

**Georgia Selectboard Meeting
Chris Letourneau Meeting Room
Monday, October 14, 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: Cheryl Letourneau, Recreation Committee representative; Kent Henderson, Friends of Lake Champlain.

Matt Crawford opened the regular Selectboard meeting for October 14, 2019, for the Town of Georgia in the Chris Letourneau Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m. He recognized Indigenous Peoples day and that it has now been two years since the passing of Chris Letourneau.

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

Due to the holiday PR42 and AP 71 are not yet available.

Additional information on the Gilmond land purchase.

Move New Business/Action Item (a) to Cheryl Letourneau's public appearance as the two are related.

Public Appearances:

Matt invited Cheryl Letourneau to the table at 7:02 p.m. Cheryl discussed the committee's ice rink plans with the board.

Discussion followed on; Location ideas, beachfront, municipal hall, tennis courts; Contacting the library to see if they wish to participate; Insurance costs; parking lot/access plowing; - not an issue; Fire Departments ability to support the ice rink – Cheryl will check and Funding available – impact fees cannot be used but up to \$250 of 2019 funds could be made available.

Additional discussion on non-ice rink items; Should the Recreation Committee have a separate committee for each event- up to the Recreation Committee; Does the Recreation Committee require board permission for each event – no, board just requires a schedule.

Motion to accept Katie Driver, Dawn Penney, Jessica Fike, Tanya Wells-Lahaie, Heather Dunsmore, Irene Bonin, Lin Lane, Cheryl Letourneau and Sarah Savich by Scott, seconded by Steve, all approve.

Cheryl departed the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Matt invited Kent Henderson to the table at 7:12 p.m. Kent discussed the Friends of Northern Lake Champlain Stormwater Management Grant Plan for Georgia Shore Road. The grant will help identify erosional and roadway stormwater runoff risks and more.

Discussion followed on; MS4 contracting; How grant helps set up the town for future grants and the Tactical basin plan – no obligations on the town.

Kent thanked the board for its past support of the Friends of Northern Lake Champlain and that they will continue to support the stem program in the town in 2020.

Motion to write a letter of support to the Friends of Northern Lake Champlain for a stormwater management grant by Jason, seconded by Tara, all approve.

Kent departed the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Review of Past Minutes:

Unapproved minutes from September 23, 2019 meeting. Motion to approve by Scott, seconded by Jason, all approve.

Scott asked if Amber had called Paul Lambert on the trash issue brought up Lillian Gamache during her public appearance. Amber did call Paul and he is working on a reply to our questions.

Unapproved minutes from October 7, 2019 executive meeting. Motion to approve by Scott, seconded by Steve, all approve.

Review of Warrants: Minimum discussion.

AP70: Amber mentioned that the large payment to Community Bank is for the air pack loan which will be completed next year and a few tax over payments. Matt asked about the number of Tread Lightly Landscaping payments left – this is the last one. The big bulk of this PR is the fire station bond. There was also an additional Cross Consulting fee which brings us close to the \$7k do not exceed limit.

Discussion followed on; Cross Consulting fees; Town Garage fees and Statements of work.

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

Selectboard Concerns:

None

Administrators Report to Selectboard:

Unfinished Business:

Update on Gilmond Property Purchase: Pete Garso informed Amber that there are four applications ahead of us and we should hear more in 1-2 weeks. Ryan Wells needs confirmation on the number of washes Todd is planning on running through the garage to help determine the size of the holding tank. We will send them the answer tomorrow and expect to have the permit by the next Selectboard meeting. Matt tasked Amber to figure out what we will need to complete the closing.

2019-2024 Capital Budget: The changes have all been made.

Discussion followed on; Library security system should be less than the \$10k proposed; Time line for adopting the plan – January; The aggressiveness of the plan – this a forecast only; Bulk of the debit is the fire station; Loans are closing out soon; Reserve funds; Which page will go into the town report – Page

11; The need to come up with a clear and concise way to show all the linkages for the voters and the plan for the next capital budget.

Motion to preliminarily approve the 2019 – 2024 capital Budget by Steve, seconded by Jason, all approve.

Highway heating and ventilation improvements: No changes from last meeting. Project is still on target to start next month.

VTRANS 104A bridge replacement: Public forum is set for 6 - 8 p.m. on November 13, 2019 at the fire station.

2019 VLCT PACIF Grant: Completed, awaiting repayment of \$4k; expected in 4 – 6 weeks.

2019 Pike Paving: Pike is still planning to start and complete all paving this year.

Todd is closely watching the weather and has purchased a pavement thermometer to ensure the town receives quality paving.

Discussion followed on; Quality of paving this late in the year; Do we have to have it done this year; Pike providing us a letter on holding the 2019 prices in 2020; Holding off until spring; Quality and reliability over cost savings; Staying local next time if cost is comparable and Designing better contracts.

Board is in consensus that Todd will make the decision on whether to pave this year or the spring based on his knowledge and the weather.

New Business / Action items:

Recreation Committee volunteers: Discussed and voted on during Cheryl Letourneau's public appearance.

Emergency access concerns on Silver Lake Road conservation trails: The fire department is requesting that access is not blocked at the upper part of the trails. There was an individual who was injured recently and a 4-wheeler was required to make the rescue.

The general consensus of the board is to give up the road as a legal trail. This will need to be a future discussion based on what the Conservation Commissions direction is and any Vermont land trust requirements.

Discussion followed on hunting requests – they are not required.

Bill Hinman memo on contracted hours: No issues at this time, this is just a paper trail for the town. Bill will attend the Selectboards November 11, 2019 meeting to cover omissions, errors and any contractual issues.

Discussion followed on; When does the contract end – April 1, 2020 and When the increase will occur – also April 1, 2020.

Emergency health order served to Rick Bove: At the towns expense an order to turn the water back on was served to Mr. Bove. The tenant with child had no water which poses a health hazard. Mr. Bove is planning on attending a Planning Commission meeting soon.

2020 PACIF Renewal: The paperwork has been submitted and now includes the 2020 tandem. The equipment listing is now more accurate and complete.

Discussion followed on; Do we or should we look at other insurance – we did in 2016 and we should review other plans every five years to ensure the taxpayers are getting the best price and coverage.

September 28, 2018 highway insurance claim: For informational purposes only. This claim investigation completion notice shows the final dollar amount. The accident was on route 7 between a highway department tandem truck and a Toyota Corolla.

2020 Blue Cross, Blue Shield (BCBS) insurance rates: Last year we looked at MVP but did not do much with them. The town currently provides employees with 95% of the gold plan but they can pick whatever plan they want but the amount covered by the town will not change. The plan deductible is \$1,250. The biggest price increase for 2020 is the gold plan at \$15k. The board always tries to do what is best for the employees and the taxpayers. This year we should have MVP and BCBS come to the table as the price hike is a huge hit to our budget.

Discussion followed on; Having MVP come talk to the employees; Open enrollment dates; Cost continuing to rise and are out of control; What do comparable towns provide; talk with all employees about what is occurring and its affect on them in the future; How health insurance costs are leading to unpleasant situations; Municipal governments versus nongovernmental medical benefits and How we have already reduced the employee health benefit the town provides in the past.

Board consensus is to have both MVP and BCBS come to talk with all employees to see who has the best prices and plans. Amber will work dates.

2018 Northeast Benefits Management audit: The towns Cobra option, for information only. The town passed with flying colors.

Injury Reporting, Medical Treatment & Incident Review policy: Updated and written in a new format, this was rewritten based on a VLTC review.

Discussion followed on; Some of the wording; the new format – all board members like it and adding as an action item for the next Selectboard meeting.

Estimate for changing/updating town hall locks: The estimate came in at \$5k which is not feasible for 2019. This system used FOBs and will be cheaper in the long run. The cost is high to begin with to pay for the hardware, software and system set up.

Discussion followed on; Staying with keys; using stand-alone key pads and Do we really need to do this at all. Board consensus is to place this into the 2020 budget file for the time being.

Administrator's Correspondence and Tasks: Board like the new format; cleaner and easier to read. They would like the main talking points to be in bold font to make them are stand out.

Lots of complaints on the Highway Department brush hogging. This is something the department is still learning and they are working to develop a process for the new equipment. Todd is using the past years experiences to develop and implement a better process.

Discussion on what building maintenance we have completed so far this year and what we need to push to the 2020 budget. The board would like to have a matrix developed to track this and to present to the voters.

Treasurer's Correspondence:

Accrued time through 09/30/19: No discussion
Cash Receipts for September: No discussion
Third Quarter Budget Report: Set a budget meeting for November 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
Legal Expenses through 08/31/19: No discussion

General Correspondence: Minimum discussion

FWSU 09/30/19 negotiation meeting agenda.
Franklin County education tax rates
First Response draft meeting from 09/23/19
Planning Commission agenda 10/8/2019
Fire Department meeting minutes 10/3/2019
FEMA risk mapping letter.

State of Vermont Correspondence: Minimum discussion

Vermont Emergency Management October newsletter.
Health Officer appointment for Amber Baker.

Brochures/Newsletters/Workshops: None

Executive Requirements: None.

Other Business Found Necessary:

Matt talked about attending an upcoming school board meeting to see what their future bond plans are to help deconflict any possible future bonds. This is also our last year plowing the school.

Matt has begun to develop a standardized letter to be sent out to all individuals requesting a public appearance. This will give them an idea of what to expect and how they should prepare.

Steve had a question on what is the next step in the town garage plan. The original plan was to have something to present to the voters in March. Discussion followed on; Providing a sketch; Are there funds for anything special – not at this time and can we add funds in the 2020 budget for a sketch.

The board believes it is a good idea to have more public involvement in the plan and to revisit what the board will present to the town in March.

Town Administrator Tasks review:

Letter of support for the Friends of Lake Champlain.
Closing on the Gilmond Property.
Start the timeline on the Capital budget.
Talk with Todd about the paving.

Create a Silver Lake Road file.

Make planning aware of our health order and Mr. Bove's future appearance.

Set up a date for MVP and BCBS to come in and talk with employees.

Table the Injury Reporting, Medical Treatment & Incident Review policy until the next meeting.

Place the Black Dog lock estimate into the 2020 budget folder for later review.

Create a VIS matrix for the future budget meetings.

The Budget meeting will be November 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Get on the FWSU board meeting list (matt and Amber).

Work on a town garage sketch plan.

Draft a Town Administrators terms of employment.

Send a copy of the Fire Departments letter to the Conservation Commission.

Matt will not be attending the next board meeting. Steve will be available to sign checks as required.

Sam will be with us through November.

Matt adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.