

Town of Danville
Selectboard Minutes
September 16, 2021
Danville Town Hall (6:00 pm)

Board Members Present Using Microsoft Teams: Eric Bach, Kellie Merrell, Kristin Franson, and Peter Griffin

Board Members Present: Ken Linsley

Others Present Using Microsoft Teams: Amelia Webster, Clayton Cargill, and Sara & Adele Stinson

Others Present: Audrey DeProspero, Keith Gadapee, Walter McNeil, Alison Low, Sam Bromberg, Mark Tucker and Cathy Dellinger

Meeting was called to order by Chair Ken Linsley at 6:00 pm.

1. **Additions to the agenda:**

- Historical Preservation Grant
- IT needs Assessment Application
- Access to LVRT
- Cannabis discussion

2. *Motion by Eric Bach, 2nd by Peter Griffin to approve **minutes** of the **Regular meeting of September 2, 2021** as written. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.*

3. **Visitor:**

- Walter McNeil – NEKWMD – District met on Tuesday via Zoom and they approved one more applicant for the Organic Infrastructure Grant. The Executive Board will meet on September 28th to start their budget. Per Capita charge for towns will be discussed.
- Mark Tucker – Speeding North Danville Village – resident of the North Danville Village has seen speeding in the Village get progressively worse. It has been a long time since there has been a presence of the Sheriff in that area. Vehicle's speed increases in the afternoon between 2:30 and 5:30 and first think in the morning around 5:30 am. Young families have moved in to the Village with young children, people are walking outside more, people are walking their dogs and biking through the village. Pedestrian traffic has increased and there is a concern for safety. The speed limit is 30 mph however people are going 40+. Requested is to have the Sheriff present and enforce Village speed limit.

Ken Linsley noted the Town has a contract with the Sheriff but has not sent them to the Village area but that request can be done. The Town also has a radar sign that can also be installed at east end of North Danville Village.

Keith Gadapee noted the radar sign has been at the St. Johnsbury end and is currently on Brainerd Street but can be relocated.

Ken Linsley spoke of speeding on Wheelock heading towards the Corn Maze and suggested to ask the Sheriff to spend some time in the area.

Consensus is to contact the Sheriff and ask for there to be a presence in the area and to put the moveable Town speed sign in the area as well.

- Alison Low – Historic Preservation State Grant for Train Station – on behalf of the Danville Train Station Committee permission is being sought to apply for the Historic Preservation Grant, a competitive 50/50 matching grant of up to \$20,000 for repair and rehabilitation of a historic building. If awarded, grant funds would go towards structural repairs of the Train Station (stabilization of building, doors, windows, roof, and chimney). Grant webinar is scheduled for September 21st.

Kellie Merrell inquired about matching funds.

Alison Low noted sources and uses would be used along with Town funds and line items for fundraising.

Motion by Kellie Merrell, 2nd by Peter Griffin to approve the Danville Train Station Committee to apply for \$20,000 Historical Preservation Grant on behalf of the Town. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.

Alison Low discussed EV Fair noting GMP (Green Mountain Power) is a major sponsor and they give money to local causes and have picked the Danville Train Station as a local cause.

Motion by Eric Bach, 2nd by Kristin Franson to accept potential donation from Green Mountain Power to support the Train Station. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.

- Sam Bromberg – Cannabis – seeking letter of support from the Selectboard for cultivating and selling direct to consumers. Dispensary and growing cannabis discussed along with small farms having an agriculture grow similar to a brewery. Concern is for the Cannabis Control Board working with larger companies and persons with money and not the small Vermont companies. Sam Bromberg is seeking to produce product and sell directly to the consumer. Currently farmers grow and sell to retailers however Sam Bromberg wants farmers to be able to cultivate and sell directly to consumers.

Kristin Franson suggested Sam Bromberg draft a letter for the Selectboard to review at their next meeting.

Kellie Merrell noted she was not informed enough to craft a letter but favors Sam doing so.

- Ken Linsley spoke of a Municipal Input Survey from CCB and round table on the 22nd of this month. The Town would need more information and participation in the round table.

Consensus is for Sam Bromberg to draft a letter for the Selectboard to review.

4. **Town Clerk** (Wendy Somers absent) – Audrey DeProspero spoke on behalf of Town Clerk

- Window Cleaning – Town Clerk reached out to another vendor (Sparkle) for a quote to have windows cleaned at Town Hall however they are not taking on new clients.

Motion by Eric Bach, 2nd by Kristin Franson to accept the only proposal received from Nick Wood Windows from Cabot in the amount of \$700 to clean all windows, inside and out, including cleaning the sills. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.

- Cemetery – Robert and Grace Hallas are looking to purchase a Double Lot in the Massey Cemetery. The Hallas' moved to Arizona in 2015 however they were residents of Danville for 50 years from 1965 to 2015. They are seeking to pay the Resident Rate of \$900 and not the Non-Resident Rate of \$1,800.

Discussion ensued about non-residential rate and persons not owning property or paying taxes in Danville. Decision was legal residents own property in Town and pay property taxes to Danville.

Consensus was Non-Residential Rate applied.

- Special Events Permit – Vermont Spirits Distilling Company (Harry Gorman) for Autumn on the Green.

Motion by Kristin Franson, 2nd by Peter Griffin to approve the Special Events Permit for Vermont Spirits Distilling Company for Autumn on the Green. Vote 4-0-1 (Eric Bach abstained). Motion carries.

- Special Events Permit – Red Barn Brewing for Autumn on the Green with an addition to allow beer pouring sales at Autumn on the Green along with a roped off area.

Eric Bach noted there was not enough space for this to be done.

Ken Linsley was opposed due to nature of event and concern for others.

Motion by Kristin Franson, 2nd by Kellie Merrell to approve the Special Events Permit for Autumn on the Green but to deny request for pour station and roped off area. Vote 4-0-1 (Eric Bach abstained). Motion carries.

5. **Highway Foreman** (Keith Gadapee)

- Advisory Shoulder Lane – request to withdraw motion by Selectboard to paint lines on Peacham Road as contact with AOT also has advised concerns for the advisory shoulders being an experiment and not a continuous agreement.

Motion by Eric Bach, 2nd by Kristin Franson to rescind the prior motion (to not extend the study but to paint the lines and keep the signs) and to paint the center line putting Peacham Road back to a two lane road only and remove the signs. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.

- Recycle Center Update – a Wetlands General Permit is required because of encroachment on the buffer; a letter will be sent to abutting landowners; an email is forthcoming from the ecologist saying the permit will be approved as written so that we can continue with the project; and the parking area had to be shrunk as a compromise to use the site.
- Concrete person is in limbo however has indicated he can do in the spring if Town wants.

6. **Issues and Information** (All)

(a) **Proposals for Building Work for MMIG for new Recycle Building** – decision

Keith Gadapee reached out to the contractors regarding sheathing the outside or ribbing the outside with strapping. All three plan on sheathing the outside wall.

Walsh Builders agreed not to exceed their estimate price so long as the Town was willing to buy the materials and store the materials somewhere once they agreed.

Fenoff changed their date to April because a customer backed out so they could now do the project earlier.

Selectboard reviewed all three submission.

Peter Griffin was concerned for the end date of October.

Kellie Merrell discussed purchasing materials earlier and storing them noting the materials would be available and the price would not change because the Town would have all the materials needed.

Eric Bach was concerned with pushing the construction off and waiting on materials.

Keith Gadapee noted the concrete contractor thought he could do the concrete now or next spring.

Motion by Peter Griffin, 2nd by Eric Bach to accept Mike Walsh and son Builders in the amount of \$66,350 and spend money on material and store in shed out back or tarp it. Vote 5-1-0 (Ken Linsley opposed, Eric Bach for, Kellie Merrell for, Kristin Franson for, Peter Griffin for). Motion carries.

Keith Gadapee inquired what the decision was based on as the chosen contractor was not the lowest bid.

Eric Bach noted decision is based on timing.

(b) **Proposals for Electrical Work for MMIG for new Recycle Building** – decision

Motion by Kellie Merrell, 2nd by Kristin Franson to accept CFW Electric in the amount of \$5,000 and to coordinate start date with Mike Walsh and Son Builders. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.

(c) **Maze Speeders** – see Speeding North Danville Village

(d) **Vermont Municipal Input Survey** – see Cannabis

(e) **Encore Renewable Energy – Olde Farm House Road Solar** – Audrey DeProspero – Informational item, proposed 2.2 MW Solar Array to be located off Olde Farm House Road has been received. A copy has been sent to the Planning Commission along with Northeastern Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

(f) **Pinwheels for Peace** – Kristin Franson – local Girl Scout Troup 51442 seeks permission to display pinwheels with messages of peace on the Green to celebrate International Day of Peace on Tuesday, September 21st. The decorated pinwheels would be put on the east side of the Green on Monday the 20th in the evening and would stay up all day Tuesday along with foam letters spelling out Peace and would be removed on Wednesday.

Motion by Kellie Merrell, 2nd by Eric Bach to approve the request for pinwheel placement on the Green. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.

(g) **Certificate and Letters**

Parking letter - *Consensus to withdraw parking letter and have Selectboard Assistant reach out via phone to both parties.*

Certificate – *Consensus for Selectboard to sign.*

Appreciation letter – *Consensus for Selectboard to sign*

(h) **IT Needs Assessment** – Audrey DeProspero – ten municipalities will be selected from a wide spectrum of local governments and their technology needs. An application has been completed.

(i) **Access to the LVRT** – letter received from AOT regarding non permissioned access to the Lamoille Valley Rail trail via US2 discussed.

Consensus to thank the sender for the information and to let them know that the Town will not be considering a request for area to be gated.

7. **Financials:** Orders to review and sign

Motion by Eric Bach, 2nd by Kellie Merrell to authorize Chair Ken Linsley to review and sign the Financial Orders on behalf of the Selectboard. Vote 5-0-0. All in favor.

8. **Adjourn** – *Motion by Eric Bach, 2nd by Kellie Merrell to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. All in favor.*

Minutes taken by Audrey DeProspero submitted September 17, 2021 at 11:00 am.