



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Regular Selectboard Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 5:30pm
Video Conference Meeting

Video Web Address: <https://zoom.us/j/92684447037>

Meeting I.D.: 926 8444 7037

Dial-in Number: 929-436-2866

Minutes

Selectboard: Trini Brassard, Perry Armstrong, Larry Satcowitz, Tom Ayres, Pat French

Municipal Staff: Adolfo Bailon, Joyce Mazzucco, Emery Mattheis, Cliff Rankin, Josh Jerome, Chris Chambers

Other: Sally Penrod, Ian Sears, ORCA Media, Hannah Arias, Representative Jay Hooper, Jon Pimental, CJ Stumpf, Mark Kelley, Dave Crosby, Betsy Race

1. Call to Order

Trini Brassard called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

2. Public Comment

Sally Penrod spoke of updates about Kimball Library.

Representative Jay Hooper spoke of the two ballot measures that he has been collecting petition signatures for. Trini Brassard noted that this topic is on the agenda under old business.

3. Approval of Agenda

Perry Armstrong moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Pat French. Motion carries 5-0.

4. Consent Calendar

a. Special Meeting Minutes (January 4, 5), and Emergency Meeting Minutes (January 10).

b. Warrants

Pat French suggested adding language to explain why the board met in executive session. Mr. French moved to approve the consent calendar with the amendments, seconded by Larry Satcowitz. Motion carries 5-0.

5. New Business

a. EC Fiber Appointment

Adolfo Bailon explained the situation about needing a new EC fiber alternate delegate. Ian Sears introduced himself and discussed his credentials. There was a general discussion about EC Fiber representatives.

Pat French moved to approve the EC delegates as presented, seconded by Larry Satcowitz. Motion carries 5-0.

b. Request for Variance from Wastewater Ordinance – Fay Sherman

Chris Chambers provided an overview of the project and the request and said it was approved by the Water/Wastewater Committee.

There was a general discussion about the request and the pump house possibly needed.

Perry Armstrong made a motion to grant the request, seconded by Larry Satcowitz. Motion carries 4-1.

c. Request for Increase in Wastewater Allocation – New England Precision

Chris Chambers explained New England Precisions request for a wastewater allocation increase due to additional contracts for their products.

Pat French asked questions about the company’s wastewater use.

Perry Armstrong made a motion to approve New England Precision’s request, seconded by Pat French. Motion carries 5-0.

d. Special Appropriations Request - Orange County Special Investigation Unit

Adolfo explained the request received, and Emery Mattheis further explained that the request sent in today asked for two separate appropriation requests as well as exemption from the need to gather petitions. Trini Brassard, Perry Armstrong, and Larry Satcowitz voiced concern for treating these entities differently than others.

The Selectboard passed on making a motion for this issue.

e. Proposed Bids for Architect Assessment of East Randolph Hall

Adolfo discussed the proposed bids for rehabilitation work on the Hall, and how the bids exceeded the allotted budget amount. Mark Kelley (East Valley Community Group) explained the bidders added a number of tasks that the group did not ask for. Trini Brassard suggested redrafting the bid to define the scope and then send out the request for proposal again.

Pat French moved to reject all bids and authorize sending out another request for bids again, seconded by Tom Ayers. Motion carries 5-0.

6. Grants

7. Old Business

a. Town Meeting and Town Report

Adolfo explained how the state legislature is in the process of possibly passing a bill about town meeting.

Joyce Mazzucco explained the deadline for submitting petitions and explained further options on how and when to hold the meeting.

Trini Brassard mentioned that the board already voted to go with Australian ballot and with forgoing signature requirements for candidates.

Tom Ayers and Larry Satcowitz asked questions about ballot distribution, public hearing requirements, and informational postcards. Joyce Mazzucco answered the questions and discussed possible state reimbursement for costs.

Larry moved to reverse the Selectboard's prior decision and to approve mailing out postcards with information on requesting absentee ballots, seconded by Tom Ayers. Motion carries 5-0.

There was a subsequent discussion about the Town Report. Tom Ayers discussed the board's narrative for the Town Report. Adolfo asked the board to choose the cover photo for the Town Report – they chose East Valley Community Hall. Adolfo recommended taking more pictures with a high-resolution camera.

b. Cannabis Retail Sales

Rep. Jay Hooper provided a history of the legislative bill passed, and how it is opt-in or opt-out. Adolfo Bailon showed VLCT's proposed model language for how to present the question for a vote. There was a general discussion about the petition process and ensuring voices from the community are all heard. There was a follow-up general discussion about moving town meeting and how to possibly do so.

Tom Ayers moved to direct municipal staff to work on the wording of the cannabis question and present it to the Selectboard. Pat French seconded. Motion carries 5-0.

c. Randolph Center Fire House

Rep. Jay Hooper explained the prior one-year increment for special appropriation, and there is now a request for five-year increments instead of one. Adolfo talked of how the voters decided to lower it from five down to one. Tom Ayers said pushing the issue back for five years would postpone resolving the issue of appropriations for the organization.

Tom Ayers moved to put the question on the ballot with a one-year extension. Trini Brassard seconded. Motion carries 5-0.

d. Draft Budget 1a and Capital Plan Report

Adolfo gave a brief overview of the Mountain Alliance and how costs for household hazardous waste events would reduce with more towns joining the Alliance. Adolfo then shared the change to the capital plan regarding costs of paving roads.

Perry Armstrong made a motion to approve, seconded by Tom Ayers. Motion carries 5-0.

8. Other Business

Pat French asked about an article relating to the reserve fund for emergencies and road paving.

9. Manager's Report

Adolfo gave an overview of a report from a non-profit about the incomes of people in our water district.

10. Executive Session

Tom Ayers made a motion to go into executive session with inviting Adolfo, seconded by Perry Armstrong. Motion carries 5-0 at 7:50.

- a. per 1 VSA 313 (a)(3) - Town Manager Position**
- b. per 1 VSA 313 (a)(4) - Employee Issue**
- c. per 1 VSA 313 (a)(B) - Labor Relation Agreements**

Tom Ayers moved to leave executive session, seconded by Pat French. Motion carries 5-0

11. Adjournment

Larry Satcowitz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Perry Armstrong. Motion carries 5-0 at 9:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Emery Mattheis
Administrative Assistant