

SELECTBOARD- TOWN OF BRADFORD

REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 26, 2024

6:00 p.m. at BA Building Rm 26

In Attendance:

**Board Members Present:** Ryan Lockwood, Michael Wright, Daniel A. Perry III, Nikki Stevens, Meroa S. Benjamin

**Others Present:** Jean Carlan, Marcia Henry, Nancy Jones, Nathan Robinson, Andrea Wilkins (via zoom), Brianna Haley (via zoom), "public" (via zoom), "C" (via zoom), Kate Pike (via zoom), Blakelee Messenger (via zoom), Monique Priestley (via zoom), Jared Pendak, Donna Kidder Wing (via zoom), Bill Taylor (via zoom), Gray Moore, Jon's iphone (via zoom), Matt (via zoom), Jean Carlan, Jennifer Grossi, Peter Mallary, Alex Nutide Biasi, Christina Fitzpatrick, Marguerite Cawley, William White, AJ Follensbee, Jared Pendak, Rick Evans, Ryan Rebozo

Ryan Lockwood, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Additions & Changes to the Agenda:**

Add the welcome to Bradford sign.

**Public Comments:**

Nate Robinson commented to the Selectboard that visibility is poor pulling out of the K.D. Welch Service Road.

Nancy Jones made the Selectboard aware that October 12-13<sup>th</sup> is the Devils Den Ultra Run.

3 runners registered

Looking for volunteers to help repair the trails on Oct 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

**Request for BIDS for Timber Sale at Wrights Mountain (AJ Follensbee):**

The Selectboard questioned where the money from the timber sale is going?

The Conservation Commission would like to see the sale money go into the Friends of Wrights Mountain Fund.

The Town needs to make sure the funds are reported as revenue and not just as a deposit.

All monies need to be handled through the Town Treasurer.

Mike Wright made a motion to approve the Timber Sale Bid RFP with the changes, as discussed, and work the Chair, Ryan Lockwood, to make changes to the document and authorized him to okay the RFP with changes made. The bids are due back to the Selectboard on October 24, 2024.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Administrator Job Description:**

The Selectboard will review the report provided by the subcommittee for the Town Administrator position, including recommendations by the subcommittee.

Meroa Benjamin made a motion to have a special executive session meeting to discuss personnel in regard to Danielle Kingsbury's position with the Town.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**ARPA Funds:**

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The Town cannot spend ARPA funds for making money (example: sales of any kind).

Mike Wright made a motion to approve up to \$15,000 for the speed warning signs to come out of the ARPA funds.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Mike Wright made a motion for the remaining balance of ARPA funds, after the speed signs are paid for and including the \$195,000 that was previously pledged to the skatepark to go back into the 2024 general and highway budget lines to hit employees' salaries line items as discussed.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Fundraising money for parks and recreation- make sure we're following ARPA funds guidelines.

**Junk Ordinance Complaints:**

Discussion of 146 High Street property.

Nate Robinson has requested that his renters clean up the property within two weeks and is in agreement that the property needs to be condemned. If the property owners do not clean up after two weeks, Nate Robinson will start to clean up the property.

The Selectboard will follow up at their October 24, 2024, meeting to see what progress has been made.

Marcia Henry made the board aware that she filed a motion to the probate court to be added as an interested party to the property and to remove the current care of person, Nate Robinson.

Meroa Benjamin made a motion to send junk ordinance letter to the property owner at old post road with junk vehicles in the towns right-of-way.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Listers- Acreage Change Request:**

Meroa Benjamin made a motion to approve the listers request to change the total acres as per the memo attached for parcel 08-09-22.10.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Afterschool Family/Staff Handbook- Recreation:**

The Selectboard requested more time to review.

**VOREC Contract- CRO Designs:**

The recreation director, Andrea, will be the main contact for the work agreement and will be working with the grant manager, Tad.

Mike Wright made a motion to approve the VOREC Contract, which needs to be run by zoning first and authorized Ryan Lockwood to give final approval.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Appointed Officer Applications:**

Brianna Haley- auditors position

Katelyn Pike- auditors position

Mike Wright made a motion to appoint Katelyn Pike and Brianna Haley to the auditors' positions to fill the term until March 2025 Town Meeting Day.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Welcome Sign:**

Mike Wright made a motion to approve Julie Donnelly, option number one to replace the welcome to Bradford sign with PVC at \$400.00 near the Piermont bridge.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Purchase Orders:**

Dan Perry made a motion to approve Real Hazen quote in the amount of \$6,325.00 to come out of the repairs and maintenance, and contracted services line items of the parks and recreation budget. The line item will be over budget. The Town will not be issuing a deposit.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Mike Wright made a motion to approve invoice for upper valley trails alliance in the amount of \$5,060.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion of purchasing a automatic screen for around \$2,200 for the auditorium. Will look at sizes available and costs.

**Liquor Licenses:**

Mike Wright made a motion to approve Montview Winrey liquor license application for a permit at Farmway on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30a.m.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Training Requests:**

Mike Wright made a motion for Andrea Wilkin to attend two informational training sessions on grant afterschool training, no fee.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Department Updates:**

Dec 7th- hosting a 30 year of Wrights Mountain being purchase and conserved.

**Minutes:**

Meroa Benjamin made a motion to approve the minutes of September 23, 2024.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Meroa Benjamin made a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2024.

Made a motion to approve the minutes. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Orders:**

Meroa Benjamins made a motion to approve the orders dated September 13, 2024 in the amount of \$17,369.58.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

**Other Business:**

None.

**Personnel- Executive Session:**

Nikki Stevens made a motion that the Selectboard has determined that a personnel issue needs to be discussed in executive session because the premature public knowledge would place the Town at substantial disadvantage.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Nikki Stevens made a motion to go into executive session at 7:26 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue as allowed by 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1) and invite Danielle Kingsbury, the Conservation Commission and Russ Robinson.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard came out of executive session at 8:11 p.m.

Meroa Benjamin made a motion to hold a special meeting to discuss personnel on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Mike Wright made a motion to increase the police administration to 20 hours per week at a rate as discussed because of 90-day evaluation.

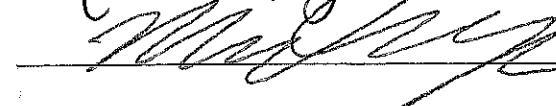
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY

The Selectboard adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Ryan Lockwood, Chair

 Daniel A. Perry III, Vice Chair

 Meroa S. Benjamin

 Michael Wright

 Nikki Stevens