Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 26, 2024

In attendance: Selectboard Chair Howard Hall, Selectboard Vice-Chair Teresa Boucher, Selectboard Member Zach Weaver, Kathy Kennett, Charles Kennett, Richard Jackson, Jeanne Jackson, Skip Masback, Sharon Ashcraft
Via Zoom: Bob Groff, Jamie Dayton, Chris Wyckoff

1. Howard called the meeting to order 5:30 p.m.
2. Additions/deletions to the agenda
    a. None.
3. Approval of minutes of the November 12, 14, and 18 Selectboard meeting minutes.
    a. Zach moved that minutes of the November 12 and 14 minutes be approved. Teresa seconded. Approved. The minutes from the November 18 meeting were not available online so could not be approved. They will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
4. Review of budget to actual report
    a. The committee reviewed the report but had no questions.
5. Review/approval of accounts payable warrant, timesheets & payroll warrant.
    a. After careful review of both packets, Howard moved that the warrants be approved as is. Teresa seconded. Approved.
6. Emergency Management Coordinator's report
    a. Bob Groff reported on the difficult weather recently and said he has been keeping the public informed with Front Porch Forum posts.
    b. He and Rick Cloutier are finalizing the FEMA request for this summer's floods. It is nearing completion and will be submitted very soon.
    c. At the last Regional EMC meeting it was decided that local emergency planning will use a new template for planning that has been developed at the state level. He has not yet seen that template.
    d. Howard commented on the wonderful job Bob has been doing.
7. Communications
    a. Howard moved that Donna Oliver, assistant clerk, be approved for a business credit card. Teresa seconded. Approved.
    b. Howard moved to approve a full background check for the new hire. Teresa seconded. Approved. This will cost approximately $100.

8. Public comment
    a. Kathy Kennett commented that the board needs to do its best to rein in salary and benefits expenses. We need to see a comparison of salaries and benefits to other towns in the area. Howard stated that Mr. Moulton noted earlier that equipment operators get about $45/hour and Rick and Jeff don't make that much.
    b. Richard Jackson asked that the board investigate the agreement we have with Waltham for use of our salt and sand. We do not receive any reimbursement for that.
    c. Sharon Ashcraft commented that our goal should be to reduce our budget. This has not been clearly stated at budget meetings.
    d. Kathy also asked about the status with Vergennes Rescue after the last meeting. Howard reported they are improving their performance. He is still working on membership of the new board that is being created.

9. Howard made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Teresa. The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Oliver
Assistant Clerk