



SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING

Monday, May 22, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Fire Station Community Room and via Zoom

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Chair Devon Thomas

Vice Chair Shannon Jenkins

Carl Rosenquist

Jamie Comstock

Nicholas Martin by Zoom

Cheryl Letourneau -Town Administrator

Dawn Penney- Asst Town Clerk

Todd Cadieux – Public Works

Rep. Carolyn Branagan, Robert Gockel, Suz Brown, Bob Giroux, Dennis Boucher, Fred Grimm,
Heather Dunsmore, Brian Dunsmore, Bette Dunsmore, Scott Mallory, Kris Gaudette, Tony Heinlein

Zoom

Michael Sadler, Meagan Koss, Frank Gore, Lori Hobart, Jen Kale, Sue Webster, Jana Thuesen,
Shana Louiselle, Sara Walker, Heather Grimm, Katie Driver

A. Pledge of Alligence

1.

Zoom Details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6165843896?pwd=STduU2JzTmpiVmE1MXZSaWZWVadz09>

Meeting ID: 616 584 3896 | **Passcode:** 5243524

Dial by your Location: 1 929 205 6099 (New York)

2. CHAIR UPDATE

3. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

PACIF grant

Erin Eggleston correspondence for approval to take water samples from the beach

4. SELECTBOARD MINUTES AND WARRANTS

A. Approval of Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2023

C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve minutes from May 8th with corrections. Seconded by S. Jenkins. All in favor. Motion passes.

B. Approval of Warrant(s) #7

N. Martin wants to wait for A. Baker before signing the warrant because we are \$1397.08 over budget on flags.

T. Cadieux says that the payment for the flags comes from two budget lines. C. Letourneau states there is only one budget line for flags.

C. Letourneau points out that the Purchasing Policy was not followed for the flags.

T. Cadieux says that he received three quotes.

C. Letourneau says that they were not submitted to the administrator or the board.

Bette Dunsmore says that we need to follow proper protocol for flags, do not fly ripped flags. She also states that we can put flags on every other pole in order to stay within budget.

Brian Dunsmore questions what the loan payment is for and how often is this payment made. It is confirmed that it is the ladder truck payment and it is made yearly.

N. Martin says they flags are already purchased and he wants to sign.

S. Jenkins made a motion to approve warrant as is. J. Comstock seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (For items not on agenda)

All participants must clearly state their names. Appropriate actions will be considered once the Selectboard has reviewed the information provided and necessary subsequent research.

Carolyn Branagan spoke regarding the veto phase and the impeachment committee. C. Branagan will be named on that committee regarding the two impeachment cases in Franklin County.

The committee will be meeting tomorrow and C. Branagan will be keeping us posted.

Transportation budget was passed and we should be seeing a check in the mail.

C. Brangan can help with getting us grants if needed for roads and bridges.

Jeffrey Brace sign will be put up tomorrow. Everett's Cemetery on Mill River Rd.

C. Branagan gave the board a book to read, it is a biography on Jeffrey Brace.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

C. Letourneau presented correspondence from Erin Eggleston who is doing work at the Georgia Beach. She wanted to know if the town was interested in receiving the results of her research. The board would like the information. They asked C. Letourneau to draft a letter in response to Erin Eggleston asking for the information.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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8. BOARD BUSINESS (Public comment on agenda items limited to 5 minutes)

A. Paving Award - Action

C. Rosenquist makes a motion to speak about the paving bid. S. Jenkins seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

T. Cadieux says Pike was 10 plus dollars cheaper per ton. Base bid came in above budget, so Todd removed Jed Shepard Rd. This will keep us on budget.

N. Martin wants to know if the road we are holding off of will make it another year.

C. Rosenquist moves to accept the paving bid recommended by T. Cadieux. J. Comstock seconds the motion.

T. Cadieux says they will start work on Tuesday. He also states that no motion is needed as the board gave him permission to make his decision to hire who he wanted at the last meeting.

B. Stormwater- Michael Sadler and Meagan Koss

Michael Sandler and Meagan Koss were on Zoom to explain the state 3-acre stormwater permit and funding.

S. Jenkins asked Michael to give a general overview of the 3-acre rule.

3-acre subset operational permits (sights) 3-acres of impervious surface all need to meet the 2002 standards or better.

1/2 acre or more needs a permit and to expand impervious surface.

Annual inspections are also required.

Permits require a licensed engineer and the application is very detailed. Every 5 years an engineer needs to approve the site.

Megan speaks for funding.

State has 15 million dollars set aside to get Home Owners Associations (HOA) properly permitted. The program will be open this summer.

Our town could apply to the state for the cost of the permit approximately \$240 plus \$860 per acre and \$20,000 for engineering costs up to the full benefit. R. Giroux says that Forest Glen has spent \$5581.00 for Forest Glen and Ledgewood. He believes he will be able to get this money back as they have spent \$9,200 on engineering. \$49,400 is the limit that someone can get for an award.

We have 18 months once the Notice of Intent is signed. You then have 5 years to complete once you have been authorized by the state.

General permit adopted in December 2020. This is the new standard that is being held.

There are different types of permits. We are dealing with the 3-9050.

Discussion was had on the roll of the town vs HOA. If the town has taken over a road then the responsibility should be shared.

Each permittee has their own responsibility to make the corrections. Permittees are required to maintain that system.

- 107 Title 3 can be applied to get a little extra time.
- 108 C. Rosenquist makes a motion to authorize attorney to authorize an agreement with the
109 compromise we discussed, the town taking responsible for the road. D. Thomas seconds. All in
110 favor. Motion passes.
- 111 C. Velco update
- 112 Scott Mallory - VELCO update New updates from October.
- 113 S. Mallory goes through the slide presentation slide by slide.
- 114 S. Mallory says that 16.6 miles of line need replacing.
- 115 They are replacing the weathered poles with steel poles made to last longer. He acknowledges
116 that they are harder for nesting.
- 117 D. Vermont Rockets Beach Fee - Action
- 118 C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve waiving the beach fee for Vermont Rockets and St.
119 Albans Special Needs. D. Thomas seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.
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- 121 E. Deadline for Agenda items - Action
- 122 Motion made by D. Thomas to have all agenda items submitted the Monday after a Selectboard
123 meeting. Seconded by J. Comstock.
- 124 The motion is made to have all agenda items to C. Letourneau the Monday after a Selectboard
125 meeting in order to get it ready for the next meeting. T. Cadieux asks about special
126 circumstances. It is said that they can be made. H. Dunsmore asks about the Ethics Policy
127 because the deadline is before their next meeting. It will be added.
- 128 All in favor. Motion passes.
- 129 Amended motion made by D. Thomas amending the motion to say that the deadline should be
130 the Monday before the Selectboard Meeting. J. Comstock seconds the motion. All in
131 favor. Motion passes.
- 132 F. Potential uses for the Old Town Garage
- 133 J. Comstock would like the Buildings & Grounds committee to look into this.
- 134 C. Rosenquist makes a motion to have Public Works come back to a meeting with options of
135 what can be done with the old garage. J. Comstock seconds.
- 136 J. Comstock makes a motion to submit the potential uses for the garage to the building and
137 grounds committee. D. Thomas seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.
- 138 G. Recreation Director
- 139 C. Rosenquist makes a motion to start interviews for the Recreation Director. J. Comstock
140 seconds the motion.
- 141 D. Thomas, S. Jenkins, C. Rosenquist and N. Martin vote yes. J. Comstock abstains. Motion
142 passes.
- 143 H. ARPA Funds
- 144 N. Martin and J. Comstock are on the ARPA Committee.

It is stated that they want public input on how to spend the ARPA money. N. Martin and J. Comstock are to work on that. C. Letourneau will send out correspondence to department heads asking them to submit a new wish list. She is to then send the results to the board.

Getting the public's input on how to spend the money. Nick and Jamie are on the ARPA committee and will discuss how to best get ideas from the community.

I. Application for Private Road Name - Action

S. Jenkins made the motion to accept the Application for Private Road Name. J. Comstock seconds.

S. Brown wants to change the wording to 'under 35 mph' and add with in signs 'with' retroreflective wording to the document.

T. Cadieux says that he was speaking with D. Bergstrom today who said that he recently found out that the state will not allow you to charge for road signs.

S. Brown says that that wording should come out of the document.

Motion to approve application with corrections. All in favor. Motion passes.

J. Office Cabinet Discussion

J. Comstock asks why the cabinets needed to be moved.

C. Letourneau clarifies that the cabinets were always in the basement and they were being moved so that they were more accessible to people coming in to do research.

N. Martin says that he spoke with the office and told them they could move whatever they needed to do as long as they had the proper equipment.

Bette Dunsmore says that she wants cameras in the basement where the records are kept.

K. Trail 4 Update

Surveying has been done where the fence will be moved. 48 hours notice will be given to the town before they move the fence. C. Rosenquist asked Tony Heinlein to go with him to make sure it is properly done. C. Rosenquist says that T. Heinlein can also represent the Conservation Commission.

S. Jenkins makes a motion to have a Selectboard member and conservation commission member go and verify the location for moving of the fence. D. Thomas seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

L. Job description discussions

J. Comstock brings up the topic of Job Descriptions.

C. Rosenquist says he and N. Martin will review this and bring it back to the board.

S. Jenkins wants job descriptions at the Library. She says they were there in previous years.

M. Service Dogs at the beach - policy

Discussion regarding service dogs at the beach and also allowing dogs to be on a leash at the beach.

C. Letourneau will call PACIF to see what the insurance is for having dogs at the beach. She will bring back the answer to the next meeting.

At this time J. Comstock made the motion to extend past the three hour time limit. N. Martin seconds. D. Thomas, S. Jenkins, J. Comstock and N. Martin vote yes, C. Rosenquist votes no. Motion passes.

N. BFA St. Albans Special Ed - Beach Waive Fee – Action- Approved

9. SELECTBOARD SUB COMMITTEES AND REPORTS

A. Town Administrator

B. Budget and Finance

Power for the Beach

NEMRC entries for the library

Firewall for the security system

N. Martin says there is money available to go ahead with the project. He says there is \$6,000 in ARPA and \$800 in another line item for beach maintenance.

\$1,300 is to come from ARPA for a heat pump.

Firewall for the security system

\$3,000 for the firewall money will come out of the temporary position and this will fund the money up to \$5,000.

T. Cadieux says that Bob LaRose brought up changing the plan for how the gate opens at the beach to save money. T. Cadieux will look into this and bring it back to the board.

J. Comstock made a motion to use the funds that Amber found to pay for the gate at the beach. C. Rosenquist seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

N. Martin made a motion to approve money to change the mini split at the library in the amount of 4500. J. Comstock seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

J. Comstock makes a motion to spend the extra temporary funds for the firewall. S. Jenkins seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

C. Personnel

Personnel Policy

Minute Taker

Minute taker ad. What would be a good pay rate for the minutes taker.

Discussion was had on the minute taker rate of pay up to \$20.00 per hour was agreed.

C. Rosenquist makes a motion to advertise. S. Jenkins seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

D. Public Works/Grounds/Recreation

Mini Split for the Library

E. Committees at the direction of the chair

219 S. Brown asks for the Ethics Committee people to be listed out. She also asks for the names of
220 the Selectboard people listed next to their committee on the website.

221 C. Letourneau will put this information on the website.

222 **10. OTHER**

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224 **11. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

225 A. 06/12/2023

226 **12. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A sec 313)**

227 A. Personnel - Public Works

228 B. Bill Hinman - Blakes

229 C. Union Update

230 C. Rosenquist makes a motion to move into Executive Session with Town Administrator C.
231 Letourneau and Public Works T. Cadieux where premature public knowledge pertaining to Town of
232 Georgia Personnel, contractual & union discussions would place the town and employee(s) at a
233 substantial disadvantage if discussed in public at 8:10 p.m. S. Jenkins seconds. All in
234 favor. Motion passes.

235 C. Rosenquist makes a motion to exit Executive Session at 10:40 p.m. S. Jenkins seconds. All in
236 favor. Motion passes.

237 Motion out of Executive Session

238 C. Rosenquist makes a motion to pay Blakes \$150 for the previous years. D. Thomas, S. Jenkins,
239 C. Rosenquist, N. Martin vote yes, J. Comstock abstains. Motion passes.

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241 **13. ADJOURN**

242 C. Rosenquist makes a motion to adjourn. S. Jenkins seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

243 **TABLED ITEMS:**

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245 **Posted to the Town website, four designated places within the Town of Georgia (Town Clerk's**
246 **Office, Georgia Public Library, Maplefields & Georgia Market), and e-mailed to the local media.**

247 **Signed: Cheryl Letourneau, Town Administrator**

248 **Phone: 802-524-3524 | Fax: 802-524-3543 | Website: townofgeorgia.com**