

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Austin, Frank Reeder and John Snowdon.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Russ Austin
2. Approval of Minutes: November 3, 2022. Motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Frank Reeder to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0
3. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by Frank Reeder, seconded by John Snowdon to Approve Manifests for: General Fund \$123,329.85 and Fire Station \$453.75 Motion passed 3-0.

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Payroll: 11/15/2022	General Journal Entry:
Payroll Taxes: 11/17/2022	820 - Court Restitution
Application for Reimbursement	Go Daddy \$791.64
Timber Tax Warrant	Eversource \$219.35
Pistol Permit	Amazon \$240.81
Veterans Exemption	USPS \$ 84.00

Signed Joint Powers Agreement with Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH).

Appointed Mark Terry to serve as Westmoreland's primary representative and Director of CPCNH and John Snowdon to serve as an alternate representative to CPCNH and its Board of Directors

Appointed Community Power Committee Member - Scott Talbot

4. Collaboration of Land Use Boards
Board members in attendance:
Conservation Commission - Chair, Marshall Patmos, Jonathan Lounsbury and Jeanette Hubert
Planning Board - Chair, Lauren Bressett, Alison Fissette, Liana Capra, Kristen Riley, Larry Siegel, Bruce Smith and Tim Thompson
Zoning Board - Chair, Peter Remey, John Harris, Mark Terry
Building Inspector - Larry Muchmore
Zoning Administrator - Jonathan Lifschutz

Russ Austin - Purpose of meeting with land use boards is to identify and understand problems, recognize achievements, and define topics to be addressed at future meetings.

Alison Fissette - Working with new zoning and planning clerks to establish consistency in documentation and its keeping. Important to keep documents in order and files put away correctly. Difficult to find what is needed for hearings when information is misplaced.

Marshall Patmos - Conservation Commission charged with overseeing state statutes for water quality and conservation of land. Recent concerns include new fire station and wetlands and hydroelectric plans as regards to erosion from water levels going up and down. Looking to expand roadside cleanup. When property taken out of current use a 10% penalty is paid. ½ of that penalty goes to the Conservation Commission which is used for land conservation and the remaining ½ of the penalty goes to the Town.

Peter Remy - Zoning Board hears and acts upon appeals for granting variances and special exceptions to town ordinances. Neighbors are taken into consideration for decisions and if denied the applicant can appeal. Alan Bell, Zoning Clerk, has been instrumental in identifying what is needed for hearings and helping applicants be more prepared. John Snowdon - Over 60 volunteers currently work together to run the town. There is a huge loss of institutional knowledge when a member steps down. Alison Fissett, Alan Bell and Kristen Riley have been working to write procedures for future people to carry on the work.

Lauren Bressett - Planning Board works on site plans, subdivisions, and updating ordinances with state changes. Goal of ordinances is to give people freedom of doing what they want on their property while considering their neighbors. The Master Plan helps guide ordinances with town's goals for the future. Master Plan revision is coming up and the Planning Board is tasked with reaching out to residents so they can voice their opinions about town growth.

After some discussion, a few topics to be explored at future meetings included: Communication with the town to encourage participation especially in regards to Master Plan; Education and presentation of Master Plan material; Implementing ways to make procedures more user friendly for the public and volunteers; Improving flow and storage of permits and documents; Revision and distribution of welcome packet for new residents. Another meeting of boards to be scheduled after the first of the year.

5. Old Business:

- A. Mill Brook - Property owner working to comply with Planning Board requirements. Selectboard will not pursue further sanctions on the property owner during the process, however if necessary will pursue further action with the owner of the auto body collision shop if he refuses to desist unpermitted operation.
- B. Fire Station - Harry currently meets with Steve Horton on 2nd and 4th Thursdays along with volunteers Harry has chosen to help with the preparation of building the new fire station. Harry to update the Board of Selectmen which will be reflected in minutes and published on the Town's website.

6. New Business:

- A. Hartwell Mill Road - Abutters leaf blowing debris into Class VI road causing culverts to plug up and fail. Letter to be written to abutters reminding that Class VI roads although not maintained by the town must remain passable. Debris cannot be discarded on them.

B. Health Agencies - \$5000 to be distributed as follows:	
Community Kitchen	\$ 600.00
Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services - General	\$ 700.00
Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Service - Meals on Wheels	\$ 400.00
Monadnock Family Services	\$2000.00
Southwestern Community Services	\$ 500.00
CASA of New Hampshire	\$ 400.00
Community Volunteer Transportation Company	\$ 200.00
MCVP Crisis & Prevention Center	\$ 200.00

7. Correspondence - none

8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,
 Jodi Scanlan
 Town Administrator

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY DECEMBER 1, 2022 1:00pm
 MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
 SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Frank Reeder

John Snowdon