

Town of Plainfield Select Board Special Meeting
November 9, 2023
149 Main St. Plainfield, VT 2nd Floor and via Zoom
Minutes - Approved

Agenda:

- Changes to Agenda
- Public Comment
- Discuss and approve bid for Recreation Field clean-up
- Adjourn

Present: Select Board members Riley Carlson (Chair), Tim Davis, and Jim Volz. Also in attendance were Delinquent Tax Collector George Cushing, Recreation and Public Arts Committee member Ben Youngbaer, and Eric Blaisdell of the Times Argus.

Chair Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

Changes to Agenda:

There were no changes to the agenda.

Public Comment:

Carlson opened the floor to public comment. There was no public comment.

Discuss and approve bid for Recreation Field clean-up:

Carlson noted this issue was discussed at the regular Select Board meeting on November 6, 2023 with this special meeting being called to allow time for an additional bid to be received. He noted Town Grant Administrator Alice Merrill had contacted Select Board members via email prior to this meeting with information regarding the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Community Grant. He shared that this grant could fund repairs to recreational infrastructure but that the minimum to apply is \$20,000 so there may be the option of bundling this project with another Town project. He noted the application deadline for the grant is December 15, 2023 and the grant would be awarded at the end of February 2024. He further explained that if the Town decides to apply for this grant to cover the expense of the Recreation Field clean-up that clean-up work would be postponed until summer of 2024. Carlson explained that if the Town accepted FEMA reimbursement for the project this would likely cover 92.5% of the clean-up and the work could be done before winter. Ben Youngbaer of the Recreation and Public Arts Committee was unable to speak at the meeting but communicated his thoughts via Zoom chat stating his preference for the work to be done prior to winter. Davis shared that the new bid received by the Town from Dennis Fowler was for clean-up of only the basketball court and did not include cleaning up the

skate park. He expressed his preference for having both areas cleaned up. Youngbaer stated in the chat he would support hiring whichever contractor could start work soonest and clean-up both the basketball court and the skate park. George Cushing stated that his opinion that the Select Board should hire Dennis Fowler to clean-up just the basketball court due to possible difficulty navigating machines around the skate park equipment and because Fowler could begin work right away. Carlson shared that the other two bids, which both include clean-up of both the basketball court and skate park, would also complete clean-up before winter. Carlson shared that the bid from Abare Lawncare for \$13,000 for clean-up of both the basketball court and skate park was detailed and included sweeping, washing off the pavement with a water tank, and moving the skate ramps and putting them back afterward. He shared that the bid from Darkwing Enterprises for \$11,200 for clean-up of both the basketball court and the skate park included removing silt, piling silt nearby between the tennis court and the river, and seeding and mulching the silt pile. He shared that the bid from Dennis Fowler to clean-up only the basketball court was for \$7,000.

Carlson moved to approve the bid from Abare Lawncare for flood clean-up at the Rec Field with a cost of \$13,000, with the condition that Abare can get the work done before winter, and the understanding the Town will likely be reimbursed 92.5% of the cost by FEMA. The motion carried unanimously. Carlson stated he will contact Abare Lawncare and request the work be completed before winter.

Adjourn:

Volz moved to adjourn at 6:25 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kristin Brosky, Plainfield Town Administrative Assistant.