

**Georgia Selectboard Meeting
Chris Letourneau Meeting Room
Monday, October 28, 2019
7:00 pm**

Approved: Approved

Present: Selectboard: Steve Lamos, Tara Wright, Jason Burt, Scott St. Onge. Town Administrator/Treasurer: Amber Baker. Selectboard Clerk: Samuel Gould.

Absent: Matt Crawford.

Public Present: LT Jerry Partin, Vermont State Police; Todd Cadieux, Highway Department/Road Foreman; Ken Minck, Conservation Commission, Suzanna Brown, Conservation Commission.

Steve Lamos opened the regular Selectboard meeting for October 28, 2019, for the Town of Georgia in the Chris Letourneau Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m.

Steve asked the Town Administrator if there are any additions, deletions or changes to the meeting agenda. The following additions and deletions were noted.

Resignation of the fire warden was added to new business.

Public Appearances:

Steve invited LT Jerry Partin of the Vermont State Police to the table at 7:02 p.m. LT Partin introduced himself and informed the board he was attending to see if there were any issues or complaints. He talked about intelligence-based policing and asked if there was anything the board wished to pass on to him and that they can contact him at anytime if they do or if they have any questions.

Discussion followed on the cost and time expended providing emergency services to the Georgia section of I89, Traffic Incident Management school (TIMS) and the town's ability to call the state police for support.

LT Partin departed the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Steve invited Todd Cadieux to the table at 7:16 p.m. Todd talked about the three loaders the highway department recently tested and which loader they have selected. They have selected the JD as it meets all of their needs/requirements and has the lowest price tag. The machine does have an estimated 400 hours but is considered a new equipment sale.

The price is \$99k or \$2,100 overbudget, the extra amount will come out of the small tools budget per Todd. To also help, the JD comes with the forks which are extra with all the others tested.

Discussion followed on; Can we accept this now, Are the funds available, What is the warranty as the machine has 400 hours on it and maintenance support.

This purchase also falls within the capital budget.

Motion to purchase the JD Powertech 544K by Jason, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Todd's next topic was Silver Lake Road. Jason covered what occurred during the last GCC meeting and Todd discussed his conversation with Bethany from Northwest Regional Planning on the culvert

replacement. Basically, if the town touches the culvert it will have to be replaced which will require a hydrology study and a stream alteration permit.

Discussion followed on; Whether or not act 64 applies per MRGP, Does being classified as a perennial stream change the requirements, What can be done without triggering Act 64, The costs for a hydrology study and do we reclassify it to a trail or not.

The board decided this need to be set aside until we have more information from Bethany and the GCCs final recommendation on reclassification.

Suzanna Brown then discussed the new gate installed by VELCO at the end of the road where the trail begins. The GCC is happy with the gate and feels that they did a great job. The gate is not locked yet but will be.

Todd then brought up that the town of Milton is looking at reclassifying some Class III roads to Class IV and some class IV to trails. He would like to talk with them on what and how they are doing this.

Discussion followed on; The difference between classes of roads, Issues people living on the roads would have and are there any people actually living on any roads we would be looking at.

Steve told Todd he can go ahead and talk with the town of Milton.

Review of Past Minutes:

Motion to approve unapproved minutes from October 14, 2019 meeting with changes mentioned by Suzanna Brown by Jason, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Review of Warrants: Minimum discussion.

AP73 & AP74: Amber mentioned that this warrant had 23 tax returns. Motion by Scott to approve, Seconded by Jason, all in favor.

PR44: Motion to approve by Tara, seconded by Scott, all in favor.

Selectboard Concerns:

None

Administrators Report to Selectboard:

Unfinished Business:

Update on Gilmond Property Purchase: All permits received; 11 November Planning meeting will cover the subdivision.

2019-2024 Capital Budget: Next step is to approve the ordinance, draft supplied. Board accepted all legal notes and asked that the final cleaned up version is brought forward at the 11 November selectboard meeting for final approval.

Highway heating and ventilation improvements: No changes.

VTRANS 104A bridge replacement: Public forum is set for 6 - 8 p.m. on November 13, 2019 at the fire station is all set and posted. VTRANS is looking at Skunk Hill Rd as one of the alternate routes.

Discussion followed on; What is the size of the audience, Is the Fire department large enough, Would they pave Skunk Hill Rd and what are our options.

2019 VLCT PACIF Grant: No changes.

2019 Pike Paving: Paving has been put off to 2020 due to the weather.

New town employee injury reporting, medical treatment & incident policy: Some discussion on the formatting of all new town policies and ensuring that we follow the new format.

Motion to approve the New town employee injury reporting, medical treatment & incident policy by Scott, seconded by Tara, all approve.

New Business / Action items:

2020 Standby Generator: some discussion on the current budget. Motion to allow Amber to pay for the service by Scott, seconded by Tara, all approve.

Resignation of David McWilliams: Carrie Lewis, David's deputy, does not want to take his place.

Discussion followed on; How do we back fill this position, What is the pay structure, Equipment requirements and adding the opening to the website.

Colin Conger letter to the board – rename Georgia Beach facility: The GHS would like to rename the Georgia Beach facility to the "Peter Mallett Recreation Area" in honor of all of his contributions over the years to the town of Georgia.

Discussion followed on all of the many things and voluntary time that Peter did for the town. All agree that he is deserving of this honor and that Colin and the GHS will contribute to the appropriate signage.

Motion to change the name of the Georgia Beach facility to the "Peter Mallett Recreation Area" by Tara, seconded by Jason, all approve.

MVP Insurance Rates: Amber reminded the board that MVP will be on site 5 November to talk with all employees about their plans.

Discussion followed on; The pediatric dental plan, Things that MVP provides that BCBS does not, What is the boards cost limit per employee and when do employees have to make a decision by.

Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse new regulations: Amber informed the board that all highway employees will have to set up an account and allow the town to pull their information yearly. This does incur a minimal fee each year.

Discussion followed on; Why do we need CDLs, Are they actually required and what does our insurance state.

Resignation of the town Fire warden: We need to remove his information from the web site. Until a new person is located the deputy will take over. This also needs to be added to the web site.

Administrator's Correspondence and Tasks:

Minimal discussion on how the new SharePoint task page works.

Library water heater fixed and completed below budget, town hall bathroom new water heater was installed but found to be defective, it will be replaced soon. The F. W. Webb provided an energy audit and determined that there is not enough cold air returns in the town hall as there are only two. The fix will be \$400 but will reduce our heating costs.

Purchasing turkeys for the staff as an employee appreciation idea.

Discussion followed on; Do we have the funds, Fresh versus frozen costs, can we do this, how many would we need, Who do we buy them for, What are the requirements and employee morale.

Board asked Amber to provide a list of who and why to the board for the 11 November selectboard meeting.

Delinquent taxpayer rate is only 2.24% for 2019 and over \$60k has been collected already.

\$13.6k in better back roads grant funds has been received.

Treasurer's Correspondence: Minimal discussion on all items.

General Correspondence: Minimum discussion.

State of Vermont Correspondence: None

Brochures/Newsletters/Workshops: None

Executive Requirements: None.

Other Business Found Necessary:

Talk to our insurance about ride-alongs in town vehicles for family members and others so they can see what their parents, spouses and town employees do.

Town Administrator Tasks review:

Provide a clean copy of the new ordinance for the next meeting.

Call around to see how others handle their animal control.

Call and let Colin know about the name change approval.

Ensure BCBS and MVP rates are available to the board.

Found out why the highway department employees require CDLs, and about medical cards.

Thank you letters to David and Jay.

Provide a turkey list.

Setup employment opportunities on the web site for animal control and Fire Warden.

Remove current Fire Warden information from the web site.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. by Steve, seconded by Scott, all approved