

Regular Meeting of the Dorset Select Board

January 21, 2014 ~ Minutes

Present: Chris Brooks (Chairman), Mike Connors, Michael Oltedal, Steve Jones
Absent:
Also, present: R. Gaiotti (Town Manager), Jim Mirenda, Victoria Silsby, Sandra Pinsonault, Danny Pinsonault

C. Brooks, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approve Minutes of December 13, 2014 & January 14, 2014

M. Connors moved and S. Jones seconded to approve the December 13, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

C. Brooks amended the January 14, 2014 minutes to include the unanimous vote by the Select Board members to appoint Michael Oltedal as Vice Chairman of the Select Board. M. Connors moved and S. Jones seconded to approve the January 14, 2014 minutes as amended. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment

J. Mirenda expressed his support of the Public Safety Work Group and the meetings held regarding consolidation of police, fire and rescue for Manchester and Dorset. He asked what would happen if the funding for the study is not approved and C. Brooks responded that the study would not be completed and the group dissolved. R. Gaiotti noted that the funds for the study were listed in an article on the ballot. M. Connors thought that both Dorset and Manchester had agreed to place the funds directly in their respective budgets and not do a separate article. C. Brooks and S. Jones agreed. R. Gaiotti explained that Manchester votes their whole budget from the floor. M. Oltedal moved and S. Jones seconded to place the sum of \$10,800 directly in the budget to fund Dorset's share of the Dorset-Manchester Public Safety Collaborative Study. Motion carried 4-0. S. Pinsonault asked if Dorset would continue to do the study on their own if Manchester votes down their share of the funding. C. Brooks responded that this matter can be up for discussion if that happens.

V. Silsby, representing the Collaborative ~ an organization focused on substance free youth ~ explained that a petition was being circulated for signatures so that the Collaborative could be included on the Dorset ballot.

Public Hearing: Fiscal Year 2015 Budget & Town Meeting Ballot

C. Brooks opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m.

J. Miranda noted that he has previously spoken to the SB members about speeding on Mad Tom Road and noticed in the budget line item for traffic fine revenue was down to \$7,500 since the State Police contract was instituted, but speeding has not decreased at the same rate. He felt speeding was a public safety issue and did not want speeding overlooked. C. Brooks explained some of the speeding issues faced by the Town over the years and asked R. Gaiotti to inform the State Police about speeding on Mad Tom Road.

J. Miranda asked if there were any outstanding long-term contracts (more than three years) that the Town has and C. Brooks replied there are old health care contracts. R. Gaiotti clarified that with the changes in Vermont's health care system, the old health care contracts are 40% less expensive. It was also noted that the Town has a three year contract with R. Gaiotti as Town Manager which is in its second year.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:24 p.m.

R. Gaiotti stated that the Town office does not have a generator which has caused problems previously as the phones, heat and vault do not work when there is a power outage. He realizes it is late in budgeting process to add \$10,000 for a generator, but wanted to bring the issue to the SB members. It was the consensus of the SB members to replace Article 10 with the following: Shall the voters approve the use of FY13 surplus funds in the amount of \$10,000 to install an emergency generator for the Town office.

Discussion ensued regarding the wording on the ballot for appropriations for organizations (specifically Article 21 and 23) and it was clarified that the final wording is dependent upon the wording received on each organization's petition.

Article 8 regarding the elimination of the Auditor's position was considered by the Board. M. Oltedal moved and M. Connors seconded to remove Article 8 from the ballot and review the Auditor position in the future. Motion carried 4-0. It was noted that the offices of Grand Juror were obsolete positions and not needed anymore.

M. Connors moved and M. Oltedal seconded to approve the 2014 Town of Dorset, Vermont Warning (ballot) as written with the amendment of the wording for organization appropriations as received on their individual reports to the Town. Motion carried 4-0.

The Board talked about crack sealing and striping listed under the Highway/Roads Maintenance line item. Striping was not completed this year. R. Gaiotti noted that J. Hewes was getting quotes for a small kit system to do crack sealing by the Road Crew. S. Pinsonault pointed out a spelling error to be corrected on item #6004-61.07 – Engineering Expense.

M. Connors moved and S. Jones seconded to approve the Town of Dorset FY2015 Municipal Budget as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Meeting Preparation

R. Gaiotti is prepared to substantiate any questions on the Town Budget including the Town Clerk contract, Highways and Road Maintenance, and the Public Safety Collaborative Study.

Finance Report

C. Brooks asked about the Town Office Maintenance line item and R. Gaiotti responded that the higher expense was due to the outside fencing repairs and paving the walkway. Discussion was had on the sand pile usage by Town residents.

Manager's Report

R. Gaiotti reported that due to the extreme weather conditions, some of the dirt roads required a lot of maintenance and that the one ton truck is barely functioning and not worth repairing if head gaskets are needed. The Owl's Head Project grant application has been submitted along with another State grant application. R. Gaiotti has been working with the Dorset and East Dorset Fire Departments for their Public Safety Collaborative Study presentations.

Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable for the Week of 1/21/2014

C. Brooks requested that M. Freed's name be removed from the warrant document. It was the consensus of the SB to approve the Payroll and Accounts Payable for the week of 1/21/2014 as presented with M. Connors abstaining.

Other Business

- The Highway Certificate was signed by the SB members by consensus.
- The Board talked about Kelly Road and Owl's Head access and will discuss again in the future.
- The Dorset Energy Committee submitted a PACE document to be included in the Town Report.
- Last year the SB members exempted people from the Homestead Declaration penalty for one year. The Board needs to decide for this year whether to apply the penalty or exempt it again. R. Gaiotti commented that there should be some type of penalty for non-filing of homestead as the tax rate is influenced by the number of people who file as homestead and some people delay filing to see which rate is better. R. Gaiotti asked the Board to think about this issue as he would like to send out a tax notice with a warning about Homestead filing on it.

Personnel/Contracts

M. Oltedal moved and M. Connors seconded to move to Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss contracts. Motion carried 4-0. Executive Session ended at 9:15 p.m. with no decision made.

S. Jones moved and M. Connors seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Aversano

Page 3 of 4, January 21, 2014

cc: Listers, Planning, Zoning, Select Board, Town Clerk, Town Clerk, Foreman, and School Board
Copy Posted: Town Clerk's Office, S-Board Mtg Room, East Dorset & Dorset Post Office

Town of Dorset ~ Select Board

Date 1 / 21 / 14

Regular Meeting X

Special Meeting

(Please Print)

Name	Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes or No)
Jim Mikenda	HAD TOM ROAD	SELF	No
Victoria Sibly	Nottingham PK, Mand	self	
Sandra Pismark	1665 rte 7	self	yes
Danny Pismark	1665 RT 7	self	No