

Town of Plainfield Select Board Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2025, 6:00 PM

<p>Call Meeting to Order 6:02pm In Attendance: Selectboard members Bissex, Fingas, Jemele. Subbiondo on Zoom. Selectboard member Youngbaer joined during Warrants and Payroll agenda items.</p>	<p>1 minute</p>
<p>Changes to Agenda None</p>	<p>1 minute</p>
<p>Announcements Town Meeting Tuesday March 4th. In person for voting and commenting. Zoom is for watching only.</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>Public Comment Mike Carriveau: Position of Selectboard as far as sanctuary city? Are we a sanctuary city? Are we helping illegal aliens?</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>
<p>Town Clerk's Report Bram reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting of Board of Civil Authority at 5:30 on Thursday Feb 27th. Board runs town meeting. Meeting is to set voting list and vote on any poll volunteers that aren't BCA members - We will have a Town Meeting on Zoom, but people on Zoom can only witness the meeting. This is State law. - A couple reports missing from Town Report including Balance Sheet, Gran Committee report, and Treasurers narrative report. These will be available at Info meeting and at Town Meeting - Can't have any groups that have active issues on the ballot in the room on Town Meeting Day. There will be space downstairs - Town Meeting reports are mailed out - Admin Assistant needs to step down because of childcare issues, thanks Hillary for your work. 	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>Town Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>

<p>Josh Pitts Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pursuing a RFP for auditing services. Distributed for Selectboard review today. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peter had questions about dates. Answer: FY 23 FY 24 with subsequent years possible. - Need to fix errors and get us in a good place for systems going forward. - Specifically fixed assets lines. - Emergency Management Director let us know grant funds earmarked for Emergency Management Coordinator position have been frozen by federal action. Exploring options to pay for including a \$30k Vermont Community Foundation grant. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential candidate doesn't need healthcare - Working with VLCT to see how this can be done - Tax Day went smoothly. The office ran well that day. Warrant for delinquency will be out sometime next week. - Concern about FEMA money being frozen? Not at this point 	
<p>Road Commissioner Report</p> <p>Josh Pitt Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completing the negotiation for municipal project management with VHB. Need more info from Municipal Assistance Bureau - Concerns from George Springston about where the road will go, where work is being done. Will be looked at in engineering and need for redesign. Every bridge washed out or permanently lost will have engineering and will be looked at again even if fixed through emergency funding. - Some of the still closed points are because the state is out of temporary bridges, so would need to look to private contractors which is expensive. 	5 minutes
<p>Status Mill Street Manager Hire & Brook Road Study</p> <p>Josh Pitts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be negotiations for that forthcoming. Important to get that location in process with Municipal Assistance Bureau. Mill st is project 1 and Brook Rd in village is project 2. We could combine into one project with Municipal Assistance Bureau. 	5 minutes

<p>Bean Road Update: zoning court status & animal control report</p> <p>Zoning Court Case</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hearing on Friday, waiting for judge;s decision - Kim Nolan: What is it for? - Deciding on home vacancy, fines, etc. <p>Bean Rd Animal Control Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emily Wilmers: Was bitten by a dog on 79 Bean Rd on January 25th. No answer from the owner on vaccinations. Dog is unregistered. Made a police report with the sheriff. Sheriff says it is a Town issue. - Bram Towbin: We don't have infrastructure to write tickets. We are looking into the judicial bureau - Role of animal control officer in these situations? If we get proper structure we can write tickets and go through court. - Peter Yasus: Spoke with sheriff and constable. Try to go all together. Couldn't schedule this week. That's still the plan. - Town Clerk working with Town Constable on process for future issues. - Has cost the victim \$1400 in medical costs and rising 	<p>15 minutes</p>
<p>Update on activities of the Grant Group</p> <p>Karen Hatcher reporting for the group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closely watching funding issues on federal level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 places where Funding freeze has happened. 1)watershed grant for 4 properties in Plainfield. 2) Americrops position with Emergency Management - Don't believe FEMA disaster recovery funds will be affected. - Update on current grants work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FEMA public assistance grant process is active. Damage inventory took place. Long process by Grant Group to create. - Also happening with federal highway grants for Brook Rd. Brook Road right of way is what we think is under federal highway. Unclear which stream will pay for Brook Rd work. - Creating mapping to allow us to use GPS coordinates of 13 listed projects to create one map of the project sites. Then prioritize the permanent projects. - Having a map and FEMA determination will allow us to know funding streams and then we will know the town's needed match. - Also how we can prioritize projects. - Working on Community Development Block Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning block grant being worked on for \$60k for final engineering 	<p>10 minutes</p>

<p>for Village Expansion. Meets all preliminary requirements for future CDBG funds including part of \$68M to Vermont; \$55 Million to Washington and Lamoille Counties. \$10 Million maximum on project application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plainfield is on the priority list for those funds. Likely to the maximum of \$10 million. Likely application in summer and get funds in the fall. - Potential for funds outside the competitive process - Smaller Grants being looked at as well - Working with the Town Treasurer to set up accounting for grant revenue. Establish systems now for when the money comes. - Karen asking for help, Michael Zahner is finishing 2 grants and stepping back after. There is a need more volunteers to help. Contact Karen Haatcher Grants Administrator. - Wants to have a special meeting with people in town that is about the grants process and answer questions. - Another round of Bond Bank loans are coming as well 	
<p>Update on plans for Goddard Campus Celina Barton on behalf of new Goddard Campus owner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informal report on activities - 131 acres and 22 buildings - Still working on designs and want input. - Plan to keep the campus intact. - Expect a more formal presentation soon and an informational meeting - New owner has ensured buildings are not becoming derelict in the harsh winter - Focusing on leasing for commercial interests - Hoping for green building, hospitality, culinary - Want to work with grants group to look at Affordable Housing and Infrastructure grants - Renting rooms in co-housing dorms for \$800 - Renting buildings for \$10,000 to some groups - Can work on rental assistance if you reach out. - Contact Celina by text at 802-291-4106 or email celina@ledgeworks.com 	15 minutes
<p>Discussion & Action of Day Care at Town Meeting Frances Rose Subbiondo:</p>	10 minute

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Idea to have a daycare at Town Meeting for childcare - Invitation to consider if someone can offer childcare, need for a provider and a space - Karen Hatcher: Cutler is open and has open play. Approach Angela what is available at the library. Maybe with older kid assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pass the hat at Town Meeting to pay the providers? - Bram: Would need to have 2 credentialed providers. - Betsy Zeigler: We did one year. It took much effort and some HS volunteers that helped 	
<p>Approval of Draft Minutes, fleet permits, access permits, etc</p> <p>Minutes from February 5th 2025, February 10th 2025, and February 17th 2025. Motion for approval of minutes for February 5th, February 10th, and February 17th made by Dan, Seconded Patti Jemele. 4-0-0.</p> <p>Overweight Fleet Permits: Chevalier , Highgate, Vt, Dead River, St. Johnsbury Vt, Mccullough Crushing, Middlesex, Vt, Lajeunesse Construction, East Barre Vt, Scott Brown Trucking, Hardwick., Vt Motion to approve overweight permits listed above by Dan Fingas, seconded by Patti Jemele 4-0-0.</p> <p>Warrants for 2/7/25 and payroll for 2/13/25 Motion to approve warrants dated Feb 7th 2025 and payroll dated Feb 13th 2025 made by Dan Fingas, second by Patti. 5-0-0 (Peter joined here)</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>Next Meeting Informational Meeting Thur 2/27 at 6pm Town Meeting March 4th at 10am, voting 9am-7pm Next Regular Meeting 3/10 at 6pm</p>	<p>1 minute</p>
<p>Adjourn 7:28pm Motion made by Dan Fingas, second by Patti Jemele 5-0-0.</p>	<p>1 minute</p>