing. Rob made the motion to proceed with the Red Cross Agreement Renewal, second by Steve. All in favor.

Jeff Kauffman Jr. informed the Board that the Town Plan survey written in conjunction with Regional Planning is complete. The postcard will have a QR code for citizens to access the survey. He requested to use part of the grant money and the town stamp to send out the postcards. A decision will be made when the cards are ready. He addressed questions of how to forward the updated Zoning Regulations to the Selectboard. He presented the changes to the Board to review and warn their public meeting. The PC will interview candidates for the open seat on the board on July 16.

Jeff read a legal opinion from the town attorney concerning the petition to move the town clerk's office to the Community Center, allocate money to refurbish and limit repairs to the town hall. He felt it was not a citizen decision so did not need to be put out to vote if the Board did not desire to do so. Another petition has been received that will need to be verified before it is official. After discussion, Rob moved to table the petition due to lack of research on moving the Clerk's office to the Community Center. He suggested doing some research and bringing it up at town meeting. No second on this motion.

Motion by Peter to get a legal opinion as to what the 2022 bond vote holds us to specifically.

Motion received no second. Motion made by Rob, second by Steve to put the petition out to vote as advisory only. 3 in favor, 1 abstain, 1 no. The Board will need to meet to set the dates for a public meeting and vote on this.

Roger made a motion to put the Town Clerk's office in the renovated Town Hall, Rob seconded. 3 in favor, 2 opposed.

Jeff reported on the new Ethics law. A poster and complaint form will be posted on the website.

Peter made a motion to add Chris Carella to the facilities committee. Rob seconded. In discussion on the motion information presented caused Rob to withdraw his second. Without another second, the motion died.

John Spencer reported that the Town Hall drawings have gone out to bid.

Jeff reported that the work day listed on the agenda will not take place at the Community Center. He presented information from VLCT and the Town Lawyer concerning the process of leasing space in the building. Motion was made by Rob and second by Roger to place an article on the November ballot: Shall the voters of the Town of Addison allow the Selectboard or its agent to offer leases in the Community Center up to five years, with 5-year renewal possible"

All in favor.

Peter reported that the preschool will likely not move in until November. He also reported that the Conditional Use process will require an inspection of the mound system. A motion was made by Roger to go ahead with hiring an engineer and septic pumping service, Rob seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Roger made the motion to approve and pay bills, second by Rob, all in favor.

Motion by Roger, second by Rob to approve highway time sheets, all in favor.

Motion to approve general time sheets by Rob, second by Peter. 4 in favor, 1 abstained.

Roger moved to adjourn, second by Rob, all in favor

Submitted by Jeff Kauffman

Selectboard Chair