

**Georgia Regular Selectboard Meeting
Via ZOOM Web Conferencing
Monday May 11, 2020 7:00 pm**

Approved: **Approved**

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

Absent: All present

Public Present: Buddy Meilleur, LCATV Production Manager; Roger Langevin, Franklin County Sheriff;
Dick McAvenia, SD Ireland; Paul Lawoson, S.T. Paving, Inc.; Bretton Gardner, Pike
Industries; Tyler Whitcomb, FW Whitcomb.

Matt Crawford opened the regular Selectboard meeting for My 11, 2020 for the Town of Georgia via ZOOM at 7:02 p.m. to discuss regular business.

Additions, Changes or Deletions:

Addition: Amber presented the selectboard New Business #5, property donation.

Change: Amber requested New Business #1 be moved to a Public appearance.

The selectboard agreed with the changes and additions.

Public Appearances:

First Public Appearance.

Roger Langevin, Franklin County Sheriff, appeared before the selectboard to keep them apprised of new changes implemented due to COVID-19 that is allowing them to perform more presence patrols, respond quicker to incidents and perform more traffic response for the town. They are now utilizing prison transfer Deputies as there are no transfer at this time. This has allowed them to further expand all support operations which has led to towns folk mentioning that they are seeing more sheriffs on the roads. Roger asked the selectboard if they had and concerns or comments about their support.

Amber mentioned how the sheriff's office was able to quickly and competently respond to two life threatening events within a twelve-hour period. She then thanked them for their support.

Matt brought up how having a deputy, Phil, living in the town has brought a lot of good will to the community.

Roger closed his Public Appearance by informing the board that communications between his office and the town, via Amber has been great and that all is going well.

Roger departed the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Second Public Appearance.

This appearance was originally listed as New Business #1 Paving Bids.

Amber provided the selectboard the following bid information.

1st Bid, S.D. Ireland: \$68.95 per ton plus a 4\$.96 liquid asphalt adjustment.

2nd Bid, Premier Paving: \$67.50 per ton plus a 4\$.96 liquid asphalt adjustment.

3rd Bid, J. Hutchins, Inc.: \$79.25 per ton plus a 4\$.96 liquid asphalt adjustment.

4th Bid, S. T. Paving, Inc.: \$72.40 per ton plus a 4\$.96 liquid asphalt adjustment.

5th Bid, Frank W. Whitcomb: \$66.28per ton plus a 4\$.96 liquid asphalt adjustment.

6th Bid, Pike Industries: \$65.75/ton plus a 4\$.96 liquid asphalt adjustment.

Discussion followed on; Pike being the lowest but they also did not complete last years paving, that the selectboard normally goes with the lowest bid, front loading last years paving requirements, the contracts paving window dates and will the paving all get done this year.

Steve asked Bretton if Pike would be able to complete all of the 2019 and 2020 paving within the stated time periods listed in the contract. Bretton replies that all the paving will be done within the contracted time lines to include the 2019 paving.

Motion to accept Pike Industries bid of \$65.75/ton plus a 4\$.96 liquid asphalt adjustment to completed the 2019 and 2020 paving requirements within the contracted time frame by Steve, seconded by Scott, all in favor.

Amber informed the selectboard that she will work with Bretton to complete all the required paperwork.

At 7:16 p.m. Dick McAvenia, Paul Lawoson, Bretton Gardner and Tyler Whitcomb left the meeting.

Review of Past Minutes:

Discussion followed on; adding the additional out of executive session motion and attaching the email from Kelly Viens about the St. Albans Recreation Department.

Motion to approve the April 27, 2020 Regular meeting minutes with changes as discussed by Steve, seconded by Scott, all in favor.

Review of Warrants:

Motion to approve previously approved check warrants PR 20, AP31 and AP32 Steve, seconded by Scott, all in favor.

Selectboard Concerns: None noted.

Administrators Report to Selectboard:

Unfinished Business:

1. Highway Oversight Committee Update: The Oversight committee has met and the RFP is ready to go. Based on the timeline the selectboard needs to approve this at the May 27, 2020 selectboard meeting.

Discussion followed on; changes made to the RFP, selectboard agreement to the changes, no additional costs incurred and what do we get from the RFP as written.

Scott informed the selectboard that there are no additional costs incurred, that the selected contractor will provide the selectboard with the costs that will be used to present to the Town's residents this fall and that he believes the RFP is ready to be posted.

All board members agree with the RFP but state that any and all further required fund expenditures are brought forth to the board for discussion prior to any spending of funds.

All selectboard members are in consensus to move forward with the RFP. Amber will send Sam all the required information to post to the Town's website and he will post it as soon as he has it.

3. Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: Amber informed the selectboard that the plan is almost completed and should be completed prior to the next scheduled selectboard meeting.

4. COVID-19 Updates: Amber informed the Selectboard that the next selectboard meeting might be held at the Town Hall. This will depend on what the Governor has to say this coming Friday. At this time both Dawn and Cheryl are back to their normal hours with other section still working selected days. The Town Hall is open by appointment only. No pressing issues at this time.

Discussion followed on moving the schedules May 25, 2020 meeting to 27 May, 2020 due to the Memorial Day holiday. This will be a tentative meeting date for the time being. If nothing is pressing the meeting will be cancelled. At this time both Tara and Steve would be available on that date. Amber informed the selectboard that there is currently no pressing items but someone will need to be available to sign the warrants.

Discussion followed on; how will we hold the next meeting (in Town Hall or via ZOOM), building space is fine for the selectboard but a problem if any of the public decides to attend, any other spaces we can use, maintaining social distancing and the equipment (thermometers) and other required protective equipment availability.

5. Auditor RFP: Amber recommends, as Town Treasurer and as the Town Administrator, that the selectboard go with Telling & Hillman, P.C. Some discussion on the budget for the auditors and travel time.

Motion to approve Ambers recommendation as both the Town Treasurer and Administrator to contract with Telling & Hillman, P.C. to perform the town audit for the next three years by Tara, seconded by Steve, all in favor.

6. Library ADA Update: Amber provided the selectboard a map that shows all the property lines. She showed the selectboard the property that would need to be purchased in order to make the library ADA

compliant. She then informed the selectboard that the lands estimated value is \$9,500, that I would be a boundary adjustment, that it will be 2022 before the state does anything with the islands on Rt 7 as they are focusing on RT 15 at this time, that the piece of land is not really appraisable due to the size so the valuation is based on a full acre and adjusted down accordingly and that the Brown's property is not land locked as there is a valid curb opening.

Amber believes it is now up to the Library trustees to talk with the land owners to see if they are amenable to the sale of a piece of their property.

Discussion followed on; ensuring any plans do not encroach on the septic tank and leach field, access to Morin Ave, location of the septic and leach field and the additional ADA compliant library door.

The selectboard is in agreement that the Library Trustees are the ones who need to approach the land owners but they are not allowed to make any offers to purchase the property.

Amber will inform Paula of the selectboard's decision.

New Business / Action items:

1. Paving Bids: Moved to Public appearances.
2. Health Officer: The current Health Officers (Amber) term expires soon.

Motion to appoint Amber, the Town administrator, as the Health Officer for the Town of Georgia for the period of one year by Matt, seconded by Steve, all in favor.

3. Fire Department & Highway Department MOU: Amber informed the Selectboard that all parties to this MOU have seen and agree to the MOU as written.

Discussion followed on; the intent of the MOU, is this only for those that live in the Town of Georgia or everyone, are we a part-time fire department or a paid fire department and clarification on how pay will work.

Amber will change the wording to make the MOU universal, adjust the pay wording to clarify it and remove the volunteer wording as the Fire department is paid.

4. TOG Property Disposal Policy Ver05.08.20: Amber informed the Selectboard that Sam has completed a draft of the policy for the selectboard's review.

Discussion followed on the capitalization of Kelly Blue Book in paragraph 3.3.2, the addition of wording to cover those items deemed to have no value to the town but could have value to a resident of the Town of Georgia and the use of the word "Disposal". Sam informed the selectboard that while doing some researching to help write the policy, he noted that "Disposal" is what other governmental agencies used.

Motion to approve the new Town of Georgia Property Disposal Policy with the corrections and additions as discussed by Steve, seconded by Scott, all in favor.

5. Summit Run Investments Property Donation: Michael Trahan has informed the town that he wishes to

donate the property that was owned by Steve Williams, who passed away recently. Steve's wife Julie informed Michael that she does not want to do anything with the building so Michael took ownership in exchange for the mortgage. This is the old Town Clerks office which has had some updates to it as Michael was looking to convert it into a one-bedroom apartment until he was informed by Cindy that the septic capacity for full time usage. The building does have a vault, a new roof, new bathroom but requires new flooring. It currently has heat, parking for four cars. It will also need some minor electrical work and maybe some heat in the basement.

Discussion followed on; developing a pros and cons list, doing a walk through and past mistakes, issues and expenses incurred in past property donations.

Amber will setup a walk through, both Tara and Matt are available. She will also talk with the Historical Society and see what they think.

Treasurer's Correspondence: No discussions.

General Correspondence:

Matt stated he is not quite sure what Planning's selectboard concerns are. Amber will talk with Lary to get clarification for the selectboard.

State of Vermont Correspondence: None.

Brochures/Newsletters/Workshops: None.

Executive Requirements: None.

Other Business Found Necessary:

Tara asked for clarification on the computer issues Bob Ware was having. Amber informed the selectboard that it was a login but not logging out issue and only for the **Nimric system**. People would login then leave without logging out, then Bob would try and he could not as someone was still logged on the system. She informed the selectboard that she will fix this issue.

Tara also brought up the status of the town tennis courts and the park. Amber informed the board that the courts are now open and some picnic tables have been placed but the pavilion is still closed. This is following the Governors current guidelines and will evolve as he makes new announcements.

Matt asked about the docks. Amber informed him that the docks cannot go in safely until the lake level is at 96 feet or less. Currently the lake sits at 97.4 feet so it will be a month before they can go in.

Tara asked about the current status of the library's operations. Amber informed the selectboard that curbside pickup is scheduled to start next week and that virtual activities are up and running. The library staff and trustees are having a tough time figuring out the logistics of reopening the library while still meeting the Governors requirements.

Town Administrator Tasks review: Stated within the minutes above.

Meeting adjourned by Matt at 8:08 p.m.