

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
Website: www.dorsetvt.org

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Chartered

Regular Meeting of the Dorset Select Board June 21, 2022

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

Also, present: Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager)

Megan Thorn, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Approve Minutes of 5/10 and 5/17

Jim Salsgiver moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to approve the minutes of 5/10 and 5/17 as presented, motion passed 3-0.

Public Comment:None

Board Goals (Continued):Discussion ensued about Broadband, Housing, the voter approved appropriation process and a short term list of Recreation Department projects/ updates. Rob Gaiotti will coordinate to develop an appropriation non-profit template that would make it easier for voters to understand the monies given and the impacts made. At the next meeting R. Gaiotti will also provide a copy of the original Raptor Lane plan created by the subcommittee, as well as coordinate with Rachel Batz to provide a short term goals update to the board.

Board Appointments:Rob Gaiotti reviewed the 2022 Board Appointments. There are currently two openings on the ZBA and one opening for BCRC representative.

- Tom Smith moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to reappoint:
- Natalie Quigley and Dave Berard to the Planning Commission for four year terms.
- Martha Merwin, David Wilson and Ed Tanenhaus to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for 3 year terms.
- Ruth Tanenhouse to the Design Review Board as an alternate for a three year term.

Motion passed 4-0.

Liquor Licenses:

Tom Smith moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to enter into deliberations as the Liquor Control Board for the purposes of reviewing a Liquor License, motion passed 4-0.

HITS outside consumption permit for 2022 - It was the consensus of the board to approve the outside consumption permit for the Horse show at Beebe Farm. Tom Smith moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to reconvene the Selectboard meeting, motion passed 4-0.

Old Business:

Broadband: Jim Salsgiver noted that Consolidated and the Southern VT CUD were working to deploy fiber through the region by the end of 2023. It was noted that the fiber will run all through town and offer higher speeds. Rob Gaiotti noted that the State Broadband Board was supporting Consolidated and advocating for reduced rates for a period of time for the providers that are supported with funding dollars.

Other updates included: East Dorset Village, Read Farm Lane, Raptor Lane etc.

Northshire Rescue Squad:

Jim Salsgiver gave an updated about the status of the NRS talks with Manchester and that the hope was to have an MOU approved by Manchester by the end of June. This would then allow NRS to solicit the other 4 towns to review sign the contract, which is very close to the simple contract that was done in the past. Discussion ensued about the time frames, costs, expectations and what would be needed from Dorset.

Finance Report:

Rob Gaiotti gave the June finance report. FY22 revenues will exceed estimates and expenses will be right on track. The auditor will be in the office starting 7/27. The grand list has increased slightly from year to year which will lower the town tax rate. The education tax rate is adjusted by the CLA and is expected to be higher. Henry Chanlder moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to approve the finance report, motion passed 4-0.

Manager's Report:

Updates were presented about: Highway projects, Dorset Fire District projects, Broadband, and continuing education for the Town Manager.

Other Business:

Seth Marx had submitted a letter to the Selectboard requesting a waiver of taxes due to the bill not being properly delivered. Discussion ensued with regard to the letter. Rob Gaiotti noted that a grace period was added a few years ago and there are 2 payments owed over the year. No action was taken.

Tom Smith moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:38pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Gaiotti

Town Manager