

**Georgia Selectboard Meeting
Chris Letourneau Meeting Room
Monday, September 9, 2019
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 members present and on time.

Public Present: Todd Cadieux, Highway Foreman/Road Commissioner; Suzanna Brown, Georgia Conservation Commission; Ryan Wells, Cross Consulting Engineers; The following Scouts/Parents from Pack 842 where present; Jenny Parent, Beau Parent, Simon Senesac, Eli Finch (arrived at 7:05 p.m.), Michael Finch (arrived at 7:05 p.m.), Thomas Weber (arrived at 7:07 p.m.), Patrick Weber (arrived at 7:07 p.m.);

Matt Crawford opened the regular Selectboard meeting for September 9, 2019, for the Town of Georgia in the Chris Letourneau Meeting Room at 7:01 p.m.

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

A public appearance at 7:30 p.m. for Ryan Wells of Cross Consulting Engineers to discuss the wastewater system for the Gilmond property.

Request to waive a late homestead late fee.

Request to perform electrical work at the beach prior to the fall fest.

All where placed under New Business.

Public Appearances:

Matt welcomed the scouts to the meeting and invited them to join the Selectboard at the table and asked them what they would like to talk to the board about. Beau asked if the town has any energy reducing projects planned. Matt and Amber discussed what the town has done, replaced the lighting at the Fire Department with energy efficient lighting which is saving the town roughly \$250 per month so far. We also did the same thing at the Library and the town street lights all in the last two years. Todd then informed of all the energy efficient projects occurring at the town garage; heating system, insulation, lighting and more.

All scouts and parents departed the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Matt invited Todd and Suzanna to the table to talk to the board about the Silver Lake road culvert issues. The main question is; should we reclassify the road from class 4 to a trail and fix the culvert as best we can or not at all; or should we keep the road designated as class 4 and repair the culvert as is or replace it completely to meet state Act 64. Lots of discussion followed on, what is the damage, advantages and disadvantages of each option, safety issue concerns and costs.

Ryan Wells entered the meeting at this time., 7:25 p.m.

Matt and the board asked Todd and Suzanna to work together on a plan or plans to present to the board for the next board meeting.

Matt invited Ryan Wells, Cross Consulting Engineers, to the table at 7:29 p.m. to discuss the planned wastewater system for the Gilmond property.

Matt stated that the state suggested using wastewater tanks for the floor drains and vehicle wash water. This is designed to keep oil, petroleum, salt and other possible hazardous materials from entering the watershed via the septic system. This makes the wastewater system much smaller and easier to maintain. It also will make state permit process faster and approval more likely.

Discussion followed on, location of system, location of the well, soil and slope issues and recommendations, other possible options available over holding tanks.

The plan shows the state the town has a plan in place allowing the town to apply for a wastewater permit. At this time the plan is at 99% and will be ready to submit to the state this week. Ryan will check and see if the town must also submit a check with the permit application and he stated that the approval should be very cut and dry as he has worked the plan with the state already.

Motion to have Amber be the town representative for the wastewater permit application and to cut the check if necessary, by Steve, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Steve informed the board that Olive Gilmond asked about the impact of the sale. The land is taxed as agricultural use at this time. Amber will talk to the town assessor and let Steve know. Steve will get with Olive and let her know the impact when he visits the Gilmond's again this week for another signature.

So far, the project is under budget and moving along efficiently.

Review of Past Minutes:

Matt did hear from a taxpayer in town that our minutes did not meet the statutory requirement to be posted within five days after a meeting, he apologies for that and it has been rectified. Secondly it was the boards fault that they did not provide enough detail of what actions we took during the hiring process in executive session. The minutes have been updated.

Unapproved minutes from August 12, 2019 regular meeting. Motion to approve with minor change by Steve, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Unapproved minutes from August 13 & 14, 2019 special meetings. Motion to approve with minor change by Steve, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Unapproved minutes from August 26, 2019 regular meeting. Motion to approve with addition of town administrator hiring offer/counteroffer motions between meetings by Steve, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Unapproved minutes from August 27, 2019 special meeting. Motion to approve with minor change by Jason, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Review of Warrants: Minimum discussion.

AP60: Motion by Jason to approve, Seconded by Steve, all in favor.

PR37 & AP61: Motion by Jason to approve, Seconded by Scott, all in favor.

Selectboard Concerns:

The new town Administrator will start capturing her weekly work to pass on to the board.

The pit bull (Josey) that escaped last month has been captured and is being fostered at this time. As for the destroyed capture cage, that has yet to be replaced at this time.

Administrators Report to Selectboard: None

Unfinished Business:

Update on Gilmond Property Purchase: We will leave this on the agenda until completed. Currently, we have no issues with the purchase and Amber has been working with multiple banks to ensure we get the best rate.

2019-2020 Capital Budget: Currently only highway funds are the only thing holding us up. Amber and Todd are working on their needs list and expect to be completed for the 23 September selectboard meeting.

Highway electrical improvements: The electrical will be completed on 11 September.

State of Vermont FY2020 highway structures grant – Mill River box culvert: Amber stated that Todd has spoken to Jim Coda at the state and we are going to deny the \$175k at this time as we have no real plans to use the funds at this time. This will not knock us out of line and may even increase the amount later. Currently the town does not have the \$1m to fix the Mill River Road culvert. All board members concur with this plan.

Highway heating improvements: Scott informed the board that the new quote is down to \$55,912 from over \$78k. This is still over the budget of \$41,590. Discussion followed on the bid process, what parts of the project to move to the 2020 budget, Will the current systems work until the new budget is available, moving the additional heat (\$17,288) to the 2020 budget.

Motion to move ahead with the Mountain Air Systems proposal and have AC Hawthorne install the boot system for the future improvements and move the additional heating system to the 2020 budget by Steve, seconded by Jason, all approved.

All board members thanked Scott for the great work he has done on this project.

New Business / Action items:

Remote access pricing: This will cost \$65 - \$130 to install and Amber recommends we go with VNC Connect with up to 5 workstations at \$200 per year. Some discussion on how this works, any additional costs to the town, who would use this system and how does this fit into the budget.

Motion to go ahead with VCN Connect setup and fee not to exceed \$400 and to add this expense to the budget line by Jason, seconded by Scott, all approve.

Gary Wright Notice of Violation: The legal verdict provided to the town is; this has been ongoing for 15 years, so he is grandfathered, and the town does not need to issue a permit. Discussion followed on issuing a permit or not and changes in the tax bill now that they are permitted.

Dan and Lisa Jodin request to waive \$149 homestead tax bill late fee: Some discussion on this item, state law, setting precedent and past precedent. The board determined that they need to talk with their tax accountant as to why the form was not filled and that we have never waived the fee in the past.

Motion to deny the request to waive the late fee by Scott, seconded by Jason, all approve.

Request to label electrical panel breakers at the beach prior to the fall fest: Ed Ballentine has requested permission to label the breakers at the beach and add two outlets. He is a certified electrician. Discussion followed on insurance, thanking him for asking to provide this service and town liability. Matt asked Amber to invite Bob to future meetings to talk about the needs of the fall fest at least 6 months prior to the event.

Administrator's Correspondence and Tasks: None

Treasurer's Correspondence: No discussion

General Correspondence:

Conservation draft meeting minutes from 08/19/19.

Library agenda and draft meeting minutes from 08/19/19. Some discussion on the library subs

State of Vermont Correspondence:

Health Officer Appointment letter. Paperwork signed to make Amber, the Town administrator, the new Health Officer.

Executive Requirements: None.

Other Business Found Necessary: none

Executive Session:

Prior to entering executive session Matt states that there will be two portions. One will have no attendees beyond the board members, and one will include Amber Baker

Motion by Tara to enter the two-part executive session under 1 VSCA 313 with Amber attending only the second portion, seconded by Steve, all approve.

Executive session entered at 8:40 p.m.

At the end of the first portion a motion was made by Steve, seconded by Jason to support the Chief's recommendation of discipline of firefighters according to FDS SOGs and town personnel policy, all approved.