

Special Selectboard Meeting

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Village expansion, FEMA site visit, community listening circle, committee appointments, prospective buyers, zoning amendments, broadband access, Vermont Community Foundation loan, engineering services, water source protection, public comments, housing committee, special meeting, RFP responses, Select Board., RFP approval, East Village expansion, Select Board, engineering services, project timeline, selection process, committee formation, meeting scheduling, minutes approval, payroll approval, accounts payable, public hearing, CDBG grant, advisory committee, meeting minutes.

SPEAKERS

Doug Weinrich, Speaker 12, Speaker 5, Speaker 10, Peter Younbaer, Will Colgan, Speaker 3, Bram Towbin, Dan Fingas, Alicia Weiss, Kirstie Grant, PCAVT, Speaker 8, Peter Youngbaer, Speaker 11, Liz, Speaker 7, Jared Birchmore, Speaker 9, Speaker 6, Frances Rose, Speaker 4, Dan Caddy, Jeremy Matt, Michael Billingsley, Patti Jamele, Karl Bissex, Speaker 2, Speaker 1



Karl Bissex 00:16

There it is, okay, okay. I think we should get started. We are the march. What is Dave? Yeah, March, 24 the 31st 31st right? I was reading minutes Select Board Meeting March 20/31 and it is 603, and we're getting started. Any changes to the event agenda board that you can think of? I All right, no changes. We'll announcements only. I just want to say we were, I was meeting with FEMA today. They're going to be doing a a site visit of roads off Brook road, just tomorrow and Thursday and tomorrow, Wednesday and Thursday. So I'm going to join them, and Mike Bingham is going to join where he can, and we're going to have them get an assessment of what damages we may be entitled to get some help with that's happening.



Frances Rose 01:44

I have an announcement also Saturday the 12th, there is a community group that is offered to come together and host a listening circle. The intention being, as I had written on the front porch forum some time ago, an opportunity for those who have spoken but have not felt heard in this village expansion process writ large. So it's an opportunity to to come together, to not talk about the specificity, the design, the cost. This is like a feeling space in the hope that we all might start to feel heard in our feelings about it. Yeah. Again, citizens, effort, grassroots is going to be in the basement of Grace Church at one o'clock Saturday the 12th.



Karl Bissex 02:40

Thank you. Thank you. Any other announcements, let's see again. Good job. Yeah, I had a request again that selector issues. I might want to have difficult

F

Frances Rose 03:00

hearing, so I know the people on the campus can hear you, but we can

K

Karl Bissex 03:03

Okay, thank you. I guess I'll if I can get that. Yeah. Is it on? Yes, yes. Okay. We are public comments. We have a this is a special meeting, so we'll be talking about the expansion project. So any other comments, or anybody have anything that they'll want to say,

J

Jeremy Matt 03:37

Yeah, this is Jeremy Matt the CV, fiber Plainfield, rep, just, I know that's on the agenda for later on, just throwing it out there, that if you want me to say a couple of words about that, I am available. I'll be listening in. Thanks. Great. Thanks.

K

Karl Bissex 03:53

Appreciate it. Okay, I think we'll move on to the appointments we have to as was decided last year or year and a more hour ago, our town clerk and treasurer are now appointed and not elected, so we need to reappoint Bram and Josh to their positions for one year.

P

Patti Jamele 05:13

You're in.

K

Karl Bissex 05:16

Okay? So we have the appointments for our committee that is studying the expansion project, and as last meeting we have, we agreed to split up the folks, the many folks who would offer to be part of this committee, and to call folks that we felt would either, would either represent a broad spectrum of who's out there and the ideas that they want to bring to the table, and also folks who have been on the committee that the steering committee, so that there's kind of a continuity of information, and also folks with special expertise in technical or accounting or some of those things. So we have, we have made our calls all this week, and have talked to people, and we will be, I guess the first thought and was suggested we have the mic open for anyone who wants to say anything about being on this committee. We are looking for people that are going to try to move it forward and not just be a roadblock. So that was but everybody who we saw on the list were pretty willing to be fair about it. So do we want to read the

D Dan Fingas 06:45

list you think, or do we want to what I don't know that we have a list. Okay, conversations. I think we want to see if folks have any last

K Karl Bissex 06:54

comments before we elaborate? Yeah, anyone have any thoughts or comments

D Dan Fingas 06:59

regarding the appointments you gotta go? You gotta go to the Nope, you

K Karl Bissex 07:03

gotta go to that mic. That mic please, and get lifted up. It's Michael Bram, just a quick question. Did you describe the process in which you interview people, how you divide up, consulting each other, solutions, consensus, we haven't done any discussion of this as a as a board, because we can't Rose and I looked Over the lists, as did others have their own opinions, and offered to call people of the of the How many were there? 40 or so, 3232 32 people, the ones that we felt would add to this committee. So that was it. We did not meet outside of this. This is our discussion tonight. So again, anyone have any thoughts to share with us? I think we're doing public comment first. Okay, well, I'm just gonna answer this question. Yeah. Answer this question? Yeah? Question, yes. Michael billington, I just curious, for the sake of everyone here, if, in terms of whether the problem comments or whatever does it if we didn't receive a phone call from one of the board members asking about our interest, would that mean we automatically were not one of the people considered? In other words, was everybody

D Dan Fingas 08:48

was considered get a phone call? No, I don't think that. I think that was the idea. I'm not sure if that was what happened in practice. So I don't think that everybody that we were we had interest in

S Speaker 1 09:00

were called, but most of them weren't. Does that mean, if people weren't called and are still interested, they should say so? Now, I would say so, yes. And remember that one of the we're trying to minimize. We're trying to keep this committee to 11 people, yeah, but there can be a lot of other folks who are in committees or subcommittees or researchers, or there's a lot of ways to get involved for people that really would like to but we were looking for the what we hoped would be a nice, cohesive group. Thank you. I was just trying to get the clarity so people here could know, yeah, how to respond next. Thank you. I can speak personally, because I had no conversations with the other board members. I went through the list of 32 I picked out who I

thought would be appropriate for the committee. I narrowed it down to 11. I contacted all of them, plus spoke with 10 of them. There was only one who I was unable to connect with. That's me.

P

Patti Jamele 10:07

I think that too, too much I have, I have 10 people here, but one person said, yes, no. Depends on how long, how many times they actually need. So I tried to talk different things. Like some people were architects are really good talking other people. Some of you are leaders, hopefully different people, not taking people there on the community already. But

K

Karl Bissex 10:38

so this is a challenging thing to do. Is there any other comments before we move on? So do we want to have a discussion board about who we talk to and who we'd like to have as our picks and then compare them? I have a proposal, yeah, okay,

F

Frances Rose 10:56

let's go. Hello. We're designing this on the fly. I propose that one of us name the 11 that is on their list, and each one of us can, like, check or circle not check in so doing, hopefully there's a bunch of overlap, and maybe there is any lingering conversation about the last picks for the committee, but that we could Yeah, agree Early as many as possible by speaking and listening. I

D

Dan Fingas 11:38

Patty has volunteered to read her list. Oh, go ahead, daddy, call that drum roll. Drum

P

Patti Jamele 11:51

roll, please. Sorry. Jared. Jared Bridgeport, see here, here, right there. Kim RIT, is she here? Okay, you like is it marginal? Thank you. I'm sorry. Johnny Osman, he's good. O'Hara blacker, Rick burrows, burrows, Michael Billingsley, and then we have to call the number carried Alex Forbes and Justin with her meeting. Those are mine. Okay, thank you. Right down the road, sure, yes,

P

Peter Youngbaer 12:39

I had Justin labor, Elizabeth Ross Colgate, Donny Austin, Liz Peral Vicki, McDonald, Kirsty grant, John osford, Arian to Boomerang, Jared birchmore, Lauren Geiger and Rick burrows. I hope

D

Dan Fingas 12:44



Dan Fingas 13:11

someone's writing all that down. I cannot type it as fast as people were saying. So I think, based on that, I think we're talking about the ones we have in common first, right? Just so we can, yes, get to agreement.



Peter Youngbaer 13:21

Can



Dan Fingas 13:25

you read your wholes? Yeah. Okay. So like Peter, I have Kristi Brant on my list. I have Lauren Geiger on my list. Like Patty, I have Eli Barlow,



Patti Jamele 13:40

Rick burrows,



Dan Fingas 13:47

John Hosford, who is on Peter's list, Donnie Osmond, which was on both of their lists. Aaron to brewery, who was on both their lists. Liz peralt, he was on Peter's list. Kim made Alinsky, who was on Patty's list. And I think I've I that's only nine. I think I have one more person I attend on my list, but I can either add him now or wait till we



Karl Bissex 14:15

have more discussions. Yeah, okay. I did not do all 11, but I did do was for all Donnie Osmond, Arian and Donna. What's last name, Samson. Samson, and that was all I was able to talk to. I missed a few. You have others that you think should be on the committee, or the ones I've been seeing, names of folks that I would see as being on the committee. So let's listen here yours, then we'll talk about it.



Frances Rose 15:02

Kirsty grant, Lauren Geiger, Rick burrow, John Hosford, Donnie Osmond Orion Tobin, Donna Sampson, Walker, Blackwell, Liz Peral, Elizabeth, Ross Colgate, Kim Madeleine, skin, okay, are you keeping a checklist? You, I



Patti Jamele 15:39

didn't hear that. I think I have. You want to do that? Johnny Osmond, Lauren, yeah. Rick burrows, Aaron, you

F Frances Rose 16:04
I have four unanimous Lauren, Rick Arian and Donnie and Donnie Osmond, okay.

P Patti Jamele 16:20
Transparent moment. Okay, did everybody agree to all my names except Dan?

D Dan Fingas 16:29
Dan red, oh, my other one was Walker Blackwell, which was on France

F Frances Rose 16:33
Rose's list. Sorry, yeah,

S Speaker 1 16:41
yeah. So open to ideas about where from here. Well, Liz Bram was mentioned on four of the five, so I will there, yeah, and she seemed genuinely excited about trying to help this, and she has experience in the recent career has been developing property up in Burlington area, mostly commercial, but still,

F Frances Rose 17:11
there's a lot of overlap there. So perhaps we can, I'm not sure I got everybody's votes, just so perhaps we can, like, go through the list one more time, person by person, and we can see how many votes there are per person. For example, Kirsty grant, he's on my list. So that's three. Are we doing majority here? Or do we want

K Karl Bissex 17:35
to be debating each one? Let's, let's do the majority.

F Frances Rose 17:39
I didn't talk to it. Sure. Okay, so Kirsty,

K Karl Bissex 17:45



yes. Michael, yeah,



Frances Rose 17:48

that was Kirstie Graham, three out of five votes across the board. Kim Madelin, maybe you



Speaker 2 17:55

can do hands show of hands on the board, three, three out of five.



Frances Rose 18:04

I heard Justin the



Patti Jamele 18:06

pearl is that the name



Frances Rose 18:10

solo, one, two of us. Two. Thank you. Um, John. Osford on my list, three. Walker Blackwell on my list, just two. Donna Sampson on my list. Two, I'm going to pass this mic down to someone else whose names



Dan Fingas 18:44

I believe. Jared birch more



Bram Towbin 18:46

was on a couple lists too.



Dan Fingas 18:52

Think there was a name only on your list. Vicki McDonald's, right? Peter, yes, that's one.



Michael Billingsley 18:59

Ross Colgate.

D Dan Fingas 19:03
Vicky McDonald, Ross Colgate is on two people's lists.

P Peter Youngbaer 19:10
It was, did you have robs? Yeah, yeah. Okay, trust us too. Yeah.

D Dan Fingas 19:20
Kim's offices. Okay, so right now, if we go away at majority rule, we have four folks who are on everyone's lists, and then we have 1234, folks who are on most people's lists. So we're at eight. We have three spots left. We have Donna oh and Michael Billingsley had one vote as well. Sorry. Michael, yeah, you're the one. So we have Donna Sampson, Walker, Blackwell, Justin mcburrow, Jared birchmore, Michael Billingsley, Vicki, McDonald and Ross Colgate all with one or two votes. I don't know if you want to. Eli, oh, and

J Jeremy Matt 20:01
Eli, sorry. Eli, Eli, how many

D Dan Fingas 20:04
go to elix? Okay. Eli Barlow, and he's

P Patti Jamele 20:07
on my list, apologies.

K Karl Bissex 20:11
Um, so we have you go through your list one more time, or I

S Speaker 3 20:17
believe, so, yeah, I got it. Oh, you got it, okay, yeah, I missed my own I ist.

P Peter Younbaer 20:23
I didn't miss your comments, yeah, yeah, yeah. So it seems we have a part of my thinking and putting my list together was and I know when you put together an initial grid of people to

categories

P

Patti Jamele 20:43

on your on phone.

P

Peter Youngbaer 20:50

Sorry, we had a we had a technical issue there. Part of my thinking was looking at the grid. There were different categories of people, such as original steering committee members, abutting landowners, potential buyers, people who've been affected, and people with certain skills, and I think I will put those in the category of professional skills as from engineering to financial to fundraising to public relations, a list like that. And what I my thinking was for a committee of 11 to set a new tone, if you will. I wanted to limit the number of former steering committee members to four. I thought to have heavier representation of those steering committee members would be a little out of balance the message that we got from people who may not have been as supportive of this project as possible. So And right now, we have four on the list that we've all agreed to. So that's that's my thinking. I'll shut I'll shut up about that, because I will advocate for certain

D

Dan Fingas 22:15

individuals as we go further. Okay, yeah, I'll just note from the list that we have what's what's not on this eight person committee is prospective buyers. And so I think there are a number of good prospective buyer, potential candidates, Eli Barlow, Jared, rich, more Walker, Blackwell, I know there are others, but those are the ones that came up so far in this conversation. And I think having one, if not two, prospective buyers, folks that are actually looking to potentially utilize the property, and thinking about that in the future is seems

K

Karl Bissex 22:47

very important to me. Rose and I actually sat down together, and we kind of came up with the same feelings you did, Peter, we wanted kind of a balance. We wanted to get different sides represented as best we could. I like the technical knowledge that some people bring some of the candidates bring.

P

Patti Jamele 23:10

So that was my thought.

F

Frances Rose 23:15

Yeah, here to Peter, about four on my list was six, wondering if we split the difference in five, we could also stack function here by having prospective buyer that was also on the original

steering committee. We are trying to I as as Peter said, we are trying to restore faith in this project by welcoming new energy to it, and we also want to make the most that we can of the momentum that was and the momentum that is still so on this list that I have of, yeah, buyers, prospective buyers and the original steers, I see it's all of them. No, not Walker. Walker was not on the committee on the original steering here. Okay, so Jared or Eli.

D

Dan Fingas 24:16

Oh. Okay, I'll just say I I definitely want to balance as well. I do think I don't see, after 130 to 30 vote and my own conversations in the community that we need to restore anything. I mean, I think it's, I think there are people in town who are concerned about the project, they are in the minority, and we want to work with them and make sure all voices are there. But this is not a project that has been tarnished in any way or or on the wrong track. It's actually on the right track, and the voters have said they want us to continue it on the track. So I just think that what we're trying to do is balance all the voices we can. I I think we've had a very successful village expansion committee to create a project this far and do this much work in this amount of time. So I get that there's some division, but I think that the vote on on town meeting day shows that the division is, you know, 2025, 20 or 25% of that vote, not it's like a 5050 vote or something. And so I think we have to respect that vote as much as possible. And Michael, we do see your hand, but I think we're just going to be talking up here

P

Peter Youngbaer 25:24

for at least a little while. Well, I can just say Jared was on my list of Syria committee, but also as a prospective buyer, that's why he made my cut. So did

F

Frances Rose 25:41

you want to speak? I had a thought. We just escaped.

K

Karl Bissex 25:46

Well, I think, well, I guess my thought was this that, I guess it seems like this general support for getting housing in town. I think a lot of the concerns were lack of information and speed that was going. And so lack of information is what the steering committee has been trying to pull together, and what we hope this new committee will do so we can get facts and figures and we can have timelines that are real, and it will result in housing that we do need in this time, so that that was part of my thinking as well When I was going through this list of deal, I you,

D

Dan Fingas 26:36

I guess, given that we need prospective buyers, potential buyers, and dodging the question about how many people from the village expansion, are folks comfortable if we have Walker Blackwell was on Hudson Avenue was flood affected him, his wife and young child, and it wants to step up and maybe a prospective buyer, and his lives in the village and his

P Patti Jamele 27:03
pretty close neighbor, either way, our folks,

S Speaker 4 27:07
you spoke with him, I spoke with Yeah. Show of hands.

D Dan Fingas 27:12
Yeah. All right. That gets us tonight.

P Patti Jamele 27:21
General point, go ahead.

M Michael Billingsley 27:25
Dr Billy, again, I just want to ask about the question, which is, if you're saying that you're leading against using the original members of the steering committee. I'm not advocating for myself here at all. Logistic. A lot of the expertise is in that committee. So if you're pushing to keep that to smaller percentage of the working group and leaving behind the expertise just because they are on the steering committee, is that not reduce the amount of knowledge of the people who already have institutional knowledge from that working group, the new committee

P Patti Jamele 28:03
I can speak to that

P Peter Youngbaer 28:06
go ahead. I don't think anyone's being left behind here. I mean, I think if you look at the mission statement we adopted last week, there's the expectation that they're going to be working groups, that there's going to be all kinds of input that that I don't expect anyone from the steering committee to not be involved in in way, shape or form, but we are talking about a group that is going to need to come to some consensus and to make specific recommendations to The board. So I don't think anybody any input is being left beside you. I thoroughly expect that the steering committee folks are going to be exert a lot of influence here. I don't think that's in question. I would like to speak to a another person. It was on my list, McDonald Okay. Vicky has a long relationship to the town as a former Planning Commission member, as a school board member, as a long family connection to the town, former village resident, and in my conversation with her, agreed with virtually every other person I talked to. Carl on your

theme of housing, writ broadly, is a concern. Here we have another item later on for a housing commission. We've been talking about rental stuff at Goddard. So I think housing and revitalizing the town was a common thread I heard from everyone I spoke to. So that's good background, good

F Frances Rose 29:41

input. Sorry, did you have something on Vicky, 40 years of project management experience is meaningful to Michael's point, the way we designed the charter of the committee there, broadly, it's like there's the committee itself. There are liaisons to the committee, and there are the working groups that are satellites around the committee, meaning there are 11 voting members. But meanwhile, there's ample plus the fact that these meetings, because they are now an official Select Board, sanctioned committee, are all open meetings, which mean, yeah, there's going to be ample input from any Who want to share their input to the meeting

T Bram Towbin 30:36

point. Perceive, yeah.

S Speaker 5 30:45

Just want to make sure when you do the hand votes, it's a requirement for the

D Dan Fingas 30:50

minutes that we know the police voting. Well, we're going to have a motion for a slate at the end. This is us to build an overlay.

K Karl Bissex 30:57

Okay, I just wanted to make Yeah, yeah. Thank you that that's valid point. This is just to kind of get a reading for internal ideas. So

D Dan Fingas 31:08

we have 10. Now we have now we have nine voted on. We have a hand voted on. Vicky, oh,

K Karl Bissex 31:14

okay, do you want us to do that? I think we should handle it on Vicki, yeah, that was a recommendation, and we have several people who support that.

D Dan Fingas 31:23

I would go with that. So I feel pretty strongly that the last person should be another prospective buyer. I think of the ones that many of us have talked to, Eli Barlow and Jared birchmore are the two that seem to make sense. They're both great. They're both on there. I don't know. I don't want them to choose between themselves as roommates, but I I'll just say like I interacted with both of them, they're they're both great. They've both done a lot for the committee. Eli and I worked on the public engagement survey early on the process. The only part of the process I worked on was getting public input into the project early on. And he was great to work with, and very on top of things. And so I feel very comfortable with him, but I think we

F Frances Rose 32:10

can't go wrong with either of them. Anyone have any other thoughts on that? I agree with Dan.

P Peter Youngbaer 32:24

I just want to throw out that, you know, Kim and Aaron are the same household. Eli and

D Dan Fingas 32:31

Jared only because of the flag,

P Peter Youngbaer 32:35

you know, so, I mean, I don't know if that's a factor, but I'd be happy with either of them.

F Frances Rose 32:45


Do we want to? Can we, may we consult the two in the room right now?

K Kirstie Grant, PCAVT 32:51


Got a coin?


J Jeremy Matt 32:56


I'm very comfortable being part of the 14 group for this project. I'm also comfortable being a voting member. I think I I think having either one of us on the road, I really admire Jared public speaking.


 33:10
Yeah, got me.


 33:13
Okay. Thank you.


 Doug Weinrich 33:20
Let's have you Yeah. Chapter, well, yeah, I was probably going to say the same thing about Eli. If, if the Select Board so chooses, I'd be happy to be on the committee, also happy to be engaged in other ways, not as a voting member, but yes, I also believe that you could go wrong.


 Jeremy Matt 33:49
And maybe, maybe there were other names read, who I don't know who might also be good committee members, so I don't think it should be well at this point, we're just looking at for one to round out our committee. So

 Karl Bissex 34:10
let's just do a handbook on Jared birch. Thank you. Okay, hand hold on Jared, all those All

 Dan Fingas 34:17
right, so give me one second to get all

 Bram Towbin 34:19
these names into one motion.

 Karl Bissex 34:28
We're testing Dan's typing skills. Yes, they're not great.

 Patti Jamele 34:32
I'd Say they're pretty good. I it

K Karl Bissex 35:11
I can read the names. Oh, yeah. So why don't we read the layers

F Frances Rose 35:15
while we're working? Yeah, I guess. Can I make this also the motion, motion to appoint to the new East Village expansion Advisory Committee Kirsty grant, Lauren Geiger, Kim Alinsky, Rick burrows, Aaron to Boomerang, Donny Osman, John passford, Liz Peral Walker, Blackwell, Jared birchmore

T Bram Towbin 35:41
and Vicki McDonald

P Patti Jamele 35:42
second.

K Karl Bissex 35:46
Did you get it? I got it? Wow, see, I believe. And so

D Dan Fingas 35:52
is that? Is that the

F Frances Rose 35:53
11, or is that 10? That's 11, that's the 11. Okay, 6789, 1011,

K Karl Bissex 35:59
okay, so we have a motion to appoint these folks to the committee, and a second and a second, and all those in favor say, Aye. Aye. Aye. Congratulations, folks. Congratulations. Now the work begins or continue. Thank Okay, okay, I guess the next item on our agenda is being road. Is being road and so we're going to talk about being road for a minute. Do you have anything to report about our tenant and at Bean Road, Kim's basically his landlord at this point, no one. He is


S Speaker C 36:44

S Speaker 6 36:44
still there. I was afraid of that. Yeah, he has not

P Patti Jamele 36:50
gone in. I just heard tonight.

K Karl Bissex 36:52
Dog has now been registered closer to the mic, please. Yes. He the dog has been, has been, has rabid shots and has been registered with the town. We have contacted the town attorney under understanding that he was not likely to leave, and so I was hoping to hear from him today. Did not, but I suspect tomorrow we'll hear something about what the next step is. Bram, do you have some input? I've

T Bram Towbin 37:25
not heard the brain Towbin, town through I know that the zoning administrator was in contact with where today, I didn't get a final word what happened, but I do know the new constable is up there and caddy. He did not see the dog off the property. However, he saw the dog tether. However, he documented Paul prints of the dog leaving the property in the snow and going on other people's properties. I just thought that people should know that we have a photographic evidence of that. Dan was going to try to join the call at some point. He saw assignments in the field. Right now using the title phone, but just in case he did, and I wanted to share that with him. Thank you. That's good information.

 38:22
So you said that

S Speaker 5 38:23
Dan went up and talked with Devin No. Didn't talk with him.

P Peter Youngbaer 38:33
No, he just wanted to familiarize himself with the situation and just see he didn't take any action with did document that, although the dog, at the time, since this morning, was tethered, there were dog prints from the property onto neighboring properties. I don't think it was yours. I saw the pictures. I think it was Ryan's. Okay. Someone can correct me if I'm wrong here, but the fact that the dog got registered and had its previous shots makes the enforcement of our previous action moot because they have complied on that now, if the dog is loose and threatening that is to come. Another thing, and the review of the dog ordinance that we have is that the animal control officer or constable must witness that personally in order to take an

action. Can't be just because others of us have seen that in terms of the court order, my understanding with the attorney is that we are now going to begin contempt proceedings. That's the next step. Unfortunately, these things take time. But I personally have gone to the property, and I know Ryan has, and we have sent that information on our eyewitness account. The car was definitely there. It was snowed in the other night. There were no footprints. Then the car was shoveled out and it was moved so the occupancy is ongoing. And I did get information from Karen's story that in the initial notice of violation called Nov in the court document, it did reference specifically the connection of the RV to the septic system and potential violation there. So environmentally, that is something that I would hope our attorney would follow up on I'm concerned about the the viciousness of this dog, and the fact that they that it's had radio shots is good, but The dog has bitten somebody, and it's frightening the neighbors, and I don't know what to do, other than try to document when we see the dog loose and advise our animal control officer, who did mention, I mentioned to you that he mentioned that he didn't have a news that worked. And you're looking, you're lucky into that, yeah, so we're trying to get us some equipment for our animal control officer

P

Patti Jamele 41:19

so he can deal with that. Michael, don't

S

Speaker 2 41:27

say I have three relevant points. The first is that I wanted to make sure everyone had realistic expectations for the constable. I'm working with Bram to formalize the job description, and constable is a peace officer rather than a law enforcement officer. So we've actually wanted enforcement undertaking part of the presidency sheriff. And the second point is that we have multiple logs being taken by multiple people of encounters and observations, and I was wondering if there's any way to collate them all together, so we end up having a whole list of every dated violation in the anticipation of a possible court action. And and the last thing is, I remember the animal control officer saying that he had determined there was no place to take the dog if it was, take if it was, if it was, and I was wondering if that would be solved here. I have not heard if that's been solved.

D

Dan Fingas 42:32

I do no and I can. I called around to a few places, places that would have taken him if we lived in a different part of the state, but I have not found a place in our part of the state that is currently take them. And everywhere I talk to also, it's waiting list. So a lot of the places are full right now because the natural disasters and other things, there's been a lot of pets moving around. So I don't know of an open space yet,

P

Patti Jamele 42:56

but I will keep calling and trying to find base fuel space. Yeah. One more. Yeah.

S

Speaker 6 43:04

No one. So as a neighbor, should I still be keeping track of him living here? Or is Karen

K

Karl Bissex 43:12

taking care of this? I believe Karen is more attentive because of what happened in the court that she has to have a log and she has to be theirs, right? Several times a week,

D

Dan Fingas 43:26

yeah, yeah, yeah. Based on the judge's ruling, I think they, they are hoping that actual official town folks or Karen, okay, Constable, animal control officer, right? He the ones dealing with this. So I think calling him, especially calling the constable, animal control officer, depending on if it's he's there, if you want to go see him there, or the dogs running around,

S

Speaker 1 43:47

is what I would suggest. Just

F

Frances Rose 43:52

and Bram, do you have on this point, wanting to note that the constable has just arrived into the meeting via zoom,

P

Patti Jamele 43:59

okay. Did you have something?

T

Bram Towbin 44:07

The lawyer in the conversation with the zoning administrator today regarding the dog wanted documentation of all events concerning that property. I sent a letter to, I mean an email to Peter, asking him to compose compendium of the dog events. But I know there are other issues which might have involved the police regarding disturbances from the property damage and so forth. I think if you could in legal circles, the more paper trail you had, more witnesses, the better. Therefore, I think if the neighbors could, you know, I know Ryan has sent a lot of documentation, if that could be centralized, and presented to the lawyer that would be fulfilled. Yeah, everything that happens should be noted at least. Yeah, it's not official. And just to note, Dan, I did mention that you had visited the property today documented the dog off the footprints of the Dog in the snow. Yeah, Dan, do you want to comment on this? Since you were there?

S

Speaker 7 45:27

Yeah, I took a trip up to 79 bean road today. I remember it being a counterpoint from the individual that the dog's never off the lead with the fresh snow. I figured it was a good time to go up and take a look.

D

Dan Caddy 45:46

The dog was out when I got there. It was on the lead. But I looked, I parked and took a look, and there were fresh paw prints that were consistent from one side of the road to the other, crossing from 79 bean road over to Mr. Christensen's property back also up the road. So the assertion that the dog is never off the lead, there's photo evidence that that is 100% false. Also with the order to vacate the two vehicles that were on the property have not moved after the recent snowfall, and there's been no evidence of anybody pulling in or pulling out because there were no tire tracks. So there has been no effort made to comply with the order to vacate the property and the dog, in fact, now there's video evidence that I can or picture evidence I can provide to the Select Board that it is, in fact, off the lead.

K

Karl Bissex 46:48

That's what I had for that. Okay, thank you. Well, we'll be looking to the lawyer to and Karen to get more data, and we have to just follow this through. But any notes you have you want to share would be helpful. As Bram said, paper

S

Speaker 7 47:06

trails are useful. Yep, I will email that to all you. I just I wanted to go up today and just familiarize myself with the lay of the land, and also just see if there had been any compliance with the order to vacate. So lot of good

K

Karl Bissex 47:24

information and documentation from that. Thank you. That's good. That's great.

D

Dan Fingas 47:31

I would just say hopefully we hear from Michael soon if there is action that the Select Board needs to take on this contempt charge, I would just say, like we should call a special meeting. Only need a one day notice for special meetings as soon as possible to move things forward, to make sure we're not the

S

Speaker 1 47:46

reason that things are not moving forward, right? Okay, I don't know if it needs the board decision or can we? Can the town clerk advance the next step or is this Michael will have to

decision, or can we? Can the town clerk advance the next step, or is this, Michael will have to tell us? Michael, tell us, I guess. Okay, all right, all right, let's move on. Um, oh, sorry, I'm wondering just on that subject. I mean, would it be move us to pass the motion to authorize the attorney if they felt the evidence was to move ahead with action in court without waiting for a special meeting. I yeah, I don't know why we shouldn't do that, and we want to. We want to accelerate this and keep it we want to accelerate this and keep it moving so we could authorize now the attorney to move ahead, if that's the proper legal

P Patti Jamele 48:40
direction.

P Peter Youngbaer 48:43
So want to make a motion on that well, to counter think my own thinking here, given the track record we had in court last time, maybe we want to make sure what that evidence is before we go ahead. So I'm going to not make that okay.

D Dan Fingas 49:05
Yeah, I having a special meeting. At least three of us can get together. We can obviously invite Bram and maybe Dan, and have a real I would love, as part of this,

P Peter Youngbaer 49:15
actually have a full conversation

D Dan Fingas 49:16
with the lawyer too, about you're going to file this then

K Karl Bissex 49:20
what? What can we do? What should we have prepared? What

D Dan Fingas 49:23
happens when it doesn't comply? Yeah, like, if it gets Who do we have to reach out to? So we just understand all the steps. So we're not in a situation where we're saying, Well, can we, do we call the sheriff, or do we call this person? Or

P Peter Youngbaer 49:34

do we this, like having more full game plan, but that may need to

D Dan Fingas 49:37
be Executive Session.

S Speaker 5 49:38
It will need to be Executive Session, yeah, yeah.

F Frances Rose 49:46
Okay, anything else on this?

K Karl Bissex 49:50
Thanks. Thanks for your diligent skin. Okay. Announcement, I can talk about this. Okay,

F Frances Rose 50:00
you want to talk about the announcement of zoning? It's

K Karl Bissex 50:04
discussion. I'm sorry.

F Frances Rose 50:05
Yeah, go ahead. Cool session. An invitation, if there is want to meet this invitation to establish a Plainfield Housing Committee. This is in direct response to the many calls for action around exploring what are the other avenues that this town has to bring more housing online. It's been an off sited need, and so I, and I think others on this board that we have not discussed it feel it is an unfair burden to the East Village expansion advisory committee to also be handling what can be done with this hotel that's right here. What can be done with all the vacant houses are there, you know, interesting like town wide land trusts that could see collectives of people paying dues to a land trust that which is the maintenance fund for homes purchased by the trust. There are many, many, many possibilities here. Many have been already stated by many townfolk. And so this is a wondering that I'm bringing to the board and the town, if there is want to establish such a, such a committee, and we would be only too delighted to have more housing options coming online, and under greater diversity of housing options coming online. There is my introduction.

D Dan Fingas 51:47
Do you want? Would you like to address I

K Karl Bissex 51:51
had a public comment, but okay, I think it's, I think it's a great idea, and I don't know how formal it should be or needs to be, but we have a lot of empty houses in town, and that need work. We also have a loss of a lot of houses. So it's a it is a concern. The committee we just established is focused on one particular solution, but we have other ideas as well. We have Goddard is still moving forward with their fairly substantial rental possibilities, but we don't know yet how that will look. And we have, yeah, like you say, the hotel here. So I don't know. Should we get a reading from the crowd here? What whether

F Frances Rose 52:39
this is a good idea or this?

P Peter Youngbaer 52:43
I'm sorry, yeah, I think it's a good idea to have a group working on housing alternatives. We've been appointing a number of committees. So I worry about committee proliferation. In some respects. I would urge us to, if we establish this, to come up with a brief mission statement. I don't think it needs to be as comprehensive as the expansion, which is a huge project. But also maybe to put some timelines on it, to say, you know, could you produce a report by six months a year from now? You know, quarterly. You know some something that we give some skeleton to this. But also, you know some, you know, termination to set, you know, at a year from now, do we need to continue the committee? Because some of the sometimes, these things just drag on and, you know, we end up with another page in the town report that, you know, the timeliness has gone by. So I just want to share those thoughts.

D Dan Fingas 53:53
Okay, thank you. Yeah. I mean, obviously housing was the big issue in town, or one of the big issues in town. I would love for us to pull the broader than just the folks that decided to show up today, to be what the interest is. See if folks would want to volunteer, maybe we can figure out a structure based on who's actually interested and what kind of what it is. Or, you know, if people, if folks, just want to investigate very specific things, or if they want to have a more holistic look, I'll just note the backbone of a lot of the things we do, including these meetings and stuff, is limited for town. So every official committee we we put together, needs access to zero. Needs access to other things that we are pretty strained on our limits right now. So we'd have to probably invest in some more accounts or more other things. So just as a as a note,

K Karl Bissex 54:44

is the is the vision here to just have a discussion about it. I mean, it's, I'm also kind of with Peter about having another committee, a formal committee, and perhaps a discussion, you know, like on the 12th that you're planning, it's just a community discussion. Doesn't have to be board sanctioned,

F Frances Rose 55:07

but the board's interested. And I think the model here really is the East Village, the original steering group for the East Village expansion. This is informal collective of Plainfield residents and Plainfield supporters who came together to explore the feasibility of something and got really deep. You know, we are eight months, seven months into this exploration of depth, and now we are deciding to that there is a need to formalize this because, yeah, there's follow through that is growing in scope and owned responsibility. And so perhaps this could be an informal steering group, information gathering, exploratory Council, that if there is need to go deeper about any one or more of those projects that that need might be revealed through the explorations over the next, however many months, I see as a next step, certainly pulling this meeting right now, both online and in this room, if there is anyone who knows they might like to be A part of it, second front porch forum post, as Dan fingers did for the basically a forum questionnaire, who would like to be, who would like to be involved. To start, as Dan said, soliciting interest, who, who is a part of this conversation, who wants to be?

K Karl Bissex 56:55

That seems like a good first step to me.

D Dan Fingas 56:57

Michael, oh, sorry. Oh, no, no, that's right. I was, I was just going to know that Barack council for rural development had come to us again offering their services. That's one of the it might be on. This is on our next agenda, because they need to know by April 17 if they want to work with them. I wonder if this is the kind of project that would start much broader, that might be good for them, and as they hone in on like action steps, we can look at working groups from that so as a potential thought,

M Michael Billingsley 57:33

scary, I don't know, and they would, they would also help direct, yeah, they would facilitate, and, yeah, yeah. So it'd be a little bit more organized, and some of our meetings are Michael, I like the idea very much I shared and Peter's concerns about the committee going down over time, finding volunteers. I think VCR, I'm standing here and Dan mentioned the VCR. I think that's an awesome way to apply this idea, if they want to facilitate it. That would be a town function, but so I like the idea. And I'd also like to point out that even after all these months and all this heavy, intense work, there is always the possibility the project won't be realized. The budget may go too high to be paid for out of Lot sales, a number of environmental things could get in the way. Things should be ballooned. The Trump effect on costs could be big deal. There's a lot of reasons why it's possible that the envisioned project won't come to fruition, at

least in a timely way, and having alternatives already being explored, renovating their buildings, buying and developing other pieces of property, couple of which are already town owned. These are all possibilities and seven, what can we lose by exploring these things? Thank you. I agree. Who would be interested in talking to vcrd?

F

Frances Rose 59:41

We have the option of inviting them here for our next meeting on the 14th. They offered presents here. We can run this by them,

K

Karl Bissex 59:48

absolutely.

D

Dan Fingas 59:50

So that'd be a good time to Yeah. They Yeah. They did. Just let us know that making their decisions of which communities they're going to work with this year is April 17, they have to decide. So if we would did want to talk to them before our next meeting and then at our next meeting, we would need to invite them,

K

Karl Bissex 1:00:07

yeah, to to work with us. I'm thinking we want to talk to them before the meeting. For sure about this? Yeah, yeah. Okay.

F

Frances Rose 1:00:15

Who can do that? I'm in touch with VCR team. Okay, just so you could do that. I'm in touch with VCD. I can reach out about this. I'm curious if, yeah, I still would like names of people who could be interested in this council and project and or in that list to the vcrd, everyone's embedded, but just to make sure that the message is received by those who want it most,

J

Jared Birchmore 1:00:49

I think it's a great idea. I'm not volunteering, but I think it's a great idea. And I also think there are a lot of different directions that could have that came up so far, I'm thinking in the village extension project that we didn't have the time or energy to go down, that could be some potential leads directions. Oh, great. And VCR view was great. That even came up with what they offered at one point to talk more specifically about housing using their process, and so I think that I would imagine if they

S

Speaker 1 1:01:01

S Speaker 1 1:01:21
were interested. Thank you. Great. Thank you.

F Frances Rose 1:01:27
Yes, Michael,

M Michael Billingsley 1:01:32
I have a long standing interest in this, and I'm not saying this potential member I can sweep although I could be happy ways in which I hear the discussion about housing that could be exploited, that isn't being used, or housing potential Goddard, just from my perspective, and moving through the town so frequently, with regard to the post disaster displacements and such. I know I have personal connections with one of the property owners, actually in four properties, who is very much resisting improving or making housing available. I also I wanted three or four town people who are in regular connection with a daughter who has a fairly reasonable, realistic sense of what they're able to do over whatever this time frame. But it should be taken into account that the everyone who's asked for bio as an example that very knows won't necessarily want to be acceptable offer. So whether they were looking at open land where our house used to be, or whether they're looking at that housing use, again, I have insights by talking with those families, and I very least like to be in connection with this committee in charge of helping people understand the landscape of the house.

K Karl Bissex 1:03:06
Do we have any buddy online

F Frances Rose 1:03:16
Kirstie. Kirstie, no, she's got a text message which can be read, oh,

S Speaker 8 1:03:26
I can speak up. Hold on. The Plainfield Area Community Trust has spoken about addressing this issue a few times in some capacity. We would definitely need more volunteers and help to actually realize some type of movement on this but we have worked with vcrd and we've gone through the process of establishing ourselves as a 501, c3 so maybe that could

P Patti Jamele 1:04:01
be of use here. Great. Thank you, Alicia.

A Alicia White 1:04:00

A Alicia Weiss 1:04:09

Who is it? Alicia? Vt, so. Alicia, yeah, hi, thanks. Thank you for raising this Francis rose as someone who cares a lot about the preservation of our historic homes, and we know we've lost a number and are going to lose more in the demolition that goes with some of the buyouts, I see this as a really important prong of our town plan for re purposing some of those structures that are right now decaying, empty and not being put to the good housing use they can. So I'm not volunteering. I would like to hear more, but I'm definitely interested and

K Karl Bissex 1:04:54

support this strongly. You're getting a lot of agreement on the text, a lot

F Frances Rose 1:05:03

of agreement with no volunteers. So I think the next step is be certain, yeah, there's going to be an

K Karl Bissex 1:05:08

event. Keep your eyes up for it. Yeah, yeah. Keep just, keep paying attention. And if you're interested at all, even just to hear what it's about, we'll have to be organizing a meeting that will probably vcrd will do that. Okay,

P Patti Jamele 1:05:26

anything else on this?

K Karl Bissex 1:05:31

All right, the zoning amendment hearing is coming

D Dan Fingas 1:05:36

up, and I don't know what it is. Do you we have to set the date? Oh, we set the date. Okay? So, yes, please. So our planning, planning board has gone through a zoning hearing. They have now sent those zoning changes to us. We need to set a hearing. It must be more than 15 days from now, or more than 15 days when we can actually put it in the paper. So we're probably, realistically, maybe looking at our April 28 meeting to be the zoning hearing, because that will give us time to put the posting in the paper and other places we need to do it. It is for the changes that the planning commission discussed before the vote in March that weren't part of the original changes. And so there are a lot of cleanup and fixes, and they've had several meetings and hearing about it already, which you can find online. The changes themselves are

online in the Planning Commission's website, on our town website, and we just need to go through them as well and hear from the public about them, and then at some point we as a Select Board would be able to take

P

Peter Youngbaer 1:06:39

action on those zoning changes. You said that these are the changes that were given to us prior to the vote, early that and so there, they have not made any further amendments, or no proposed amendments to that, I asked, Will Colgan sent out a couple of email a little bit there? I know he's on on here, but he sent out a couple of things, which I frankly found confusing to read. You know, it's like, Are there new amendments? Are we talking about the old amendment? So if you could clarify that would be good.

S

Speaker 9 1:07:16

Yeah, they're essentially the same. Amendments. What I did was I incorporated them into the draft so they're a little clearer.

T

Bram Towbin 1:07:28

You use the word essentially,

P

Peter Youngbaer 1:07:31

yeah, they exactly the

S

Speaker 9 1:07:33

same, or are they? Well, the original document I sent to you mentioned that the there should be a 30% limit on the on the amount of lots in a subdivision that could be a 10th of an acre or larger. And I just so it's essentially the same language, but I think it's clear the meaning is 30% of the lots in a major subdivision can be a 10th of an acre or larger, and then,

P

Peter Youngbaer 1:08:09

well, I understand the substance of what you're saying. I'm looking for the legal language is, has it been proposed? Or do we have to get new legal language from you

W

Will Colgan 1:08:23

to warn, because we know the period, yeah, the language that's in the draft is, is the language that is in the warning and is, is this is the language that you can hold a hearing on and approve.

D

Dan Fingas 1:08:38

Thank you. Okay, and for folks who want to follow along on our website, if you go, I think it's actually on the front page of our website, planning commission front page. It's on our front page proposed zoning amendments. So there's a simpler document that just lists the changes. I don't know how many there are. Looks like about 10, but it may be less than that. And then there's a document that says full zoning document with amendments in red. And if you click on that PDF, if you like, scroll down to page nine, for example, there's a new section called adaptive reuse, and there's the new language. And so anything that's in red on that document is new to

P

Peter Youngbaer 1:09:17

the planning to the zoning rules, will another question. So let's say we hold the hearing, we want to hear him, and we get some comments there, and we might want to make changes, as select board

W

Will Colgan 1:09:32

authorized to do that, the term is minor changes, you know if, and I'm not sure what that threshold is, if, if the changes are substantive, then the the process would start you, you would send it back to the planning commission.

P

Peter Youngbaer 1:09:52

So for example, if I'm looking at the list of nine or 10 changes that not the actual document, the red stuff, but the suggested changes with some bullet points. Let's say there are, how many of these, let's say we didn't like or a lot the public gave us comments saying we like them all except this one. Would eliminating

W

Will Colgan 1:10:12

one of them be a minor change, and we could do that, I guess it depends on the one. If you wanted to eliminate a definition that would make the document less clear, I guess you can do that. But if you wanted to say change the 30% to 10% or 70% that would be sort of a significant policy change. You see what I mean.

K

Karl Bissex 1:10:44

So it sounds like we are going to get onto the maybe next meetings agenda,

F

Frances Rose 1:10:52

the announcement of april 28

D Dan Fingas 1:10:54

This is the announcement. We're announcing it right now. We don't, I mean, we don't have to, but we wait to meet in two weeks, then we'll have to do it 15 days. Possible,

F Frances Rose 1:11:03

even longer, right? I'd like to make a motion. Okay, let's make a motion that we announce the hearing to receive the zoning amendments to our zoning by laws. April 28 our regular Select Board meeting.

K Karl Bissex 1:11:30

Is there a second? Oh, second. Any discussion. Second,

D Dan Fingas 1:11:38

all those in favor say, aye,

P Patti Jamele 1:11:39

aye.

K Karl Bissex 1:11:45

Okay, so we'll get that on the agenda for that, for that meeting, thank you. Will, Thanks Will. Thank you. Okay, we're down to the any Kcb discussion of the letter, and our representative is on. He joined us early, so

D Dan Fingas 1:12:14

come back on please. Yes,

K Karl Bissex 1:12:16

he's right up there next to us. Yeah, I can't read his name. Jeremy, Matt. Jeremy, okay. Jeremy,

J Jeremy Matt 1:12:22

Hi everyone. I'm the Plainfield delegate to any case. CV used to be called a CV fiber, until we merged, for those of you who don't know very briefly, we're a communication union district, which means that we're a nonprofit dedicated to bringing universal broadband access to everywhere in our Member towns. The this item is about the Select Board signing a letter of support for the Federal bead grant program in support of any case, CVS application to that program. This is, in my opinion, probably plainfield's best opportunity to get fiber to all of our underserved addresses. There just aren't other funding sources out there. In general. For the letter, I would recommend that the Select Board agree to sign the letter, and, you know, obviously happy to help revise it if there are any any sticking points with what I sent over earlier, but I guess I see it as potentially a huge benefit for the town of Plainfield, in that we could get lots of money for expanding broadband to people that currently don't have it, and signing the letter is no cost to the town. So that's all I have

K

Karl Bissex 1:13:56

to say, but happy to answer any questions. Okay, you kicked out a little bit there when you're talking about who this grant would go to, and is it, is it for the underserved? Is that what you said, is that what you said,

J

Jeremy Matt 1:14:14

correct? Yes, the grant is specifically to get to the 208 some odd addresses in Plainfield who do not have broadband Internet access and apologize for things dropping out that just kind of highlights the need for better internet. I guess Starlink is letting me down here,

D

Dan Fingas 1:14:39

but yeah,

J

Jeremy Matt 1:14:42

you know it would cover. It would cover building other areas, but only to get to the underserved. To get the rest of the way there, we would have to find other money. But the more grant money we have, and the more we can build using grant money, the faster we can get built out to everyone.

K

Karl Bissex 1:15:10

Does that make sense?

D

Dan Fingas 1:15:11

Yes, thank you. I mean this evening now, brain arts, the broadband equity access and deployment grant, seems like something with if we have 208 underserved households in

Plainfield, we can get money from the state to help them get broadband.

P Patti Jamele 1:15:27
I don't know why we wouldn't support

D Dan Fingas 1:15:34
this. Oh yeah, yes, here I can motion to have the town of Plainfield Selectboard sign on to a support letter for any k CV in their application for the broadband equity access and deployment grants and allow, to sign on behalf,

K Karl Bissex 1:16:00
second moved and seconded any discussion all those in favor of signing, having me sign the letter. Say, aye, aye,

P Patti Jamele 1:16:10
aye.

S Speaker 5 1:16:14
All right, we got it. We got it. So,

D Dan Fingas 1:16:19
so Jeremy, thank you very much, Jeremy. I don't know if you can get a dated letter that also has just Carl's name as chair of his left board at the bottom, and it actually says town of Plainfield in the bottom part, and we'll just have him sign on behalf of the Select Board.

J Jeremy Matt 1:16:42
Okay, sounds good.

K Karl Bissex 1:16:45
You can send that to the town clerk. I'll find it there.

J Jeremy Matt 1:16:51

Okay, sounds good. Thank you very

P

Patti Jamele 1:16:52

much. Thanks.

K

Karl Bissex 1:16:59

Okay. Response to Vermont Community Foundation offered for engineering services. Discussion.

F

Frances Rose 1:17:12

Do you want to say something about that. This is the Vermont Community Foundation has often the town of Plainfield a sum of \$150,000 in the form of an unsecured loan for the purpose of continuing the the journey from the schematic design, where these expansion is at now, to construction design, what, specifically, where, specifically how, wide through what right of ways. There's a lot of professional expertise, consultation services required to do this next step, this next phase of exploration for this, the Vermont Community Foundation has offered us a loan that if the project does not go forward, we are not obligated to pay back the \$150,000 as a testament to their belief in the seeing about it, at least this, yeah, this is a risk. They know this is a risk. They are, like, comfortable with the risk of the process. And so this is what we are here to discuss.

D

Dan Fingas 1:18:39

Any thoughts. I know, we had some brief conversation at the last meeting about whether we could do this loan or not. Since then, we've gotten some more information that under 24 VSA 1786, a it allows the borrowing to pay current expenses, including capital expenses, and so a capital asset could be a current expense. So it seems like this is something that we are allowable to do under state law, according to the advice

P

Peter Youngbaer 1:19:13

that we're given being given, Okay, couple of questions, the last formal document that I've seen, and if there have been something since this, was from the Community Foundation, from Lawrence Miller dress to area. About this proposal, unsecured, 12 months loan up 250,000 with 2% interest and a bullet maturity when the balloon payment at the end, no payments during the term, with principal and interest due at the end of the term. Now this is a letter. This isn't the actual document, and so procedurally, I have a question about whether we will have a second vote on the actual document once we see the actual document. This seems to me, this is a proposal with certain conditions, including the conditions include final due diligence approved by the select Order town vote is needed, determination of a reasonable approach to disclosure or other resolution of the municipal ethics consideration relative to the town clerk

being the seller, progress toward a defendant, purchase and sales agreement with the seller and satisfactory bid responses. That's a big, long list of and I just, you know, I don't think we're being asked tonight to vote on the loan. So I'm curious as to what we are actually being asked to vote. My

F Frances Rose 1:20:50

understanding is at the end of this conversation kind of both is that there is a motion to receive the loan documents from the Vermont Community Foundation. So we have we so we have the specificity of detail that is needed

P Peter Youngbaer 1:21:04

to improve that or not. Do we need a motion to accept that?

D Dan Fingas 1:21:10

Can't they just send it? I don't think they're going to create the loan document unless

F Frances Rose 1:21:15

the word at all interested. I'm happy to give them our

D Dan Fingas 1:21:19

vote of Yes, yeah. Why would they

P Peter Youngbaer 1:21:21

wouldn't create the document unless they had a word. And then we review, review the document, once we get it right. Okay, that's fine. Yeah, that's fine. I do have a question, and this goes back to my earlier investigation of the proposed bond vote for town meeting and conversations with Eli about some of the Vermont statutes regarding how we have to handle any financial instrument like that in terms of our town budget And our town tax rate, this would be a loan that's doing a year \$150,000 it's currently not in our budget for next year. Would we have to have a concurrent motion to amend our budget and increase it by 150,000 in order to pay it back?

P Patti Jamele 1:22:15

We ask our treasurer didn't he may not know.

- F** Frances Rose 1:22:21
Perhaps I'm now wondering, transparently, if this can be paid back with the two and a half million dollar bond. Should the town vote to approve the bond? I see Aaron coming to answer that question, and if not, this is the unsecured moment. Here's
- J** Jared Birchmore 1:22:36
Aaron. If the intention, as I understand it, from the Vermont Community Foundation, is if the town intends to move forward with the village extension project, this would be rolled into that larger line and effectively refinance that time with the larger vote that would be a public vote. Does that answer
- P** Peter Youngbaer 1:22:57
the question? Yeah. Hopefully they will write that in the language of the of the Yeah. I'm sure we, I'm sure it's to be requested, right? But, but if, if we, if that does not go ahead, we're still on the hook for \$150,000 which isn't in our budget. It's really a question,
- S** Speaker 10 1:23:17
do we amend our budget to cover that? The intention is to forgive the loan
- P** Patti Jamele 1:23:22
if the project doesn't go forward?
- D** Dan Fingas 1:23:26
Okay, I guess we'll have to look at that language. So so it from conversations with the marketing foundation, they see it going to with one of two ways, right? We don't move forward with the project, and loan is forgiven. We do move forward with the project, and it's wrapped into two and a half nine. That's my
- K** Karl Bissex 1:23:43
understanding. Okay, thank you for the clarity.
- S** Speaker 6 1:23:48
So it sounded like gotta say your name. Oh, I'm sorry. Liz peralt,

L Liz 1:23:54

so my question about this is it sounded like there's a laundry list of things that the committee, the expansion committee, had to, like, check off, like we had to do all these different things within the gear, and if it all fails, then the year, then we're off the boat. So just knowing how things move sometimes, what if something doesn't get checked off the list, and then we are on the hook, and potentially the project doesn't go forward for whatever reason, and so we still so there's definitely a risk of not meeting their requirements to not be obligated to pay that loan back, even if the

F Frances Rose 1:24:44

project is not withhold.

K Karl Bissex 1:24:47

Okay, I think I heard the other thing, which was, if it doesn't go forward, the loan doesn't have to get paid back.

J Jared Birchmore 1:24:53

Am I correct there as was I mean, just to repeat that informal conversation, Lawrence Miller said to me, if the Vermont Community Foundation has the largest philanthropic organization in state, Vermont, when the business of suing small towns,

T Bram Towbin 1:25:09

they wouldn't be where they are today. I

D Dan Fingas 1:25:18

I love doing a motion that we ask. Frances rose, no, you don't get to tell me to hold on. It's fine. You can talk after me. There's discussion. I can still make a motion. Make a motion to add Francis rose, ask for creation of the loan documents so that we can review them and have a fuller sense of what this loan will or will not be before we make a decision.

K Karl Bissex 1:25:42

Second, second, any discussion.

D Doug Weinrich 1:25:49

Would you like to do? It just makes sense that before you and I believe it's the same thing. Just

would you like to do. It just makes sense that before you and I believe it's the same thing, just saying, Get the document. It's okay to request the document, get the document, so you're not relying on third hand information. Yeah, three different people. As far as, Do we really have to pay it back? Do we not have

M

Michael Billingsley 1:26:12

to pay it back? What are the conditions? Yeah, I think that's what this vote is, is to allow that document to come to the to us for review. Just Fair enough. Yep. Any discussion on the board, okay, Michael, just add, I want to ask a question again, the engineering that's going to be paid for this month, is that predetermined? Is the steering committee already recommended that certain? Or is this going to be decided later by the advisory, and then I'd like to answer in a second. And the other thing I wanted to add was I know that at least two numbers that selected were familiar with this, but I'm not sure all the study board is familiar with the fact that these silver properties falls in the water source protection area for the town's and it is possible that engineering will be required to deal with that issue, and I don't know if that's been addressed yet. It's an important issue because any any pollution that goes downhill into the wetlands and then migrates a new aquifer to village water supply. Check, jeopardize that water supply. So that has to be protected, yeah, and I'll just finish, there is a village, town water supply. I forget the proper terminology, water source protection plan that exists now, and it mentions that no development is expected in that area, and the plan is now expired because it was supposed to be renewed on March 22 it's every three years. So these are things that aren't directly related to what you're voting on, but I thought it was important for you to know that the engineering implemented able to address decisions. I'm personally aware of this issue, and I'm looking forward to the committee to study that,

D

Dan Fingas 1:28:51

because it's going to be an issue, and we've already had the Mary lane, who's one of the water wastewater commissioners, already volunteered to be a liaison to the village expansion Advisory Committee for I'm guessing there'll be a working group related to this issue that she will be a liaison with

K

Karl Bissex 1:29:08

the water and wastewater department on and I also talked to Tristan, who understands this as well, and he's with some conditions. He's comfortable with the tentative plans that are out there, but this definitely has to be researched.

P

Peter Younbaer 1:29:29

Just an answer to the question about the engineering firms, I my hope would be that and that the mission statement that we gave to the expansion committee is that they will bring those RFPs and recommendations to the Select Board, but the Select Board will make the decision on those contracts. Okay, we have a motion and a second on the floor. Is there any other discussion? All those in favor say aye. Aye Opposed. Okay, it's unanimous. And we will then ask for that documentation for the



1:30:14

I believe that I would ask, so I will ask, yeah, yeah, yeah.



Karl Bissex 1:30:20

You will ask, okay, okay, we have requests for proposals engineering services regarding the village expansion. Did we cover? Oh, just cover this. No,



Patti Jamele 1:30:35

okay, go ahead. Sandy, hi. Sandy Vinton and I have been preparing an RFP for engineering services following Plainfield protocol, and it would be for phase two services. It would be issued tomorrow, and the response period would be next. Deadline would be on the 14th, 14th of April, which is your next regular meeting. And so my hope would be that you would hear back and decided about the loan as a first step before considering the responses for the engineers proposal. Want to be clear that the proposal is going to be focused on the design and comes right.



Karl Bissex 1:31:49

So



Patti Jamele 1:31:52

that's by no means fixed in the documents were in the contract, and it's specifically to develop after this design is set permit documents and contract documents to establish a bid for contractors to do the construction. Any questions? Do these RFP documents exist and look at Yes, I submitted them. We received them. Yeah, they arrived by email this evening. Yeah, I submitted a rough draft last week.



Karl Bissex 1:32:42

Okay, and the any responses to these? RFPs, they're due on the 14th, but that's our meeting, so we won't have any time to look at them.



Patti Jamele 1:32:54

Do I? I hesitated to ask for a special meeting on the 21st which would be another option. The as it is, they would have less than two weeks to respond, which is a little tight for engineers, but they will do this. So the idea is that they would be due at 10 o'clock in the morning on Monday the 14th, to give them a maximum amount of time, and that the responses would be sent to

you directly. And I have been emailing things to two people because I don't, I don't want to violate the information whatever open meeting notes, so I would be happy to send them to all five staff board members on the 14th. If I'm allowed to do that,

P Peter Youngbaer 1:33:49

I would just say that those of us who work full time to receive something at 10 o'clock on the morning of the day. You're asking us to do a technical document that is not realistic. And I know we're in a transition period between the steering committee and the expansion group here, but there are a number of areas here where I think we need to take a beat and bring these activities in under this group as quickly as possible. And I know that the people I talked to and interviewed for membership in this committee, many of them said I asked them a specific question, what are the first two most important steps in this committee? And most of the people responded, responded with to get everyone on the same page, enough to speed as possible, particularly with figures, and secondly, to have a timetable developed out there. That's what I heard from most of the people that I talked to, and so I would hope that the expansion committee takes that to heart as they move forward and figures out the best way to pull you in under the umbrella of that committee, which would then advise us as a Select Board As to the steps we need to vote on to have RFPs being issued that we have not read yet on a deadline to come back on morning that I'm going to be working full time, I think Dan will be working full time. I can't speak to the others here on that particular day. Is not fair to us, and it's not fair to attend. So I'll just leave it at that, because I don't have an answer to it, except I'm bothered by it. Sorry if I not offended by it. I'm just saying, you know, it's not realistic

D Dan Fingas 1:35:55

and Sandy just I'm trying to look at my email. Sorry, I'm trying to look at my email. Did you send these documents to Carl and Francis rose? Yeah, yeah, yeah. But the rest of the board, well, yeah, because we have told people to send stuff to you all to disseminate, rather than having emails that have all of us on them, right? So I don't know if that you all have disseminated those

S Speaker 4 1:36:15

documents. I have. I'm bouncing.

F Frances Rose 1:36:21

So they had it a week ago. We just didn't have it. Whatever. The final copy arrived tonight. Okay? I think this returns us to the matter of the special meeting on the 21st i i agree that the proposals coming in the morning of our meeting presents an impossible challenge for the breath of this board to understand what is in those documents by batting them. And so I ask my fellow board members if there is willingness to post a special meeting on the 21st to talk about these proposals coming in,

K Karl Bissex 1:37:29
I'm sorry, you're out of town, right? I'm out of town, so I won't be on the 14th. I'd be here on the 21st Oh, I thought you were away on the 21st

D Dan Fingas 1:37:38
Oh, wait, I am, yeah, I am away. I can make the 21st

S Speaker 2 1:37:44
working. If we had at least three this we did threes, right?

P Patti Jamele 1:37:50
It's a Monday. It's a Monday.

D Dan Fingas 1:37:53
So four of us could make it, so we'll just need to remember the one after

S Speaker 11 1:37:58
our 14 community Okay, and

D Dan Fingas 1:38:04
do so. So we've got that decided, but now we're still in the position of,

K Karl Bissex 1:38:09
do we approve on RSP tonight? We haven't seen it.

P Patti Jamele 1:38:22
Oh, yeah, go ahead.

S Speaker 5 1:38:31
What? John, so one of the things like you could do is say you can send out this RFP. The committee that you're setting up can choose to reject the proposals, but, you know, you can

keep this process moving, but you still have to get the proposals bad. The RFP is saying, you know, the proposal is the important piece. The RFP is not. And we're just saying we want proposals. And that's just like the first step. So I don't think it necessarily is a detriment to like the process as a whole, to say, yeah, the proposal can go out. You know, the requests can go out without you know necessarily you're not, I don't think you're locked into accepting.

K Karl Bissex 1:39:23

I'll say, Josh Speaks my mind. Thank you. And I would say that this board's not really in a position to tell you what should be in the RFP. So I think Josh makes a good point. Go ahead, there is a

P Patti Jamele 1:39:42

period to make changes column made in the RFU, and amendments are due to candidate by April 10. So one suggestion I could respectfully make is that this Select Board could have ability to review this facility, and if I can issue it and at their leisure, work on any concerns they have. It's a pretty standard RFP. It's very similar to the one issue for the first phase. It just goes through a brief description of the project so far, Visa timeline for the project, which matches the one that I've circulated a couple times, and describes the deliverables, and then it describes the selection process, and well, the proposal details and the selection process, and because a grant may be applied for. It's qualifying for the state of Vermont to ensure that all of the details of the submission match the state's details. And I'd like

F Frances Rose 1:41:13

to make a motion that we approve the request for proposals to go out for phase two engineering services for the East Village expansion project. We have a second. We have a second

K Karl Bissex 1:41:34

further discussion, I tend to agree with Josh that sending out an RFP is there's no risk to the town. What we have to decide is when those come back and decide if it's actually what we are asked for, and what we feel can be supported. So I'll vote in favor of this. So anyway, all those in favor say, aye, aye. Those opposed, unanimous. So send out the RFP and and do be sensitive to the time of the people that are working right when you're

D Dan Fingas 1:42:17

sending them out, if you would. This brings me to a question I should have asked we have when we were doing the appointments, we have appointed 11 people, some of them are here, and some are not. Who's going to reach out to them? And I know the Select Board is, is we put it in the in the mission and stuff that we would be calling the first meeting at the committee who is going to be taking on that task for the Select Board?

F

Frances Rose 1:42:42

I have been the liaison. I'm happy to continue being the liaison. What it said was that Select Board would attend that meeting and not that we would schedule that meeting. I do believe there has already been a proposed date and time for that first meeting. I don't actually know what it is there.

D

Dan Fingas 1:43:02

I think that date and time is last week, when they thought we were pointing last Monday. From my memories, I don't know that there is an actual date time. I do think there's there are no co chairs to the committee yet, and so, like, there's no one to actually open a committee meeting other than us, so I think we'll probably have to have somewhat of a hand in figuring out from the 11 folks when they can meet, being there, having a Select Board Member facilitate the meeting, do elections of the chairs, and then those three chairs can take it from there. I think, like you think we need to have those steps, and I'm happy to help with

P

Patti Jamele 1:43:35

it, but if you've got it, you're welcome. You're welcome.

J

Jared Birchmore 1:43:39

Yes sir Jared, or more, I was just going to throw out there that I believe you all have the emails from the sign up sheet. So potentially, either Dan, if, if this is something that you're able to do, making an email thread with yourself, any other Select Board members that want to be on that, and then the 11 that have been appointed to try to narrow down on a date and time, and that way everyone can be all in one thread that might be

K

Karl Bissex 1:44:10

a good way to move forward. Good idea. Thank you.

D

Dan Fingas 1:44:15

Are you willing to do that? Yeah, and

K

Karl Bissex 1:44:18

I'll have friends. Throws on, yeah.

J Jared Birchmore 1:44:18

Okay, thank you. Yeah, that's good, uh. Plan clarification around the proposal to reflect work circulated for living. Advisory committee that was there was a, as I read it, if I read it correctly, three co chairs. There could be some. I remember when I spoke with Peter, actually, this morning. I said, you know, how is there a vision of how that might work, and just some clarification on that?

D Dan Fingas 1:44:45

Thank you. And I think the vision was, rather than having one head to the committee, that there would be three. I think the three of them would work then on agenda setting together and facilitation. So I think you those three folks would decide, you know, I mean the same person to facilitate every meeting, if that's what the co chairs want, but that there would be a discussion by those three folks to set the committee meeting agendas, notify the other committee members and act in that way, rather than putting it

K Karl Bissex 1:45:13

on any one person. Okay, I guess the next item is going to be approval of minutes. I've read through these and they look accurate. We have a motion to accept the minutes.

F Frances Rose 1:45:45

Make a motion to approve separate meeting minutes. Date, Monday, March,

K Karl Bissex 1:45:50

24 2025, seconds, all those in favor say aye, aye, thank you. We no longer have to approve permits for tax. That's helpful. Do we have some Lawrence? Yeah, we have accounts table and payroll. We have the details here for those.

S Speaker 5 1:46:25

We have the last minutes we're here. Just left nothing. Oh, and tell us what we did last time I

D Dan Fingas 1:46:39

yeah, I don't want to do so we did up until 320 Yeah, up until 320 so anything that's in there Post March

P Patti Jamele 1:46:47

20, we will do here. Who's going to but

P Peter Youngbaer 1:46:57

I asked the minutes question. Well, yeah, so we're getting, I think, three different versions of minutes at this point of getting a AI, yeah, we're getting an AI, we're getting a transcript, and then we're getting the minutes. And I just point out, got an email from Riley Carlson the other day about this, that Vermont statutes do require our minutes to contain certain things, like, who was there? Exact wordings of motions, exact votes, etc, the transcript and AI stuff is not capturing that. And I'm just wondering if we need all of those vehicles. I personally rarely read the AI

D Dan Fingas 1:47:50

thing, quite frankly. So my understanding of the AI thing, which is just recording everything that said is, so I create notes as we go, which is mostly what this looks like. But it doesn't always have everything, because there's lots going on. And so before, when Kristen was was the administrator assistant, she would then go along with the video and take

P Peter Youngbaer 1:48:12

additional notes, right?

D Dan Fingas 1:48:14

Which is an actual thing, yeah, yeah. So then the AI notes, I think, are supposed to be just an assistance there, because it actually has everything down too. I think the idea and this, this is what Bram sent out, was for him to just augment my notes with some more details where I may have lacked. But I because this is he sent this. But the AI notes, I think are just like full transcripts. I don't know that maybe you're posting those, but I think they would, they help in creating notes, or if there's a question of what happened in that conversation I was doing the recording.

P Patti Jamele 1:48:45

But this is also there too.

S Speaker 6 1:48:49

Just pick a suggestion, just because

K Karl Bissex 1:48:52

having to live in the world, can we use the mic? Sorry,

S Speaker 6 1:49:01

maybe a helpful suggestion, because I live in the world of minutes, unfortunately, struggling with the same thing, transcripts and AI and all that. So what we do is use the, you know, the assistant tools, which is the transcript and AI, and then we have as and we have to keep those because, you know, when, if somebody wants a public records request, they have, we have to produce that as well. They believe, because it's recorded. But your official minutes can be diffusion of human AI and transcript, which is the what you should only, I suggest as a board, you look at one document, and that is your one set of minutes that you are saying, yes, we agree to this, the rest is backup. You keep those records or any future

D Dan Fingas 1:50:00

legal stock. Yeah, I agree with that. And I think we just maybe need to ask Bram to not post the two AI pieces to website, because they are confusing. And if you just yeah on them, they're confusing. And I we are taking least you can tell what happened in the notes I take. If it needs more detail.

K Karl Bissex 1:50:19

Bram or someone else in the office can add that in, and we have a new employee coming on next week, starts on the sevens, just Jesse, Jamie. Jamie, sorry, I've seen both names. That's what's confusing. I don't know why. What's their name? H, A, M, M, A, C, K, yeah, it's spelled a little differently, but my thought is that that person may be able to do the fusion that's necessary to create one document that

F Frances Rose 1:50:52

then is published. I would like to ask that person, Jamie, to do that. Yeah, but my intention is to ask game for Jamie's assistance with the minutes. Yeah, it is clearly a realm where we need support, yeah, and Bram needs support, and we have to do it. They're recording into the office at a

S Speaker 2 1:51:09

perfect time to help us. Yeah, so we can talk to Bram and

F Frances Rose 1:51:15

that person and I have dates on accounts payable, yep, I can use the mic to make a motion to approve payroll dated 327, and accounts payable dated 321, and 328,

K Karl Bissex 1:51:34
second, all those in favor say aye. Aye Opposed. Okay, and next meeting is going to be on

D Dan Fingas 1:51:47
April 14. What about the isn't there a hearing or something on the seventh so was Riley's question about the

P Peter Youngbaer 1:51:58
two different postings.

D Dan Fingas 1:52:01
Sharon Hatcher, it's a loan hearing

P Patti Jamele 1:52:03
or see a grant here.

D Dan Fingas 1:52:06
Oh, you were in these

F Frances Rose 1:52:07
house. I know you were, but it's not on my calendar, but I you are. Is that that's not a Select Board meeting, but the Selectboard

P Peter Youngbaer 1:52:16
has to be there post the hearing. It's a public key. Yes, is on the

J Jared Birchmore 1:52:21
sixth time in here. I'm sorry Karen Hatcher had formally requested the seventh as a grant for a community



S Speaker 5 1:52:27
development block grant proposal. Hearing.

P Patti Jamele 1:52:32
Is this a Select Board hearing?

F Frances Rose 1:52:34
I think it has to be

D Dan Fingas 1:52:37
consent in that sense, within

K Karl Bissex 1:52:40
the hearing warning, but I'm

D Dan Fingas 1:52:41
pretty sure that it

P Peter Youngbaer 1:52:43
is. Yeah, it's CDBG funds,

J Jared Birchmore 1:52:47
but it's called something else. It is a planning grant, a CD Community Development Block Grant, planning grant, not to be confused with the municipal planning grant,

F Frances Rose 1:52:57
which we did not apply for. Yeah, it does. It does appear there's a public hearing on April 7, 2025, and we probably ought be there.

D Dan Fingas 1:53:09
And it's what's the name of it? And since you have that pulled up, it's the CB, GB.

F Frances Rose 1:53:15
This is the community

J Jared Birchmore 1:53:17
develop, Community Development Block Grant, planning grant. And there is a paper copy of the town clerk's office, and I think there's a digital copy. That's the

S Speaker 5 1:53:26
Draft feature that Swigert

F Frances Rose 1:53:35
planning Vermont planning grant under the bonds Community Development Program.

S Speaker 12 1:53:42
Yeah. So, I guess the question is, planning grant that uses CDBG funds, yeah. So, I guess the question is, do we need yet another meeting? I mean, we already have, oh, we have already

F Frances Rose 1:53:54
we've already announced this. We've already noticed.

K Karl Bissex 1:53:55
Okay, six o'clock, okay, six o'clock, okay, six o'clock, April 7 and Monday.

D Dan Fingas 1:54:05
I, you all know, by email, but

P Peter Youngbaer 1:54:08
I, I'm in DC next year, so I will not be here for that, right? Not be here. I will, I will be here for that, but I won't be here if that's Peter. I said, I might be able to get the end of that by zoom, but okay, not

F Frances Rose 1:54:20
the first hour or anything. Okay, I can make it patty.

K Karl Bissex 1:54:22
Okay, so it sounds like it's patty. You can be three of us anyway, and then

D Dan Fingas 1:54:26
if you could join, that'd be great. And it seems like

K Karl Bissex 1:54:29
connecting with Karen on the agenda for that meeting, like I'll talk to Karen I'm in touch, Okay,
motion to adjourn. Okay, we have our two leading set right, seventh and 814,

S Speaker 5 1:54:42
okay. All entertain a motion to adjourn. I just voted

D Dan Caddy 1:54:49
it and seconded

K Karl Bissex 1:54:53
all those in favor say aye, aye.

P Patti Jamele 1:54:56
Thank you, folks, thank you.

K Karl Bissex 1:55:02
I think so yeah, most of them go on that. Yeah, we're getting a second one. It'll hold

D Dan Fingas 1:55:11
that expert to is it about the lighting? Yeah, she's already asked and you're trying to get. We're

that export to is it about the lighting? Yeah. She's already asked and you're trying to get. We're looking into getting

F Frances Rose 1:55:19
brighter lights and part of it is the movement. No.

S Speaker 12 1:55:25
Okay, we're gonna close. Yes.