

Town of Fletcher – Select Board Meeting
Link: <https://tinyurl.com/fletchersbmeeting> Password: 330460
Monday, March 1, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Virtually Present

Members: Jon Bondy (Chair), Rich Bidwell, Matt Gillilan, Matthew Swartz, and Jesse Wiens.

Guests: Bruce Douglas, Sybil Jewell, Karrie Sweet (Town Clerk), Tara Sweet, Aimee Tinker (Assistant Town Clerk), and Rachael Wilson (Secretary).

1) Call to Order:

- a. Jon Bondy called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2) Broadband:

- a. Mansfield Community Fiber has created a process document regarding Fletcher's broadband buildout. Previously, Tim Nulty from MCF informally said to Jesse that we could expect residents to be able to get hooked up in September, but the process document says that it could be at least a year before people have access. Jesse confirmed that Tim suggested it would be less than that, but to err on the conservative side, we should assume that people will begin having access in May 2022. Tim said MCF would try to get as much work done before Winter, because it is difficult for work to be completed in the Winter.
- b. Jesse reported that the lease agreement and memorandum of understanding documents are in order. VEDA needs to adjust the loan documents on their end before we can close on the loan and Jesse has a phone call into NBRC to confirm that all the paperwork is in order.
- c. Matt Swartz gave an example that on his road, MCF got the conduit in and ran fiber through it, then they got drops in that are run across the snow (they will get them in the ground in the spring). They have been able to keep some things moving in the Winter, but that it seems like there can be some challenges around contractors.

3) Road Report:

- a. Matt Gillilan had conversations with Norman about preparing for Spring. They also spoke about putting in speed signs, projects that may have been deferred last year, and what projects we can do with NRPC. Jon reminded Matt about the Beaver mitigation project. Matt will follow up with Ed about the beaver mitigation. Matt Swartz mentioned that there is beaver fencing on Corbett Road in Underhill if a reference is needed. Matt Gillilan will make sure the Road Crew has the materials they need. Jon mentioned that they also talked about putting something in at the ledges as well.
- b. Rich pointed out that the Road Crew used to put up snow fences in certain spots in town but hadn't seen them in a few years. Matt Gillilan said there are a few spots around town where we could use the snow fencing this year. Jon mentioned there is a lot of snow blowing across Rugg Road near Elaine's as well. Matt said he will have a conversation with Norman.

4) Account Payables and Payroll: Jon, Matt G, and Jesse read and approved.

5) Fletcher Fire Service Reimbursement Ordinance:

- a. The Select Board reviewed Jon's draft of the Ordinance. Jesse had to step away from the meeting for a few minutes but did read it and is all for it. Rich and Matt Gillilan also said that they read it, and nothing stuck out to them. Matt Swartz did not have a chance to read the document. Jon asked if the Select Board would like to agree to send it to the Town's attorney now since there were three Select Board members who approve. The Select Board agreed. Aimee reminded the Select Board that before adopting the ordinance, there must be two meetings where the ordinance can be discussed, and then it must be printed in a local the paper. Jon clarified that he didn't mean this was finalized, but that he wanted the Select Board and attorney to review before going through the formal process.

6) Town Office Heat Pump:

- a. Jon asked about progress for raising the heat pump. Rich said that he noticed the snow falls off the roof onto the heat pump that is not yet raised, and he wonders if they should consider moving the heat pump. Rich suggested that before spending the money on raising the heat pump he will look into what it would take to move it.

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7) Board Business:

- a. Jon listed out some outstanding items:
 - i. Creating an annual maintenance items list, purchase order policy, bid policy, and the reclassification of the paved part of School Road.
 1. The Select Board discussed if these items will be completed. Matt Gillilan will call Jim Cota this week to see if he is able to attend the 3/15/2021 Select Board meeting.
- b. Matt Gillilan mentioned the annual events list that the Select Board used to review at in-person meetings. Jon will email the list out to the Select Board and asked the Select Board to respond to his email with any revisions.
- c. Jesse informed the Select Board that Matt Bouchard will need to update the email accounts for the new elected members. Jesse wondered what he should do with his email address since he will still be doing Broadband business. Jon said that Jesse should keep using his Select Board email address so that there is a record. Jesse emailed Jeremy Frederick and Aimee all the different credentials, so they should have everything needed to handle any website administration.
- d. Town's Zoom account: Jesse suggested to wait until after the election to pass along the Zoom account to another Select Board member because there are candidates who can help run the town zoom account. Jesse said he is happy to help with the transition. Matt Swartz said he is happy to help with the Zoom account if he is elected.

8) Public Comment:

- a. Bruce Douglas was curious about the agenda for the next meeting. Jon explained that on Town Meeting Day new Select Board members are elected, and then on 3/15/2021 the Select Board will select a chair and secretary and road commissioner. Bruce pointed out that the date for the next meeting on the agenda is incorrect. Bruce was also wondering how the election results will be announced. Aimee explained that once counting is complete, they usually put the results on the Fletcher Folk Facebook page, Front Porch Forum and send the results to the state. Aimee said that they can email the results to the entire Select Board and notify the candidates.

9) Other Board Business:

- a. Jesse asked the Select Board how he should provide Broadband updates to the Select Board until all the paperwork is signed and Aimee is ready to take over the process. Jon said that Jesse is always welcome to attend Select Board meetings but can also send an email for each meeting. Jesse said he will try and send an email for each meeting and if there is something that requires a conversation, then Jesse will attend the meeting.
- b. Matt Gillilan thanked Jesse for all the years he has put into the Select Board. Matt Gillilan appreciates Jesse's level headedness and computer skills. Jon thanked Jesse and expressed hope that Jesse will be able to run for the Select Board in the future because he is a real asset to the Town. Jesse thanked everyone for their words and expressed appreciation for his time on the Select Board and thanked everyone for all they've done to help this Town run. Jesse also thanked everyone for their support, understanding and patience throughout the years.

10) Adjournment: 7:48pm

Upcoming Meetings:

Select Board Meeting: March 15, 2021 at 7pm

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Jon Bondy, Chair

Matthew Swartz

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