

**Georgia Selectboard Meeting
Chris Letourneau Meeting Room
Monday, August 27, 2018
6:30 p.m.**

Approved: September 10, 2018

Present: Selectboard: Ric Nye; Deb Woodward; Matt Crawford; Tara Wright; Mike McCarthy, Town Administrator; and Amber Baker, Treasurer

Absent: Steve Lamos

Public Present: Paul and June Waite, Hubert and Jerrilyn Remillard, Stacie Callan, Mike Frett – St. Albans Messenger.

Matt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m., with the Waites and the Remillards, is requested at this time to discuss Contracts, labor relations agreements with employees, arbitration or mediation, grievances, other than tax, pending or probable litigation, or confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the Town of Georgia involving the Town, specifically finding that premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage, made by Ric, second by Deb. No further discussion. All in favor.

Motion to come out of Executive Session made at 6:45 p.m. by Deb, second by Ric. No further discussion. All in favor.

No action out of Executive Session.

Matt called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Matt asked for any additions, deletions or comments to the agenda. Mike added the following to the agenda:

1. Check Warrant Report PR #35 and Check Warrant Report AP #59.
2. Mike received an email from Ron Sweet regarding his road escrow account.
3. The Planning Coordinator would like to apply for a Municipal Planning Grant to revise our Developmental Regulations.
4. Georgia Fire Department draft August 2, 2018 minutes.

Review of Minutes:

Minutes of the August 13, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed and discussed.

Motion made to approve the 8/13/18 regular meeting minutes, with changes discussed, made by Deb, second by Ric. No further discussion. All in favor.

Review of Warrants:

Previously approved Check Warrant Report PR#34, AP#54, AP#55, AP#56 and AP#57 were reviewed. It is the general consensus to accept the previously approved check warrants.

Motion to approve Check Warrant Report PR#35 for payroll ending 8/30/18, made by Deb, second by Ric. No further discussion. All in favor.

Motion to approve Check Warrant Report AP #58 for the general fund, paying Garvey's Gardens as presented and Stevens Plumbing & Heating for the beach that was under budget, and AP #59 for payroll transfers, made by Deb, second by Ric. No further discussion. All in favor.

Motion to go out to bid for trash hauling services for the Town of Georgia, made by Ric, second by Deb. No further discussion. All in favor.

Selectboard Concerns: None

Unfinished Business Report:

1. Georgia Recreation area – update. The bathroom (both Mens and Ladies) updates have been completed. The stalls are bigger, the walls are higher, the plumbing has been repaired and the toilets replaced. We have gotten a lot of positive feedback on these repairs.

Also, all of the stones from underneath the playground have been removed and replaced with wood chips. A big thank you to the Highway Department for their help in accomplishing this.

2. Georgia Public Library – update. The Request for Proposal has been sent out for the lighting repairs at the Library. Mike has had three companies express interest. Mike will bring to the Selectboard for further action.

The Selectboard had a general discussion regarding a “Preferred Vendors List”. Matt is wondering if it would make sense for us to have a Preferred Vendors List (PVL) as a subset of the Town Purchasing Policy. Mike states that other communities do a PVL, they know they have got one or two that they can go to, depending upon the service, rather than trying to hunt down contractors every time we need one. It would definitely save us time.

Deb states that she could support this but she would want to know that there was a process, it would be a short list and that there would be value to us. We would need to make sure that we are getting the most value per hour, maybe they would give us a 5% discount or something. What will it get us, faster response time, weekends, better price, what are they buying for our favor? That is the discussion that we have not had. There are savings to be had working with a trusted vendor working for time and materials rather than a contract. One way or another we have to do our due process. Doing it before might make things happen quicker. It is definitely worth taking a look at.

Amber will look around and see what other Towns have a preferred vendor list. The Selectboard can take a look at this at a future meeting.

New Business:

1. Resignation of Peter Pembroke from Georgia Planning Commission. Discussion regarding appointment of replacement.

Motion made to accept the resignation of Peter Pembroke from the Planning Commission, sending a letter of thanks for his many years of service, made by Ric, second by Deb. No further discussion. All in favor.

The Selectboard had a general discussion regarding what should be done for Peter as a thank you. Perhaps the Town Report should have a thank you in it for Peter. Mike will reach out to the Planning Commission and see what they would like to do. It definitely should be mentioned at Town Meeting next year.

2. Request from Georgia Little League to have highway department transport load of baseball field dirt. This has been done in the past.

Motion made to approve the request for the Highway Department to transport baseball field dirt for the Little League, made by Ric, second by Deb. No further discussion. All in favor.

Administrator's Correspondences and Tasks:

1. Health insurance research – follow up. Mike did some research on this. Mike's suggestion is to not get into the nuts and bolts of the insurance policies, the Selectboard would just need to decide how much you are going to authorize the employees and then we can have all the companies on board for the employees to look at and the employees can choose what they want based on the money that is being offered. We don't need to go into specifics, let the employee choose the company and plan they want.

It is the general consensus of the Selectboard to talk about this at the next meeting in executive session.

Treasurer's Correspondence:

1. Gas heating expenses for highway garage 2007-2017. Based on the last meeting, Amber provided the Selectboard with numbers of what the costs for VT Gas were at the Highway Department. Ric states that keep in mind, they also had a wood stove in use. The 2007 costs is probably more like 50% of that year because they were burning wood as well. Table any action for the next budget meeting.

General Correspondence:

1. Georgia Planning Commission – Meeting minutes from July 24, 2018 and August 14, 2018.
2. Georgia Fire Department – Meeting minutes from July 5, 2018.
3. Georgia Conservation Commission – Meeting minutes from June 18, 2018, July 16, 2018 and August 20, 2018.
4. SurviVermont – meeting notice from August 22, 2018. This was held at GEMS sponsored by our Fire Department and Amcare. It was an excellent presentation on community safety and safe practices. Thank you to the Fire Department and First Response for having this presentation put on in Town.
5. Georgia Public Library Trustees – Meeting minutes from July 23, 2018 and August 20, 2018 meetings.

Additions:

1. Municipal Planning Grant. Ryan, Planning Coordinator, asked the Selectboard to consider a request for a planning grant to re-write the Zoning Regulations. This is a grant through the State. It is a \$17,500 grant with a \$2,000 community match. This has not been budgeted for 2018. Mike believes that this really won't come out of the 2018 budget, but the 2019 budget. The Grant application is due September 1st. This will be kept as an action item to discuss with the Planning Commission at our next joint meeting.

It is the general consensus of the Selectboard for Ryan to start the Municipal Planning Grant Application to re-write the Zoning Regulations.

2. Fire Department Draft Minutes from August.

3. Email from Resident regarding their escrow account. Ron Sweet sent an email requesting the Selectboard refund his escrow money. Ric states that we need to get a copy of the agreement that was signed so we know what we are talking about. The project was started, and this escrow made sure that we could finish the roadside work. If the project wasn't completed, which it isn't, then the Town will have the money to complete it.

To discuss further at the next meeting.

State of Vermont Correspondence: None

Brochures, Newsletters, Workshops, and Advertisements: None

Signatures Needed: None

Legal Correspondence: None

Confidential / Executive Session Items:

1. Legal, Personnel.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m., with the Treasurer, is requested at this time to discuss Contracts, labor relations agreements with employees, arbitration or mediation, grievances, other than tax, pending or probable litigation, or confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the Town of Georgia involving the Town, specifically finding that premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage, made by Tara, second by Deb. No further discussion. All in favor.

Motion to come out of Executive Session made at 8:05 p.m. by Ric, second by Steve. No further discussion. All in favor.

Motion out of Executive Session to accept the proposal from Green Mountain Pyrotechnics to perform the fireworks display at the Georgia Fall Fest on September 15, 2018, made by Ric, second by Deb. No further discussion. All in favor.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. made by Ric, second by Deb. No further discussion. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by Krissy Jenkins.