

Regular Meeting of the Dorset Select Board

March 22, 2016 ~ Minutes

Present: Henry Chandler (Chairman), Megan Thorn, Jack Stannard, R. Gaiotti (Town Manager)

Absent:

Also, present: Adam Danaher, Robert Menson, Joan Menson, Luanne Hardy, Clarissa Lennox, Bo Thorn, Linda Sullivan, Allan Sullivan, D. Green, Ruth Tanenhaus, Edward Tanenhaus, Ellen H. Maloney, Gay Squire, Rosalie Fox, Kit Wallace, Nancy Ludlam, Stepen Ludlam, Tom Smith, John LaVecchia, Sarah Stefanak, Ken Stefanak, Austin Chinn, Gilliam Chinn, Tracey Mathyas, Brooks Addington (PC), Ben Weiss, Sanfra Weiss, Sandy Pinsonault (Town Clerk), Tyler Yandow (Town ZA), Danny Pinsonault, Marilyn Kinney, Jack Gilbert

H. Chandler, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Organization: Elect Chair

J. Stannard moved and M. Thorn seconded to nominate H. Chandler as Chairman. Motion carried 3-0.

H. Chandler stated that as Chairman, he is responsible for setting the agenda for the SB and he asked fellow SB members to let him know what they would like on the agenda and it will be accommodated. H. Chandler's leadership style is to work toward consensus in developing policy for the Town of Dorset and the intent is to practice the best practices of municipal government as articulated by the VLCT with particular attention to processes and procedures of conflict of interest, transparency and open meeting law. Personally, he considers these meetings a forum of and for political discourse to develop policy and all can participate. All points of views are welcome and he assures they will be respectfully listened to and considered. It is his opinion that a healthy dialogue is the best route to good decision making, but he does expect and insist that all discussions to be on the issues, not be personal and directed to the Chairman. The Town is operating fine and proceeding as normal. C. Chandler thanked the Town staff and Road Crew and noted that everything is proceeding as normal even though there are only three SB members. C. Brooks and M. Oltedal have given letters of resignation. By State statute, currently any discussion followed by a vote by the SB requires a unanimous decision of all three members.

J. Stannard moved and M. Thorn seconded to accept the resignation letters of C. Brooks and M. Oltedal as submitted. Motion carried 3-0.

H. Chandler said that the Town has lost 40 years of Town experience with the loss of three members of the previous SB: M. Oltedal who had 22 years of service to the Town, Michael Connors who saved the Town a tremendous amount of money over his 8 years of service along

with being a vital player in the Owls Head Town Forest purchase and the leadership of C. Brooks over the past 12 years. J. Stannard and M. Thorn expressed thanks for their service.

Approve Minutes of February 16, 2016

H. Chandler noted that he can attest to the accuracy of the minutes as submitted. M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to approve the February 16, 2016 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment

K. Stefanak stated that he was following up on a submitted dog complaint of two German shepherds on Dorset West Road who are a general nuisance to residents with their constant barking, running at large and chasing people/children. R. Downey, Animal Control Officer, has been involved and the dogs were supposed to be put up for adoption by the owner, but are now back at the house. The Vermont State Police have also been involved. K. Stefanak has audio and video files of the two dogs and he noted that the dogs are penned outside for long periods of time. He stated that he hoped that fines will be levied and judgment be enforced with the dogs being taken, if needed. H. Chandler asked if formal notice to the owner has been given and R. Gaiotti responded yes. R. Gaiotti said that legal procedures should be followed before the dogs can be taken. The homeowner is aware of the problem and had the dogs taken to a kennel for a time and is trying to have them adopted. R. Gaiotti noted that they will step up the effort with the owner to try to expedite the dogs' adoption, and explained that the Town cannot regulate mistreatment of animals, but the State can. S. Stefanak commented that there are many bikers and runners on Dorset West Road and something should be done before something happens.

Meet with PC Chair

H. Chandler stated that appointment to the PC Board fell under the authority of the Select Board and they would welcome suggestions in order to make a full working PC Board. B. Addington, Acting Chairman, expressed that it was the hope of the PC Board members that the PC would be allowed to follow the previous method of the PC vetting its own candidates and then recommending the names to the SB for approval. H. Chandler noted that as a Select Board, if they notice a vacancy and the applicant comes to them first, they will make a selection for the PC. B. Addington advised against this method, but noted that it was the SB's prerogative. H. Chandler said that they wanted to work with the PC to create a Board representative of the Town who would work as a whole geographically, opinions, visions, gender, etc. This is basically a political appointment and he believes this is the way they want to proceed, but there will be two more SB members to appointment and the opinion may change. B. Addington stated that the application is open to the public and the PC would prefer to do the first round of interviews as a Board. M. Thorn and H. Chandler agreed to temporarily wait for the PC recommendations. B. Addington noted that the Board will hold up on projects until there is a full Board, but that it was a good time to work on the DRB criteria.

R. Fox asked why the PC was a nine member board and B. Addington responded that with a nine person board, a quorum is made up of five people and having nine is nice in case some members are absent. He also felt that there was a broader spectrum of opinions and more information can

be given out to the public. M. Thorn suggested that the PC Board vary the terms to a different number of years as four years is a long time to serve on a Board. Discussion ensued regarding having a separate Development Review Board from the PC as a way to allow the PC Board to do more planning and streamlining site development reviews. H. Chandler noted that he was open to changing the structure of the Boards.

Review Board Appointments

H. Chandler explained that there are a number of appointments to make on different Town Boards: DRB, Conservation Commission, BCRC, ZBA and PC, but the first priority would be the SB. State Statute requires the notice be posted within ten days and appointment or a special election be held. The SB positions have been posted and there are three applicants.

J. Stannard moved to appoint Select Board members until the August primary or the November general election in order to hold Select Board elections. M. Thorn expressed that appointing SB members only until August/November might be limiting and J. Stannard withdrew his motion. S. Pinsonault noted that the August State primary does not usually have a good turn out and doing it in November, it would be expensive for the tabulator or counting would have to be done by hand. She recommended a one year term until the next Town Meeting. R. Gaiotti said that some applicants may not be interested in serving if it is only for a short time. M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to have the current members of the SB appoint two new SB members to serve the vacant terms until the next Town meeting in March 2017. Motion carried 3-0.

There will be a Special Select Board meeting on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. for interviews.

ZBA Nominee Interview

The SB members interviewed Adam Danaher for a position on the ZBA. A. Danaher explained that he lives in Dorset with his wife and children and works for a local company as an engineering manager. J. Stannard asked if he was familiar with the Town Plan and A. Danaher responded that he was getting familiar with the document. H. Chandler asked if he was recruited by the ZBA members and he responded no, that he was originally interested in serving on the PC Board, but the position was already filled. R. Fox suggested that A. Danaher be considered for the open PC position given his background and interest in the Town. A. Danaher stated that if there was a dire need for the PC, he would consider it, but would like to start with the ZBA. H. Chandler remarked that the need was not dire and M. Thorn felt they could wait until next week.

Public Hearing: Road Naming

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:40 p.m. R. Gaiotti reported that Town Highway #46 (Kelly Road) was recently reconfigured and the Vermont E911 Division has requested the roadway be renamed to Black Rock Lane in order to give continuity to the road from the top to Route 30. This change will affect one homeowner. H. Chandler closed the Public Hearing at 8:45 p.m. J. Stannard moved and M. Thorn seconded to rename Town Highway #46 (Kelly Road) to Black Rock Lane. Motion carried 3-0.

Review/Discuss Board Goals for 2016

H. Chandler asked R. Gaiotti to do a quick overview of the 2016 goals as they are only a Board of three and he would like to delay for a more comprehensive discussion with a full Board. R. Gaiotti gave a summary on:

- Public Safety ~ study done with Manchester with recommendations given for police & fire
- Economy and General Services ~ NEDS study – GNAT has video of meeting which gives useful information. The Gettysburg Quarry property purchase should be closing soon and the VYCC (Vermont Youth Conservation Corp) is trying to create partnerships with Towns for doing some forest work. The Town office building will have an ADA and re-design review for more productive space.
- Public Works/Infrastructure ~ roadway resurface projects, salt shed and bridge construction
- Planning and Zoning ~ a BCRC staff planner will still be available for the Boards to use & NEDS information should be useful for the Town Plan and planning in general.

H. Chandler noted that they will discuss these topics fully when they have a full Board and it was the consensus of the Select Board members to allow R. Gaiotti to continue to work on his current plans.

I Matter, You Matter Foundation Resolution

R. Gaiotti explained that this is a local organization founded by Sally Gibney and it is the fifth annual, worldwide I Matter, You Matter day. M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to designate Monday, March 28, 2016 as I Matter, You Matter Day. Motion carried 3-0.

Liquor Licenses

M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to recess as the Select Board and convene as the Liquor Board at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Liquor licenses were signed for: Haskas General Store, H.N. Williams, Jiffy Mart, Dorset Union Store, Marble West Inn (2), Dorset Field Club, Chantecleer Restaurant, Dorset Inn (2), Inn at West View Farm, and Barrows House.

M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to adjourn as the Liquor Board at 8:10 p.m. and reconvene as the Select Board. Motion carried 3-0.

Finance Report

R. Gaiotti reviewed the finance report noting that everything was proceeding as normal and the delinquent tax amount was approximately \$420,000. Discussion ensued regarding the process for delinquent property tax sales. At approximately 74% of the way through the budget, line items mentioned were: Sand/Salt, fuel costs, overtime payments and capital purchase of a wheel loader. M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to approve the purchase of a new wheel

loader with added features and the request for a loan not to exceed \$30,000 for its purchase. Motion carried 3-0.

Manager's Report

Topics covered in the Manager's report were:

- Highway ~ Road Crew road cleaning/ditching/culverts/potholes/tree work, etc.
- Owls Head Town Forest ~ anticipated closing at the end of March
- Prudential Committee Meeting ~ presented grant information regarding the Dorset Water System. The grant could help pay for creating, planning and engineering documents for the study which was requested by the residents.
- Northshire Economic Development Study & Partnership ~ Manchester and Arlington voted down their appropriations for this study.
- Solid Waste ~ Compost bins are available for purchase by residents. Food scraps will be banned from the garbage stream by 2020.
- N. Faesy & BCRC ~ Workshop by Julie Campoli tentatively scheduled for June 8th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Dorset Playhouse.
- Hazard Mitigation Resolution ~ It was the consensus of the Select Board members to sign the Hazard Mitigation Resolution as presented.

Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable for the Week of 5/25/16

M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to approve the Payroll and Accounts Payable for the weeks of 3/7/2016, 3/14/2016 and 3/21/2016 as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Other Business

R. Gaiotti noted that the VYCC (Vermont Youth Conservation Corps) is looking for young adults (16 – 24) who want do outdoor work building trails, etc. They can find information on the Town web site and he is hoping to get people interested in stewarding the Town Forest property.

A. Chinn asked about the status of the project to move the old railroad station house to East Dorset and R. Gaiotti responded that the owner is aware of the interest to move the building, but there were some issues about right-of-ways and land ownership in East Dorset. H. Chandler suggested that they revisit this discussion when they have a full Board.

M. Thorn moved and J. Stannard seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Aversano

Town of Dorset ~ Select Board

Date 3/22/16
 Regular Meeting X
 Special Meeting —

(Please Print)

Name	Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes or No)
Adam Danaher	91 Snow Rd.		
ROBERT MENSON	1131 ROUTE 30	SELF	NO
JOAN MENSON	"	"	—
Luann Hardy	27 Lane Rd	"	"
CLARISSA BENBOY	Lower Hollow	"	?
BO THORN	599 Dorset West	"	4
Linda Sullivan	932 McNamara Rd	self	?
Allan Sullivan	932 McNamara Road	LINDA	N
D. GREEN	POB 881	self	?
Ruth Tanenhaus	35 Barnus Heights Ln	self	no
EDWARD TANENHAUS	35 Barnus Heights Ln	self	?
ELLEN H Maloney	3585 Mad Tom Rd	"	?
GAY SQUIRE	PO Box 798	self	NO
Rosalie Fox	125 Fox Lane	self	no
KIT WALLACE	2173 Upper Hollow Rd.	self	NO
Nancy Ludlam	140 Mad Tom Rd	self	No
Stephen Ludlam	140 Mad Tom Rd.	self	NO
TEAN SMITH	2615 MAD TOM RD	SELF	NO
John LaVecchia	Po. Box 172	self	NO
Sarah Stefank	PO Box 516	self	
Ken Stefank	"	"	
Austia Chen	104 Kirby Hollow Rd.	"	NO
GILLIAN CHINN	" " " "	"	NO
Tracey Mathyas	799 Kirby Hollow Rd	"	No

