

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

Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, 18 High St., and Via Zoom

Topic: Plainfield Selectboard Meeting

Time: Mar 24, 2025 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89022390570?pwd=uY3a5hj1yHPXKVDQ6QB3gPuCh3t3Rn.1>

Call Meeting to Order at 6pm Bissex, Jemele, Fingas, Subbiondo are present. Youngbaer joined the Bean Rd Incident Agenda Item.	1 minute
Changes to Agenda Remove Traffic Study Item	1 minutes
Announcements None	5 minutes
Public Comment None	10 minutes
Town Clerk's Report (Bram Towbin) Hired a new assistant to join Town Staff, Jamie Hammack starting April 7th. Approval Vehicle Auction Contract for unneeded town equipment Municipal Building elevator is out of service and it will be a long fix. Fleet Permit Approval Change-Allow Bram to sign for us. Motion for Bram to sign Fleet permits. Motion by France Rose, Second Patti, passes 4-0-0. Motion to enter into contract with Auctions International, Inc for the sale of unneeded and disused equipment. Motion by Dan, second by Francis Rose. Passed 4-0-0.	5 minutes
Town Treasurer's Report (Josh Pitts) Getting quote from Batchelder auditing company for help with town audits School taxes sent and reconciliation will be in May.	5 minutes
Road Commissioner Report (Josh Pitts) Costs and sales of town equipment. The backhoe that was hit in the accident should be seeing \$51,000 in insurance money. Getting rid of 2005 dump truck. Looking at the purchase of a trailer for excavators. We have a quote on the trailer.	5 minutes

We have completed the at the ready process for project management for Mill St bridge. Next process is to look for a design consultant. Kale, Peter Youngbaer, and Josh are the selection group for these projects. VHB has municipal project management up to Cameron Rd. Cameron Rd is FEMA. Expect to have damaged inventories done by the end of this week.

Josh Opened Bids for Black Tagged Truck that is for sale by the town. Sale was advertised. We received 6 bids. Bids opened were for the amounts of:

#1: \$6200

#2: \$500

#3: \$8201

#4: 6100

#5: \$4500 or \$200 over highest amount

#6: 5160

Motion to accept to bid #3 at \$8201 for the sale of the black tagged truck. By Dan.

Ryan Christiansen suggested a second round.

Motion to offer the sale to #5 at the price of \$8401. If not accepted to offer to bid #3 as the second highest. Motion by Frances Rose, Second by Patti. 3-1-0 vote with Fingas Nay.

Grants Administrator Report (Karen Hatcher)

FEMA contacts are coming next week for meetings and 3 days of inspections. Gary Smith will be with them and our Road Foreman as well. FEMA inspecting sites outside of Brook Rd right of way. So side roads off of Brook Rd. 2 different processes for Brook Rd and side roads for funding and how it works.

Federal Highway, lots of progress. Identification of the 12 projects. Detailed damage inventory reports being worked on. Next step is the Municipal Assistance bureau to put out bids and hiring project manager. Get total cost of those repairs. We are coordinating with study of the great brook grant we already have. Getting the grant report to be timed right to be useful.

Karl and Karen met for draft of the Community Development Block Grant. \$58 million available for Lamoille and Washington County. Still waiting for details, though our town needs were shared with HUD in Washington DC. Monies mostly for Affordable Housing and infrastructure. Also can be used as

7 minutes

<p>matching funds.Hope to hear by the end of the year. Want to do a Plainfield tour.</p> <p>Small grant working with Recreation and Public Arts Committee. \$4k for public art about flood around the Heartbreak.</p> <p>Michael Billingsley: Americorps grant was withdrawn. Funding group to fund with VCF funds. New employee April 7th start date hoped for.</p> <p>Karl: lots of money could come to town, but all with public hearings and meetings. Lots of opportunity for public input.</p> <p>Karen: Met with Regional planning commission. Will partner with us on Federal Highway part of our flood recovery and will help us with managing the process.</p>	
<p>Accessibility Commission Committee Formation and Seed Appointments</p> <p>Frances Rose: Coming out of town meeting there were legitimate concerns about making town events more accessible to all. Previously we have put out a call to look at town accessibility. We know that there is no panacea solution, but will be forming a committee. Allow all to have better access to town government and buildings.</p> <p>Michael Billingsley: accessibility at Town Hall has been a focus for Emergency Manager and Plainfield Arts. Cooling, small ramp at lip of doors coming.</p> <p>Jake McBride: Thank you for thinking of this</p> <p>Motion to form a Plainfield Town Accessibility Committee motion by Frances Rose. Second by Dan. Passed on a 4-0-0 vote.</p> <p>Motion to appoint Dawn Fancher, Mary Layne, and Alicia Weiss by Frances Rose. Second by Dan. Passed 4-0-0 vote.</p> <p>Heard from Dawn Fancher, Alicia Weiss, and Mary Layne about their backgrounds and reason they are glad to join the committee.</p> <p>Hazard Mitigation hosting a Disability Town Hall on June 1st at Town Hall</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>

<p>Letter to Public Safety Commissioner</p> <p>Letter about hit and run on Town Employee presented by Bram Towbin and need to push Commissioner Morrison to investigate.</p> <p>Motion to authorize to sign and send this letter to the State Public Safety Commissioner on behalf of the Selectboard. Made by Frances Rose, seconded by Patti.</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>79 Bean Road Incident</p> <p>Peter Yasus: Devin denying allegations around the dog. Won't show papers for rabies.</p> <p>Kim Nolan: Have you made any effort to get the dog?</p> <p>Peter Yasus: The sheriff says we can not go on property without a warrant.</p> <p>Kim Nolan: Doesn't believe that the Sheriff said that.</p> <p>Ryan Christiansen: Believes that we can go on property if it's for public safety.</p> <p>Karl: Going to check with the Sheriff to get the rules about taking the dog.</p> <p>The March 1st ruling was to impound the dog.</p> <p>Bram: Selectboard authorized the Animal Control officer for failure to register and get rabies vaccination.</p> <p>Patti: Why can;t we have them take the dog?</p> <p>Peter Yasus: Central VT Humane Society couldn't take the dog because it doesn't have rabies shots, is not registered, and is a pitbull, and was full. Looked into other rescues and places. Haven't gotten anyone who will take the dog.</p> <p>Adam Hochschild: Serious, worried about his kids and liability for town.</p> <p>Peter Younbaer: Court order for vacating property is in order starting Friday. Will need to get contempt of court if he does not vacate.</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>
<p>East Village Expansion Committee Formation</p> <p><u>Proposal from Selectboard.</u></p> <p>Karl: Appointments for the committee will be next Monday March 31st at 6pm. Hoping for a committee of those already working, neighbors, technical skill. Hoping to interview each this week and come up with an appointment list.</p> <p>Karen Hatcher: Can Village Expansion keep it's work going as we wait for the committee?</p> <p>France Rose: Yes, expected and hoping they keep working and part of working groups.</p> <p>Paula Emory: Can we get more specificity in some areas. Yes, committee will also.</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>

<p>Lauren Geiger: Ask potential for first meeting date. Available dates and times.</p> <p>Sandy Vitzthum: Remind Selectboard that time is of the essence, need to keep the possibility open without pushing it.</p> <p>Peter Younbaer makes the motion “to establish an advisory committee called the East Village Expansion Committee to the Plainfield Select Board to develop the various components of a financially feasible plan to design, fund, and create the infrastructure and sellable lots for a new neighborhood east of the current Lower Village, on the 23 acre lot known as 68 East Hill Rd., based upon the work of the ad hoc Plainfield Village Expansion Steering Committee, with the intention of bringing a vote to the Town on or before July 11th.” Second by Patti. Motion passes 5-0-0 vote.</p>	
<p>Discuss Traffic Memo Regarding East Village Expansion</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>\$150,000 Unsecured Loan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bond Council questions if we can take the \$150,000 loan without a vote. - Sandy Vitzthum: Looking at Engineering work, hoping to start mid April - Arion Thibumery willing to send on to VCF for their info and work on it. -Peter Youngbaer: Town procurement about RFP’s for engineering services - Sandy ask we have a provisional vote on starting vote process for \$150,000 unsecured loan. - Add to special meeting next week on March 31st. -Carol: Water/sewer will need to have a bond vote soon as well. 	
<p>Constable Candidates Introduce themselves to board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dan Caddy: Plainfield resident for over a decade. Married 3 kids. Trained in conflict resolution. Served in the Vermont National Guard. He wants to give back to the town. He wants to step up for this role. Schedule fairly open for the work. Know many have an aversion to law enforcement and want to bring a trusted choice. - Christopher Keast, current constable sent in a letter. - Dan read current Constables Letter. - Peter Youngbaer: Appreciate mention of municipal ticket system. We come up short because we dont have that system in place <p>Motion to appoint Dan Caddy as Plainfield Town Constable made by Dan, second by Frances Rose. Passed by 5-0-0 vote.</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>

<p>Executive Session 1 V.S.A. § 313 section B to discuss personnel matters. Motion by Frances Rose, second by Patti. 5-0-0 vote</p> <p>After Executive Session: Motion to move Town Treasurer Josh Pitts from salary to hourly at a rate of \$27.04 an hour. Moved by Frances Rose, Second by Patti. 5-0-0 vote.</p>	<p>15 minutes</p>
<p>Appointment of David Boynton to Revolving Loan Fund Motion by Frances Rose, second by Dan. 5-0-0.</p>	
<p>Approval of Draft Minutes March 4 (town meeting), March 1, 10 & 17 selectboard meetings Motion by Dan, second by Patti. 5-0-0.</p>	<p>1 minute</p>
<p>Approval of Warrants Accounts payable 3/12, 3/15, 3/18 Payroll 3/20 Motion by Karl, second by Patti. 5-0-0</p>	<p>1 minute</p>
<p>Announce Date of next SB Special meeting on 3/31 at 6pm. Next regular meeting 4/14/25</p>	<p>1 minute</p>
<p>Adjourn Motion to adjourn at 8:56pm by Frances Rose, second by Patti. Passed 5-0-0.</p>	<p>1 minute</p>