



**Town of Woodstock
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 19, 2024
8:00 am**

Board Present: Gil Rand, Scott Rice, Charyl Reardon

Staff: Judy Welch, Cathy Riley

Public: Bill Waterhouse, Mark Sellingham, Jim Chesebrough-WCC

Public Zoom: Mike Donahue

Call to Order

Charyl called the meeting to order at 8:00 am

Approve & Sign Workshop Minutes

Scott motioned to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2024, Selectmen's Workshop. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

Approve & Sign Meeting Minutes

Gil motioned to accept the minutes of the March 19, 2024, Selectmen's Meeting. Scott seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative. Charyl abstained.

Police Department Highway Safety Grant

Judy explained that the Highway Safety Grant was an annual grant that reimburses the Police Department for special patrols, such as speed or DUI patrols. Judy added that there would be a Public Hearing to accept and expend the unanticipated funds.

Scott motioned to enter the Highway Safety Grant and to authorize Chairperson Charyl Reardon to sign the grant and all future supporting documents. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

Conservation Commission Grant/ NH Fish and Game

Jim Chesebrough, Secretary for the Woodstock Conservation Commission, was present to talk to the Board about a forestry plan for managing Merriam Woods. Jim added that the forester had done a couple of walkthroughs, and he recommended that we apply for a small private lands habitat improvement grant that needs to be signed by the landowner. This grant would help offset the expense appropriated in the 2024 Conservation budget for setting up the forestry plan.

Jim noted that he has been in touch with Becky from NH Fish & Game, who will receive the grant application.

Gil asked what amount the WCC was going for, and Jim replied that they were applying for \$1500, which is the maximum that can be requested at once.

Scott motioned for Charyl to sign the small grant application on behalf of the Town of Woodstock as landowners of Merriam Woods. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

Merriam Woods Forest Cutting Agreement

The Board reviewed a forester's contract for the forest-cutting agreement for Merriam Woods, which had already been reviewed by the Conservation Commission and forwarded to the Board to be voted on and signed.

Charyl motioned to accept and sign the forester's contract for the forest-cutting agreement for Merriam Woods as presented. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

Judy added that the check for \$500 will be mailed tomorrow with the signed contract.

Charyl asked about when the forester might get started. Jim replied that they were waiting for the snow to melt and for approval from the Board.

The Board thank Jim Chesebrough for keeping the plan moving forward.

Other/Old Business brought forth by the Board.

Scott asked about the outcome of the conversation on the parking lot in Thornton. It was noted that the Thornton Zoning Board will revisit it in a couple of months after hearing everyone's concerns.

Judy stated that she and Scott have signed up for a webinar on managing STRs. Judy will share the recording with the other board members.

Judy also stated that Jim Garneau from NH Mapping and Planning Solutions told her that an agreement has not been signed yet for the standard update that the State requires for Hazard Mitigation. Judy had a copy present for the Board to vote on and sign.

Scott motioned for Charyl to sign the Planning Scope of Work Agreement for the Woodstock Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

Judy also had a copy of the first quarter warrant for water and sewer that is due on May 24th for the Board to accept and sign.

Charyl motioned to sign the warrant for the 1st quarter water and sewer bill. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

Judy let the Board know that Cathy has been working on making online fillable forms and asked the Board to go online and check out the building permit, noting that now would be an excellent time to make revisions. Cathy will send the Board an email with the building permit application link so that the Board can review it.

Gil wanted to point out that one main change should be to make it clear to applicants that they cannot do any work, including cement pouring until they have an approved permit.

Judy added that the whole regulatory process also needs to be looked at.

Scott asked what parts of the process would have to be voted on at the town meeting. Judy replied that the building inspector position and the building permit process were adopted to regulate the Setback Ordinance.

Charyl asked Judy if she would send out a request to other small towns to see if they have any job descriptions for building inspectors and code enforcement officers that they are willing to share.

Scott also suggested contacting Laura to learn what we can and cannot update as a Board.

Judy noted that she had not heard from the Planning Board regarding the Intent to Excavate for the Devine property.

Cathy noted that the Planning Board had reviewed the Intent at the last meeting. They said that it had been reviewed and put on file. Cathy will give Judy a copy of the draft minutes from the meeting.

Judy stated that she had received a letter from the Secretary of State offering to buy the old voting machines for \$100 for parts. Judy requested permission to offer one of the two original voting machines to the Historical Society and sell the other to either the Secretary of State or another municipality, depending on who offered more.

Scott motioned to allow Judy to offer one of the voting machines to the Historical Society and the other to sell the other to whoever makes the better offer. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

Public Participation on Agenda Items- None

Gil wanted to bring up the portion of road on Tripoli from Avery Farm Road to the gate. He said that a climbing group was looking to build a parking lot in Thornton to access Russell Crags and that it has been sent to the town attorney to assign someone to look at it within the next couple of weeks.

Gil noted that Mountainside Road is reflected incorrectly on the NHDOT Road Inventory Nodel Map. It shows the road going to the railroad grade and crosses private property. Judy noted this has been incorrect for many years; Jim Fadden tried several times to get them to correct it. Gil said he would look at it with Mike and try to submit a map change.

Scott noted complaints he has received regarding the programming of the traffic lights on Main Street. Judy suggests that people contact NHDOT to complain and get them to respond. The Board indicated that they also sent a request on Town letterhead asking them to respond and look into crosswalks and pedestrian lights. The manholes were also brought up, and Judy stated that they were still waiting on the fill that should be in within a couple of weeks.

Scott asked for an update on the Morris Street water main relocation project. Judy stated that it was at a standstill. Judy said there needs to be a meeting with Vicki from Horizons, the property owner, the Town attorney, the Director of Public Works, and the Board to finalize the grant paperwork. Judy noted that she has made several attempts to work with the property owner to set something up, even offering to drive to Massachusetts. Judy added that this project has been ongoing for four years.

Scott noted that the pump station upgrade was fully funded, so the Northern Borders Grant would not take money out of the town's pockets.

Bill Waterhouse asked about the wetland notice regarding the AHEAD project and questioned how to find more information. Judy pointed him to the Town's website posting, where contact information was provided.

Scott noted that the project has cut back on the number of apartments.

Charyl stated that the message was to contact the NH Housing Finance before April 25th, with email contact information.

Jim Chesebrough wanted to ask if there was any status on the trailhead relocation for Gordon Pond. Judy noted that an email from the Forest Service to the LVHOA was forwarded to the Town stating that they have no plans to relocate the Gordon Pond Trailhead at this time.


Adjournment

Scott made a motion to Adjourn at 8:38 am. Gil seconded the motion, and the vote was affirmative.

The public could participate remotely over Zoom by going to www.zoom.us, using the Zoom App on a cellphone, or on a **landline calling 1-646-558-8656 Password: 648924** and entering **Meeting ID: 836 0174 0226 Password: 648924**.

Those wishing to hear the recording of the whole meeting may access it by using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxMH7OFC8H3KqBhYHsBr53g>



Charyl Reardon, Chairman

April 30, 2024
Date



Scott Rice

R. Gil Rand