

Town of Fletcher Select Board Meeting
Fletcher Town Offices
Select Board Meeting Minutes
05/16/2022

Select Board: Jon Bondy, Bruce Douglas, Matt Gillilan, and Matt Swartz.

Attendees: Karrie Sweet (Town Clerk), Aimee Tinker (Assistant Town Clerk) and Rachael Wilson (Secretary).

1. Call to Order: 7:10pm
2. Community of Vermont Elders: The Select Board received a letter from the Community of Vermont Elders explaining that the organization advocates and educates to improve the life of Vermont elders.
3. Hauling Sand: The Select Board discussed and agreed that it is a worthwhile exercise to research the cost for the Road Crew to haul sand verses having sand delivered.

Matt Gillilan and Aimee joined the meeting

4. Ash Trees and the Emerald Ash Borer: The state recommends that towns remove any ash trees that are in the town's right of way. Jon asked if Ed could drive the roads and mark each ash tree on a map that is along the roadside. Aimee mentioned that there are some large ash trees in town that would be more work to take down because of power lines and size of the trees. Matt Gillilan will ask Ed to drive around, mark the ash trees on a map and indicate how many trees the road crew could take down and how many would the town need to hire someone to take down.

Aimee left the meeting

5. Roads
 - a. Sharp curve signs: Additional signs are needed on Mayotte Road. There are signs at the curve at the bottom of King Road that are moving in the wind and should be replaced because they will likely eventually fail.
 - b. Hauling Sand: Matt Gillilan mentioned that Norman kept track of fuel and miles when he has hauled sand in the past. The Select Board discussed using this data to help calculate the cost to run the truck when hauling sand.
 - c. Glen has his Class A CDL now.
 - d. The Road Crew is going to check the roads that were recently graded due to possible gullies from the rain. Bruce mentioned that Kinsley Road by Fred Fletchers property is graded flat with no crown.
 - e. The Road Crew collected a record number of Green Up Day bags (91).
 - f. Matt Gillilan mentioned that in Cornwall they use a giant blower on the back of a tractor to blow the leaves off the road and out of the ditch. He talked about this being a possible purchase that could be used in a share with Fairfax.
 - g. The \$125,000 used truck still is not spoken for and should be available in August. Jon recommends figuring out if ARPA money can be spent on the truck and pursuing this opportunity by putting a refundable deposit down. The Select Board agreed and discussed other big-ticket items for ARPA money.
6. ARPA Money:

**Town of Fletcher Select Board Meeting
Fletcher Town Offices
Select Board Meeting Minutes
05/16/2022**

- a. The Select Board discussed holding a meeting to discuss and solicit ideas for ARPA money. The Select Board decided to hold the meeting in the Meeting House during the week of June 13th.

Karrie joined the meeting

7. Audit from outside vendor:
 - a. Karrie explained that the outside audit vendor does not check for fraud. It would cost \$18,000 to have this outside vendor conduct a full audit. They only check that things are coded correctly. Currently, this is what the Town's Auditors do. Karrie explained that currently the auditors will find something after the fiscal year is closed, but this could be avoided if the auditors spent more time auditing in June.

Aimee joined the meeting

- b. Matt Swartz noticed There was an expense for welding supplies from Fletcher General Store. Aimee confirmed that this code is for shop supplies (this was for food for Randy's party).
 - c. Matt Gillilan is hesitant to pay \$18,000 for an audit if it is just going to do what our current auditors complete. The Select Board discussed how to incentivize the auditors and how to make the expectations for their jobs clear. Jon recommended that Karrie ask the auditors how many hours it takes each month for them to keep current with the audit and how many hours it would take to get up to date before June 30th.
 - d. Aimee received information from Tara Sweet that the school pays \$3700 for their audit. Tara is going to do more research to see what the school audit entails.
 - e. The Select Board unanimously agrees that they are not going to hire an outside firm to do an audit. The Select Board also agrees to look into how to use some of the money already set aside in a fund for the audit to incentivize the auditors.
8. Board Business:
 - a. Karrie is going to be away June 4th – June 24th. Karrie will need the Select Board to set the raises before she is back.
 - b. The Select Board discussed holding a public meeting the week of June 13th (if possible) to talk about ARPA money with residents.
 - c. The Select Board discussed if the Budget Status Reports could be changed to only show the tax money that will be available to the Town. The money owed the School needs to disappear from the Town's accounting system entirely.

Karrie and Aimee left the meeting

- d. Matt Gillilan suggests the Select Board start thinking about employee raises now and evaluate that they're paying a fair and competitive wage.

Aimee joined the meeting

**Town of Fletcher Select Board Meeting
Fletcher Town Offices
Select Board Meeting Minutes
05/16/2022**

Matt asked if Aimee received the salary book from VLTC. They did receive it a few months ago. The Select Board discussed using this book as a reference for raises.

9. Broadband:

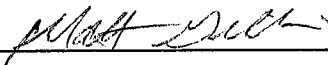
- a. Jon spoke with Leslie at MC Fiber for a status report. MC Fiber is waiting for permission to use the poles.
- b. Brian Davidson called Matt Gillilan to talk about going underground on School Road; Matt and Norman will meet with the contractor once the contractor gets back to them.

10. Cambridge Rescue:

- a. Bruce explained the research he compiled on rescue services costs for surrounding towns (from different providers). Bruce explained that according to the data he received from dispatch, Fairfax Rescue serves 67% of Fletcher and Cambridge Rescue serves 33%. Jon explained that the difference in cost is approximately \$10 per person higher in Cambridge (\$10,000). Jon continued explaining that the data Bruce collected can be used to calculate an accurate price increase for Cambridge Rescue (the Select Board has not received the data they requested from Cambridge Rescue). The Select Board discussed how to get the information/data requested.

11. Adjournment: 9:10 pm


Jon Bondy, Chair



Matt Gillilan

Rich Bidwell

Matt Swartz



Bruce Douglas