

# SELECTBOARD MEETING

## MINUTES

July 22, 2024

- I. OPEN MEETING—Chairman Daley called the July 22, 2024, Selectboard meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The meeting began late due to technical difficulties with the Zoom device. Those present included Michael Daley, Alfred Buckley, Mark Bullard, Zachary Brown, and Richard Thibeault. No members of the public were present either via Zoom or in person.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 08, 2024, Meeting Minutes—The July 08, 2024, meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed by board members before and at the meeting. Mark made a motion to approve the July 08, 2024, meeting minutes as written, and Al seconded. Chairman Daley asked if there was further discussion; seeing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative.
- III. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA—Zach made two additions to the agenda: a complaint about a truck parked on the corner of VT RTE 253 and River Road and an invitation to the splash pad's ribbon-cutting. All board members were happy with the additions.
  - a. Truck Complaint—Zach told the board that he had received a few complaints about a truck parked on the corner of VT RTE 253 and River Road in Beecher Falls. The complaints were that the truck obstructed the view of vehicles exiting River Road and had almost caused a few accidents. Mike Daley said he would talk with the truck's owner to resolve everything.
  - b. Rec Park Invitation—Zach distributed an invite on behalf of Rec Park to the splash pad's ribbon-cutting ceremony. No discussion or action was taken.
- IV. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – No public was present to comment. No action was taken.
- V. REPORT FROM HIGHWAY –
  - a. Damage from Hurricane Beryl—Richard gave a comprehensive update on the conditions and damage to the Town roads. The board thanked Richard for his tireless efforts in repairing the damage.
  - b. List of Contractors—Richard told the board that he received a phone call from a resident wondering why he never got any of the Town's contracted work. The board discussed the inquiry and stated that things may be overlooked in times of emergency. Since this is easy to do, the board, Richard, and Zach will create a list of contractors.
  - c. Part-Time Highway Department Assistant – Zach reported that the new part-time highway and general maintenance job was sent to the News and Sentinel, and he requested it be done within the following few issues. No applications have been received since the new posting.
  - d. River Road Paving Project – July 22, 23, & 24, 2024—Richard let the board know that the paving project would begin next week. He said Gray's Paving had to delay the start date due to a few delays. Zach and Richard have worked together to create a total amount Richard can spend on the project.
  - e. Roadside Mowing – Richard let the board know that the roadside mowing had begun and would be done at a minimum as many of the areas that usually need to be mowed are nonexistent or have had significant damage to them from Hurricane Beryl. -
  - f. 2016 F550 Bids – One bid was received on the day of the meeting. Zach informed the board that they would need to wait until the next meeting as a bid opening was not warned for this meeting. To be fair to all potential bidders, the board agreed to open any and all bids at the following meeting. No action was taken.

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### VI. REPORT FROM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT –

- a. Part-Time Sewer Department Assistant—Zach reported that April was impressed with Kaylan's work so far. The board was happy to have the position filled and that everything was going well. Zach reported that April was gone at the beginning of this week and Kevin McKinnon was covering the system and training Kaylan.
- b. Juddy's Septage Request—Zach asked if the board had any questions about April's email, which she had received from the State. The board had no questions. The board appreciated April's work on this and asked Zach to ensure that she reached out to Juddy's. A formal decision will be made at the next joint commissioners meeting. The board invited Juddy's to come if they wanted. Zach said he would let April know.

### VII. SOLID WASTE –

- a. Transfer Station Complaint – Zach reported receiving a few complaints about the “free for the taking” items at the Transfer Station. The complaints were mainly that the items took up too much room and were hazardous. The board did not feel strongly one way or the other, but Al said he would talk to Marc and implement a two-week system. The new system would have the items disposed of two weeks after their original disposal if they had not been taken before then.
- b. Stump Dump Special Request – Richard told the board that David Gray Jr. asked Richard if it would be ok if he disposed of junk round haybales at the Stump Dump. David said he would push them over the bank. Richard told the board that he did not feel comfortable making this decision and is passing it along to the board. The board had a lengthy discussion on it. They unanimously agreed not to grant David permission to dispose of these round bales at the stump dump. Richard said he would let David know.

### VIII. NEW BUSINESS –

- a. Listers' Errors and Omissions Certificate – 126-039-10631 & 10607 – Zach distributed a Listers' Errors and Omissions Certificate that he received from Noreen last week. The listers noticed that the two above properties were contiguous and should be combined as the same owner owned them. This change lowered the grand list by \$21,500.00. This action was sparked as the property owner filed for current use, and the surveyor caught the error. Zach explained that since this was after the 2024 Grand List had been lodged, the board and himself needed to sign this form. Al made a motion to accept and sign the certificate as presented. Mark seconded the motion. Chairman Daley asked if there was further discussion; seeing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. All board members signed the certificate. Zach signed the certificate and will file it with the 2024 Grand List.
- b. 2024 Municipal Tax Rates – Zach distributed the spreadsheet with his proposed tax rates (attached to the minutes). The board reviewed the calculations. Mark made a motion to accept the rates as calculated and to use them to set the 2024 municipal tax rate. Al seconded this motion. Chairman Daley asked if there was further discussion; seeing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. The rates were set.
- c. ARPA Accounts Updates—Zach gave an update on the ARPA Fund. Zach will contact a company to order speed radar signs for the Town and try to present the quote at the next meeting. He has also contacted Daniel Giroux to see if he would like to repair or replace

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the radiator on the school's generator. The board will continue to spend these funds prior to December 31, 2024.

- d. Use of Facilities – Fletcher Park – Grace Community Church – August 2 & 3, 2024 – Zach distributed GCC's application. The board reviewed it. Zach added that they would need the road closure signs to shut off Park Street for the day of the event if approved. Mark made a motion to approve the application as submitted. Al seconded the motion. Chairman Daley asked if there was further discussion; seeing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. Chairman Daley signed the application. Zach and Mike said they would help get the road signs down there on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- e. Town Office Closed September 9-13<sup>th</sup>—Zach let the board know that he will be on vacation the week of September 9<sup>th</sup>. If he does not have an assistant hired by then, April or Kaylan would be willing to cover the office for a few hours every day.
- f. Policy Review—Zach asked the board if they wanted to take on a policy and ordinance review. Many of the policies and ordinances were written several years ago, and most of the members were not on the board at the time of their publication. Zach stated that the financial policies were fine, as they were just reviewed and amended or updated after the town-wide audit in 2022. The board expressed interest in this endeavor.
- g. Town Officer Appointments 2024 – No new appointments were made. Zach stated that the following positions were still available: zoning/planning commission (three-two-year positions.)
- h. Lister Vacancy – No action was taken, as no applications have been received so far.

#### IX. OLD BUSINESS –

- a. Klinefelter Donation for Bench—No updates.
- b. Vermont Primary Election – August 13, 2024 – Reminder Only
- c. Vermont General Election – November 5, 2024 – Reminder Only
- d. Public Opinion Election – Cannabis Retail – Reminder Only

#### X. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

- a. Town Office Personnel – Mark made a motion to enter an executive session at 7:15 P.M. He cited 1 V.S.A. § 313 (A(3)). Al seconded the motion. Chairman Daley asked if there was further discussion; seeing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. The board entered the executive session at 7:15 P.M. Zach was invited to stay, and the recording was paused. Al made a motion to exit the executive session at 7:20 P.M. Mark seconded the motion. Chairman Daley asked if there was further discussion; seeing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. The board exited the executive session at 7:20 P.M. No action was taken, and a general discussion was had.

#### XI. SORT MAIL/SIGN WARRANT—The board signed and executed Warrant 15-24 for \$119,032.18.

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- XII. ADJOURN MEETING—Al motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, and Mark seconded. Chairman Daley asked for further discussion; seeing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. Chairman Daley adjourned the July 22, 2024, meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Town of Canaan, VT  
 2024 Tax Rates  
 Grandlist: \$1,101,178.00

	Budgeted Tax Revenue	Tax Rate
General	\$ 485,921.00	0.4414 ✓
Highway	\$ 262,337.00	0.2382
Library	\$ 86,676.00	0.0787
Voted Articles	\$ 16,894.00	0.0153
Total	\$ 851,828.00	0.7737
Homestead Education		\$ 1.3447
Non-Homestead Education		\$ 1.4201
Total Homestead Rate		\$ 2.1184
Total NonHomestead Rate		\$ 2.1938
Total Billed Revenue		\$ 851,871.00