

Town of Fletcher Select Board Meeting
Fletcher Town Offices
Select Board Meeting Minutes
06/06/2022

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

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

1. Call to Order: 7:12pm

The Select Board went into executive session at 7:12pm

The Select Board left executive session at 7:34pm

2. The Select Board approved the July 1, 2022 raises based on current inflation, Road Crew wages in surrounding towns and retaining quality employees:
 - a. Glen: 22.00/hr
 - b. Ed: 23.50/hr
 - c. Norman: 25.00/hr
 - d. Karrie: 25.00/hr
3. Metcalf Pond:
 - a. The Select Board received feedback on the posts at Metcalf pond from a resident. The resident reports that the posts make it difficult for a handicapped individual to access the pond. The Select Board invited the individuals to attend tonight's Select Board meeting. They were going to attend via Zoom, but the Select Board had technical difficulties with Zoom and contacted the individuals to let them know. Jon will reach out to them directly to discuss their concerns. The Select Board stated that they need more information in order to make adjustments to the current access point.
4. Cambridge Rescue:
 - a. Jon and Bruce attended a Cambridge Select Board meeting where Cambridge Rescue was in attendance. The Select Board suggested that Cambridge Rescue and the Fletcher Select Board each assign a representative to work together. Bruce will be the representative for Fletcher.
 - b. Bruce met with Martha Manning and discussed the percentage breakdown of rescue services: Cambridge Rescue served approximately 32% of Fletcher and Fairfax Rescue served approximately 68% of Fletcher. They also discussed the history of Fletcher's fees. Martha pointed out that Fletcher has not been charged enough for years, however, Cambridge Rescue never requested more money until now. Bruce informally proposed the fee for Cambridge Rescue be \$8,000 instead of \$15,750, with the conditions that Cambridge Rescue, provide quarterly reporting to the Town of Fletcher (similar to what they provide to the Cambridge Select Board). Cambridge Rescue did not agree with \$8,000 and said that they wanted \$15,750. Bruce shared the data he collected with Cambridge Rescue; Nathan Pickard said that Fletcher needs to pay \$15,750. The Select Board reviewed Cambridge Rescue Squads budget and Fairfax Rescue Squads budget. Bruce offered to meet again this week, but Martha and Brendan were not available. Bruce explained that Cambridge Rescue is working on their business processes and financials. Bruce explained that the Select Board has a big decision ahead of them and

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less than a months' time. The Select Board discussed their concerns about the response time if the town doesn't partner with Cambridge Rescue. Bruce recommends paying the amount with the condition that the Select Board is going to hold a public meeting about the Cambridge Rescue situation to get resident input/support. Jon recommends Fletcher send quarterly payments of \$4,000 to Cambridge Rescue with the condition that they provide the data that the town of Fletcher requests.

- i. Jon proposed that the Fletcher pay \$3,937.50 each quarter upon receipt of specific data requested by the town of Fletcher and an invoice. The Select Board discussed this proposal and revised it to the following:
 1. Cambridge Rescue to provide an invoice at the beginning of the quarter for \$2,000 (and the Town of Fletcher pay this at the beginning of the quarter). Then, at the end of the quarter, Cambridge Rescue to provide an invoice for \$1,937.50 and a spreadsheet with the data requested. The end of quarter payment of \$1,937.50 would be contingent on receipt of the invoice and the data. The Select Board agreed to draft a letter for Cambridge Rescue that includes this proposal. Bruce will draft a letter to Cambridge Rescue with this proposal.

Karrie joined the meeting

5. Budget:
 - a. Karrie is going to bring Amber in at the end of the month to look at the format of the budget. Karrie will include Jon in this meeting.
6. Roads
 - a. Karrie and Norman received a complaint about Buck Hollow Road, a resident went over a bump on Buck Hollow Road on a motorcycle, and almost fell off, because there were no signs at the time. There are signs and cones there now warning people to slow down. The Select Board discussed that they are waiting to hear from the state regarding the grant money for paving. Since the governor has not signed the budget, the work cannot start on the road. Matt will speak with the Road Crew about a fix in the interim while they wait for the grant to come through.

Aimee joined the meeting

7. Board Business:
 - a. Bruce thanked Karrie and Aimee for the quick turnaround posting the ARPA money meeting on the website.
 - b. Broadband: Leslie from MC Fiber sent Aimee an invoice for approximately \$50,000 for the "Make Ready" budget category, but Aimee pointed out to Leslie that there is not that much money left on the line item on the budget. Aimee is waiting for Leslie to respond. Aimee explained to the Select Board how she matches the invoices and descriptions from MC Fiber to the budget, and does not pay invoices until they are

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corrected (if a correction is needed). Bruce suggested putting a broadband status on the website.

- i. Matt mentioned that MC Fiber will be burying fiber along the roadside on School Road. The Select Board discussed if there is a reason why MC Fiber couldn't run the fiber along the power lines across the river. Aimee is going to call MC Fiber and ask why they are burying the line instead of running the fiber along the power lines.

Karrie and Aimee left the meeting

8. Roads Continued:

- a. Matt spoke with Ed about marking the ash trees on a map. Jon recommends that the town get the inventory of the ash trees and then meet with Jeremy to understand how to assess each tree.
- b. Metcalf Pond water level: on 3/6 it was 17", 4/26 it was 16", 5/17 it was 23.5" and 6/6 it was 18.5". Ed said when the water level was high he pulled out debris and the water was flowing.
- c. Historical Society parking lot: The last communication to the Historical Society is that the town would start the paperwork on the transfer and a hold harmless agreement. Jon will check in with Aimee and Chad. The Historical Society asked that the town flatten out the area.
- d. Matt has the signed used Tandem letter and they agreed to hold it for a month at a time. Right now, they will hold it until 6/20/2022.
- e. The Road Crew swept the intersections. Glen found a less expensive way to do it by renting a sweeper for the day.
- f. Matt plans to meet with Tim (Fairfax) this week to talk about roadside mowing and a potential trade of work/equipment.

9. ARPA Meeting:

- a. The Select Board discussed that there is no audio/visual equipment for a Zoom meeting. If someone cannot make the meeting, they can email or contact the Town or Select Board with their ideas.
- b. Jon will do a brief introduction to the meeting and hand it over to Bruce who will explain some of the ARPA restrictions.
- c. Rachael will not be able to attend.

10. Adjournment: 9: 16pm

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Jon Bondy, Chair

Matt Gillilan

Rich Bidwell

Matt Swartz

Bruce Douglas