

Special Meeting of the Dorset Select Board

November 17, 2015 ~ Minutes

Present: Chris Brooks (Chairman), Mike Connors, Michael Oltedal, Henry Chandler, R. Gaiotti (Town Manager),
Absent: Brad Tyler
Also, present: Danny Pinsonault, Bob Craig, D. Green, Joan Menson, Robert Menson, Allan Sullivan

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

Approve Minutes of October 20, 2015 & Review October 21, 2015 Minutes

M. Connors moved and H. Chandler seconded to approve the October 20, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0 (M. Oltedal abstained).

Public Comment

R. Craig thanked the Board members for purchasing a traffic advisor sign for the Town to try to address speeding issues. He noted that he lives on Route 30 south of Hasgas and has been complaining of speeding in this area for years. As part of a safety committee which was active in the past, the committee studied various ways to curb speeding and R. Craig felt that money collected from speeding tickets would cover the cost of a police force. He expressed his frustration regarding the lack of speed control and urged the Select Board to address the problem. C. Brooks responded that Dorset has joined forces with Manchester in doing a safety study recently and they were still in the process of finding solutions. C. Brooks suggested that the Vermont State Police step up patrols in R. Craig's area.

D. Green stated that many people were upset by emails which were sent between PC members last month regarding a recent application. C. Brooks noted that this issue was discussed at the last meeting and the SB had reviewed the timing of events which took place to make sure everything was appropriate. D. Green felt that there was a problem of malfeasance of the open meeting law as there was discussion in the emails of having a meeting on September 30th. C. Brooks stated that the PC held a hearing, took a vote and after the vote, the ZA had to issue Findings of Fact. The ZA emailed the PC Board members for clarification which became a discussion through email and it was decided that they already had a vote on the issue. All emails became part of public information. D. Green thought that the PC had contemplated a private meeting and D. Pinsonault stated that a meeting did not happen. H. Chandler noted that all emails between PC members were included along with the Findings of Fact. C. Brooks stated that emails that include all Board members of any Board are public record and should be avoided if possible. C. Brooks commented that it is a small community and people do run into each other and it's important for Board members not to talk about any applications between the hearing and findings of fact. D. Green asked, if the emails were public record, if she could see all of the

emails and H. Chandler replied that they are taking T. Yandow's word that everything is included.

J. Menson urged the SB to place a realistic and adequate amount in the budget for a professional planner as it has been helpful and successful. C. Brooks acknowledged J. Menson's recommendation.

D. Pinsonault expressed his disappointment with the ZBA decision for a conditional use review regarding the appeal on the PC's decision on the event barn as J. O'Dea (Town Attorney) explained that it was a problem with the wording in the zoning bylaws creating a gray area. J. O'Dea felt that an applicant should not be held at fault for an error on the part of the Town and D. Pinsonault did not understand why the Town Attorney's advice was not used. He asked how the Town Attorney can defend the Town, when the Town Boards go against him. C. Brooks noted that, as a Board, the Select Board stands behind other Town Boards and cannot tell them what to do, but each Board makes decisions at their own peril of a lawsuit. All Boards need to be cautious of what has previously been done, what is being done and what precedents they set.

FY2017 Town Budget Workshop

R. Gaiotti reviewed his budget memo with the Board. Items mentioned under expenses were: Manchester Rescue Squad, Economic Development, American Red Cross, Act 148, Wheel Loader Replacement, Highway Projects, Route 30 Building Re-construction, ANR General Permit, Personnel, and miscellaneous items (elections/planning consultant/DRB line item/ADA study). Revenues discussed were: zoning income, PILOT payments, Highway State aid, lower surplus for FY15 and the Grand List.

C. Brooks asked the Board members to review the presented budget so it can be discussed at the next SB meeting.

Finance Report

The November 17th Finance Report was discussed with R. Gaiotti noting that the FY16 budget was approximately 38% through the year and the delinquent taxes stood at \$122,953. C. Brooks asked about the dispatch line item and R. Gaiotti responded that only half was expended because they have not received a bill from the East Dorset Fire Department yet. H. Chandler asked the purpose of the reappraisal fund and R. Gaiotti explained that the fund was in place to offset a Town-wide reappraisal, if necessary.

Manager's Report

The report covered the topics of highway work, the Owl's Head Town Forest Project fundraising effort, the Economic Development Study nearing completion, Joint Fire Districts & Select Board meeting on October 21st, and the attendance by R. Gaiotti of a Dorset School meeting about Act 46.

Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable for the Week of 11/17/2015

It was the consensus of the SB to approve the Payroll and Accounts Payable for the week of 11/17/2105 as presented.

Other Business

- The Town Audit has been included in the SB packet for review.
- There are Board member vacancies on the Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission Board.
- H. Chandler moved and M. Oltedal seconded to approve the submittal of a recreation facility grant application by R. Gaiotti to have the USCC do trail work on redesigning the summit trail for the Owls Head property. Motion carried 4-0.
- D. Pinsonault expressed that he hoped the SB would consider his suggestion for the two people for the Town Report dedication.

H. Chandler moved and M. Oltedal seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Aversano

Town of Dorset ~ Select Board

Date 11/17/15

Regular Meeting

Special Meeting

(Please Print)

Name	Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes or No)
Danny Pinsonault	E Dorset VT.	me	?
Bob Craig	112 Rte 30 Dorset	me	Yes
D. GREEN	POB 881	self	?
JOAN MENSON	1131 RT 30	"	?
ROBERT MENSON	" "	"	?
Allan Sullivan	932 McNamee, Dorset	me	No.