

Town of Dorset, Vermont



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Chartered

Regular Meeting of the Dorset Select Board May 18, 2021

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

Also, present: Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager), Ken Gilbert

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

Approve Minutes of April 20, 2021

Tom Smith moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to approve the February minutes as presented, motion passed 4-0.

Public Comment

None

Hazard Mitigation Plan:

R. Gaiotti presented updates to the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Corrections were related to statistics used in a few of the tables and the pagination. M. Thorn asked if any other Towns had commented, and R. Gaiotti responded that they had not. The next step would be for the Board to adopt a resolution in June.

New Town Office Discussion:

R. Gaiotti presented an update of the timeline for the Town Office project/process. He presented information related to the surveys available on the Town Office. With regard to the Raptor Lane New Town Office 66% of the 85 respondents supported the plan, while 12% didn't support it and 18% weren't sure yet. The most popular options for re-use of the East Dorset property were Green Space and Library Annex/Community Space. Discussion ensued about site visits and getting the word out about the survey and project.

Old Business:

Route 30 Speed Limit – North of Dorset Village

R. Gaiotti noted that the letter had been sent to the Traffic Committee and the Town would await feedback

Paul's Way – Paving vs. Dirt Road Review:

R. Gaiotti is awaiting traffic data and information about Class 2 highway designation vs. Class 3 designation. More due back in June.

Read Farm Lane:

Awaiting results of FEMA grant applications for moving the road and the property buyout. Also awaiting results of AOT grant to install a larger culvert under Read Farm Lane (2' upsized to 4') to help alleviate smaller rain events and flooding.

Cycling – Pedestrian Letter of Match/Support:

R. Gaiotti noted that last year Dorset had applied for a scoping study to look at ways to connect Dorset Village to South Dorset Village, Dorset School, and the Manchester rail trail with a path built for pedestrians and cyclists. In 2020 our scoping study did not get funded and we are reapplying. Jim Salsgiver moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to approve the letter of match/support for the study, motion passed 4-0.

Finance Report

The finance report was presented by R. Gaiotti. He noted that the Town was 85% through the fiscal year and the general fund is 82% expended, which is a good sign. Monthly expenses included: highway items etc. Henry Chandler moved and Jim Salsgiver seconded to accept the Finance Report as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Manager's Report

Topics discussed:

- Highway Dept. tasks
- Continued support for DFD Bond Project
- Reed Farm Lane follow up.
- Town Forest trail work
- ARPA money from Federal Treasury

Contracts/Legal:

Jim Salsgiver moved and Tom Smith seconded to enter into executive session to discuss contracts, motion passed 4-0 at 8:15pm. The Board exited executive session at 8:29pm with no action taken.

Jim Salsgiver moved and Tom Smith seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager