

**Georgia Selectboard Meeting
Chris Letourneau Meeting Room
Monday, August 26, 2019
7:00 pm**

Approved: Approved

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

Absent: All members present and on time.

Public Present: Keith Baker, Fire Chief (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)

Matt Crawford opened the regular Selectboard meeting for August 26, 2019, for the Town of Georgia in the Chris Letourneau Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m.

Matt started with the official announcement that Amber Baker has been selected as the new Town Administrator and that she will officially start on 2 September 2019. She will continue to perform the duties of the Town Treasurer. There will be an executive session tonight with Fire Chief Keith Baker.

Review of Past Minutes:

The following occurred between meetings and was conducted via email. Motion by Tara to propose counteroffer to Amber Baker for TA position. Seconded by Steve.

Personnel email discussion by Scott and Jason regarding salary requirements.

After discussion, motion for counteroffer passed, 3-2.

Amber agreed to offer. Begins as TA on Sept. 3

Review of Warrants: Minimum discussion.

PR34 and AP56 all in all done.

AP57: Matt noted that we are paying a town employee for supplies. This is not an issue but we do need to note these kinds of transactions so we can ensure they are conducted in a legal and fair method. Some discussion followed. Amber will talk with the Highway Foreman/Road Commissioner, Todd Cadieux in the morning. Motion by Jason to approve, Seconded by Scott, all in favor.

PR35 & AP58: Motion by Steve to approve, Seconded by Scott, all in favor.

Selectboard Concerns: Amber informed the board that someone knocked down the split-rail fence at the beach. Bob LaRose cleaned up the mess and fixed the fence as best as possible. Amber wanted to thank him for the help. This may add some more time to his time card.

Administrators Report to Selectboard: None

Unfinished Business:

Update on Gilmand Property Purchase: Matt and Amber met with the representative of Cross Engineering, Cindy, Lary Martell and Todd last Tuesday. To look at some of the septic options for the

property. What is needed is a waste water plan for the town garage only. Cross Engineering is working on the plan and should have it completed in the next two to three weeks so we will have it to the state no later than the end of September. No issues were noted and three to four sites on the property were noted as possible sites for the septic system.

2019-2020 Capital Budget: Matt reminded the board of tomorrow's meeting at the fire station to cover this item. The primary focus will be the town garage so Todd will be present. Tara had a question on why 2019 is listed, Matt reminded everyone that we still have three open 2019 capital budget purchases to work through.

Matt informed the board that we really have three things we need to accomplish tomorrow night.

Talk about the 2019 items not yet purchased yet.

Talk about the impact fees.

Take a look at the 2020 – 2024 schedule.

State of Vermont FY2020 highway structures grant – Mill River box culvert:

Amber informed the board that Todd had talked with Jim Coda and we can realign the grant to a different project but once we use the grant we will be out of order and taken off the schedule for Mill River. The Reynolds road project will be about \$130k. The Mill River road fix will be about \$1m. We will need to reapply as the project name will change from Mill River road to Reynolds road. We are currently fourth in line for the funds. When we realign the funds the amount of the grant will drop as the Reynolds road fix is less expensive.

Todd also has concerns about an Arrowhead lake bridge/culvert. He will let Amber know what the cost of fixing this bridge/culvert, he believes it will be closer to the \$175 of the Mill River grant.

Tara asked if the grants are percentage based, it is an 80/20 grant Amber stated.

Matt stated that Suzanna Brown wants to come in and talk about a culvert on Silver Lake road and the reclassification we have discussed in the past. The new town Administrator will need to setup a time for this and ensure that Todd also attends.

Amber stated that we have to spend the grant by 2021 and should make a final decision soon. The next meeting dates are 9 and 23 September. As a reminder the Cub Scouts are attending on 9 September to ask some questions. 9 September is set for this item.

Highway electrical and heating improvements:

Matt stated that the electrical grant should be done this week and all is going well. Steve asked if this is fixing all the safety concerns, Matt replied that it is and that Todd stated that it has also increased the morale of the highway employees.

Scott opens discussion. He talked with both Mountain Air and Absolute Mechanical about the exhaust and heating system improvements. Essentially the exhaust connections for both the hose connections and the CO sensors has to happen to meet code. It cannot be separated out. As for the heat the two

heaters on the east side, combined, match the heat on the west side but one side is essentially four bays and one is three bays, one side will require more heat. After talking with both companies, I was able to get the following information on costs.

Absolute Mechanicals opinion, rework the gas piping and add in a supplemental heater to the west side and all of the work for the exhaust was originally \$75k. With our changes it comes down to \$48,850.

Mountain Air opinion, complete the exhaust system now and see how the current heat systems work and if required they can come and work heating systems later in the year or the new year. They have also separated out the heating and exhaust systems. They can complete the exhaust system for \$33,844 and the heating system for \$14,148 for a total cost of \$47,992.

Discussion followed on the louvers, exhaust system and re-venting one of the heating units through the roof which will make it both more efficient and meet code, where do the employees go to keep warm, adding some electric heaters to some of the smaller rooms and do we do the exhaust system now and heating at a later date.

Fire Chief Keith baker arrived at this time, 7:30 p.m.

Steve stated that we need to know exactly what we are paying for line by line. Scott mentioned a list of items but all agree we need to have a list and a scope of work. Scott will get with Joel and Dave from Hawthorne to get the breakdown and scope of work.

Motion by Steve to complete the dampers, venting, electrical and duct work not to exceed \$42k, seconded by Jason, all approve.

New Business / Action items:

Fireworks proposal: Amber opens discussion on the two fireworks proposals. Gail from the Recreation Committee recommends we stay with Green Mountain Pyrotechnic. The amount we will pay remains the same \$2k for fireworks and \$2k to help cover the other events of the fall fest, hayride, band, bouncy castle etc. The rest of the funding comes from donations.

Discussion follows on why the committee wants to stay with Green Mountain Pyrotechnic versus Northstar Fireworks which seems to provide a better show, larger, higher and bigger. It is hard to compare the two proposals as they are very dissimilar.

We need to ensure that the committee has actually seen and really compared the two proposals. Amber will get with the committee this week.

Motion by Steve to go with the Recreation Committees recommendation, seconded by Jason, all approve.

Administrator's Correspondence and Tasks: None

Treasurer's Correspondence: None

General Correspondence:

Library meeting minutes, 22 July 2019.

State of Vermont Correspondence:

Health Officer Appointment letter. This is being turned over to the new town Administrator. Amber has already signed the documents.

Executive Requirements: None.

Other Business Found Necessary: Fire Chief Keith Baker invited to the table.

Matt brings up the point that the new town Administrator is his spouse and that are some references as to what the town administrator does in conjunction with the SOGs. At some point we will need to discuss this to ensure there will be no conflicts of interest in the future. Both Amber and Keith stat that they have already talked about this and have developed a firewall to ensure things are clean and clear between them.

Keith updates the board on the trucks. The new engine and the refurbished engine are both in service and working well.

Old engine one was sold over the weekend for \$35k. The company that does all the work in selling engines receives 10% of the sale so we will net \$31,500. It also looks like we have sold the old manual ladder for \$11k. It sold for so much less as it is a manual transmission which is an issue as most young drivers cannot drive them.

At this time, we have two engines, two tankers and the utility truck. We are working on re-chasseing the utility truck using the funds from the engine sales.

Matt asked about the capital budget 2019 purchase for a brush truck chasse. Keith stated that it is in the works at this time to spend the \$75k. They are looking at a base model 4-wheel drive crew cab that is red. The big issue is the chasse as they can take a while to come in. This will not affect the budget.

The fire department would like to purchase a connex box. The association will pay for it so the cost to the town is \$0. He is looking for approval to do this and to place it in the overflow parking are, all the high grass, and plant some trees to block it out. With this we can train with live fire and entanglement training and use it to store other training props we have. The connex is approximately 9' x 40'.

The board agrees with purchase, setup and the overall plan. Amber will get with Cindy on permitting.

Executive Session:

Prior to entering executive session Matt states that the session will cover labor agreements with employees and possible disciplinary actions. Motion by Steve to enter executive session under 1 VSCA 313 with Keith attending, seconded by Jason, all approve.

Executive session entered at 7:58 p.m.