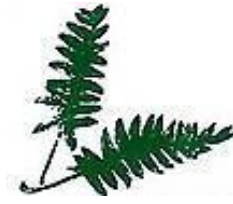


# Town of Dorset, Vermont



**Dorset Town Offices:**

PO Box 715  
112 Mad Tom Road  
East Dorset, VT 05253

**Dorset Town Manager's Office:**

Phone: 802-362-4571 x 3  
Fax: 802-362-5156  
Email: [townmanager@gmail.com](mailto:townmanager@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.dorsetvt.org](http://www.dorsetvt.org)

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*Chartered*

## **Regular Meeting of the Dorset Select Board May 10, 2022**

Present: Tom Smith, Henry Chandler, Jim Salsgiver, Megan Thorn, Liz Ruffa

Also, present: Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager)

Megan Thorn, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Jim Salsgiver moved and Henry Chandler seconded to approve the April 19th minutes as amended, motion passed 4-0.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Board Goal Setting 2022 (Continued):**

Megan Thorn noted that the plan was to have a discussion about important items that the each board member felt that the Town should be working on or addressing. The board re-affirmed the following goal/issues to work on during 2022. Town Office Construction at Raptor Lane, Raptor Lane Master Plan as it relates to Housing, Larger Housing efforts, Village pedestrian and cycling improvements (possible use of ARPA funds), Support for Northshire Rescue Squad as needed, Broadband.

Liz Ruffa noted that a goal for non-profit appropriations would be to develop a template for the Town Report and Town Meeting. Discussion ensued about developing a different process based on the dollar amount that groups were requesting. Tom Smith suggested that groups asking for more than \$1,000-\$2,000 would be required to file a petition every year to get on the ballot. Groups asking for less could just come to a Selectboard meeting and make a request to be included in the "budgeted appropriations" which are automatically included in the Town Budget. These items would no longer appear separately on the ballot. Rob Gaiotti noted that often times the smaller non-profits don't have full time staff. Further discussion ensued about updates to the Town website with hiking and trail related maps and information as needed.

**Northshire Rescue Squad:** Discussion ensued about NRS services in Dorset and status of NRS. NRS is hoping to get the 4 towns to sign the updated agreement soon. Jim Salsgiver provided information about current talks with Manchester.

**Upper Hollow Road - Waiver of Taxes:**

Rob Gaiotti noted that the 10 acre parcel off Upper Hollow Road was given to the Town last year by the Lane family and the Board would need to waive the tax amount owed from the time the Town took the gift to until it was added to the exempt list. Jim Salsgiver moved and Tom Smith seconded to approve waiving the tax amount on the Town Land off Upper Hollow Rd, motion passed 5-0.

**Old Business:**

**East Dorset Village:**

Discussion ensued about improvement to East Dorset Village green space. Tom Smith noted that it would be good to conduct speed studies to try and lower the speed limit on Route 7 in the area of the Village. Rob Gaiotti noted that they could add a 2nd speed study for the Village Street/Rt 7A and Route 7 intersections. A speed study for Route 7 & Mad Tom is pending. Hopefully if the speeds are lower in this area there might be a chance to request a reduction down to 35 mph (vs 40mph) near the Store.

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):**

Rob Gaiotti noted that the ARPA survey is still open and that Infrastructure is the leading category for funds to be spent at 38% support of the 5 items listed. So far around 175 residents have participated.

**Read Farm Lane:** Awaiting NRS design so that we can get permits for the sediment and debris removal from the Battenkill.

Other Discussion items included: Town Office Update etc.

### **Finance Report**

The finance report was presented by R. Gaiotti. He noted that at 86% through the FY22 year, the general fund was 86% expended. H. Chandler moved and J. Salsgiver seconded to accept the Finance Report as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Manager's Report**

Topics discussed:

- Highway Dept. tasks
- DFD Water Project updates
- VTCMA workshops upcoming
- ARPA updates
- Housing Studies pending.

**VTrans Bike & Pedestrian Grant Scoping Study Vendor:** Rob Gaiotti presented the information from the vendors who submitted for the Dorset Route 30 bike/ped scoping study grant project. Dubois & King was selected by the Dorset subcommittee for the project. Jim Salsgiver moved and Tom Smith seconded to approve the proposal by Dubois & King for the scoping study, motion passed 4-0.

### **Liquor Licenses:**

Rob Gaiotti noted that HITS (Horseshow) had applied for liquor licenses. The Board recessed the regular meeting and opened the meeting of the Dorset Liquor Control Board Henry Chandler moved and Jim Salsgiver seconded to approve the liquor licenses for HITS, motion passed 5-0. The Board then re-opened the regular meeting.

### **Payroll & Accounts Payable for 5/10/22**

It was the consensus of the Board to sign the payroll & accounts payable for 5/10.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting stood adjourned at 9:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager