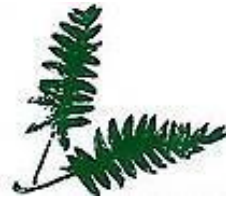


# Town of Dorset, Vermont



## 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 July 20, 2021

Present: Megan Thorn, Henry Chandler, Liz Ruffa, Jim Salsgiver  
Also, present: Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager), Lisa Cueman, Tyler Yandow

Megan Thorn, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

### **Approve Minutes of June 15, 2021**

Jim Salsgiver moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to approve the June 15th minutes as amended, motion passed 3-0.

### **Public Comment**

Lisa Cueman thanked the Board for continuing to offer the Zoom meeting option for residents.

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

R. Gaiotti gave a presentation and answered questions about the ARPA funding. Approximately \$203,000 will come to Dorset (\$600,000 if the county level money is allowed to go directly to Towns). Possible options include: water/waste water projects, lost revenue, broadband etc. Ben Weiss, Chairman of Dorset Fire District No. 1 was on hand to inform the Board that DFD would love to partner with the Town and that the water system has lots of project need. It was noted that the Town should take care to make sure the entire community benefits from the ARPA funds.

### **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 67% of the 150 respondents supported the plan, while 14% didn't support it and 19% weren't sure yet. Discussion ensued. T. Yandow asked what the cost impact did to taxes. R. Gaiotti noted that a house valued at \$300,000 would pay an additional \$78 per year toward the bond payment associated with the project (roughly a rate of \$0.0225 per \$100).

**Town Office Bond Vote Resolution:**

Henry Chandler moved and Jim Salsgiver seconded to approve the Town Office Bond Vote resolution, motion passed 4-0. Voting will take place on August 24<sup>th</sup> and the informational meeting will take place on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Set Municipal Tax Rate for FY22:**

R. Gaiotti presented the municipal tax rate information for 2021-2022. Jim Salsgiver moved and Liz Ruffa seconded to set the tax rate at \$0.3239 per \$100 of value for 2021-2022, motion passed 4-0.

**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 field work had been done, with some encouraging feedback.

**Read Farm Lane:**

Culvert work to take place the week of August 2nd. Replacing the smaller culvert, upsizing from 2' to 4'.

**Broadband/ Internet Discussion:**

Jim Salsgiver gave a brief update about the Communications Union District status and plans for broadband.

**Finance Report**

The finance report was presented by R. Gaiotti. He noted that the expense for FY21 can in under and the revenue exceeded expectations (Clerk fees were double etc.). He anticipates a possible surplus for FY21, auditing starts soon. 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
- Read Farm Lane follow up.
- Town Forest trail work
- ARPA money from Federal Treasury

Other Business: Liz Ruffa inquired about the reappraisal status. T. Yandow noted that the ZBA still has 1 open seat.

H. Chandler moved and L. Ruffa seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager