**MINUTES OF SELECTBOARD MEETING**

**Town of Fayston, Vermont**

**Tuesday, August 22nd, 2023, 6:00 pm**

**At Robert Vasseur Town Hall**

**Attendees:**

**Select Board Members**:

Jared Cadwell (Jared), Chuck Martel (Chuck), Michael Jordan (Mike)

**Town Clerk/Treasurer/Selectboard Assistant:** Patti Lewis

**Minutes Taker:** Eve Silverman

**Guests**: Mad River Valley Television, Woody Dugan (Boyce Hill Committee)

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Meeting called to order by Jared at 6:00 ­­­pm.**

**Approve Minutes of August 8th, 2023, Selectboard Meeting:** *Mike**moved to approve, Chuck seconded, all in favor, motion carried, minutes approved.*

**Public Comment:**

Update on German Flats culvert replacement: it seems to be moving along well, and hopefully will be done in advance of the original target completion date of 9/14.

Another public works project coming up is to replace the culvert on upper Randell Road that services the outflow of the beaver pond on Randell Road. The road will be closed starting this Monday morning (8/28) and it will be closed at least through Thursday (8/31). The closure will be closer to Center Fayston Road.

**Dog Ordinance Review:**

The ordinance was last amended 8/10/20. It came up because the issue of dogs on leash has come up in the Boyce Hill management plan, The Boyce Hill committee would like to point to the dog ordinance, ideally. However, if the ordinance doesn’t have a leash requirement, the Boyce Hill committee may make it a requirement in the Boyce Hill management plan.

The ordinance states that when not on someone’s own property, dogs must be either on leash or under control of the owner. Mike said upon reviewing the ordinance of every other town nearby, there is similarly a way to allow a dog to be off leash but under control. Mike stated he would not be in favor of being more restrictive in our ordinance than these other towns. Jared said he believed that the Mad River Path may have a requirement that dogs be on leash. If there are separate policies for parks and organizations, then the committee should consider a policy that might be different than the town’s ordinance.

Jared commented that in the town, there hasn’t been a problem with the dog ordinance as it is.

The board determined that the current dog ordinance remain unchanged and suggested that the Boyce committee should look into developing their own policy which they may choose to make more restrictive.

**Access Permit: Chris and Anne Marie Oldham/Sharpshooter Road**

Patti stated that Stuart has offered the Oldhams a couple of options. 1) The driveway access should be moved 250’ up (north/northeast) from the property line vs. the 180’ as applied for, with a requirement for 2-foot culvert. 2) The access could move up 400’ with no culvert. The first option was accepted by the owners.

*Chuck moved to approve the access permit with the condition (option 1) that has been agreed to by the owners, Mike seconded, all in favor, motion carried.*

**Other Business**

Catering Permit: Event at Knoll Farm 9/2, 5-10pm. Permission to approve granted.

SIPtemberfest Permit for Public Festival: Event will be at 9/16 at 1-5pm at Mad River Glen*. Chuck moved to approve the permit, Mike seconded, all in favor, motion carried.*

Boyce Hill Work Plan: Woody Dugan and Pete Colgan will be heading up Boyce Hill Committee (as well as being members of the Conservation Commission). There is now a list of Stewardship projects that they would like to begin work on, with a workday event scheduled on Saturday and Sunday September 16-17. Woody spoke about the spring mowing; many folks feel that we should wait til August for the first mow to benefit pollinators, but for farmers the first mowing is important, and June 15th is generally considered the deadline. Woody said that he is in favor of a spring mowing that will help develop the pastoral feeling that many people desire. Woody said that in the absence of a completed management plan, they are looking for the Board’s blessing to begin the work outlined soon. The Board said they are in support of moving forward.

Patti: $2.5 million has come in from taxes so far.

**Read Mail and Sign Warrant**

**Motion to Adjourn**

*Chuck moved to adjourn the meeting; Jared seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Eve Silverman

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approved: Jared Cadwell