Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 10, 2023

In Attendance: Selectboard Chair Howard Hall, Selectboard Vice Chair Teresa Boucher, Selectboard Member Zach Weaver, Emergency Management Coordinator Bob Groff, Town Clerk & Treasurer, Maggie McCormick

Via Zoom: Town Advisor Sandy Fogg

1) Howard called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2) Additions/deletions to agenda: None.

3) Approval of the minutes of the May 22, 2023 and June 26, 2023 Selectboard meeting
   a) Zach moved to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2023 Selectboard meeting. Howard seconded. All in favor; the motion passed. W, HH AIF
   b) Teresa moved to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2023 Selectboard meeting. Howard seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

4) Emergency Management Coordinator's Report
   a) Flooding
      i) Panton area spared most of the flood issues that surrounding areas are facing
      ii) Governor declared statewide state of emergency
      iii) This rain event is expected to last three or four days. Irene which was a single day.
   b) Blue-green algae in the lake. Humans and pets should stay out of the water.
   c) Air quality continues to be poor due to wildfires in Canada.
   d) Panton's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is being held up by Green Mountain Power.

5) Preliminary Tax Rate
   a) Treasurer reviewed EOY budget numbers
      i) Some revenue lines were greater than expected.
      ii) Administrative expenses were 2.42% over budget.

iii) Highway expenses were 7.88% under budget.
iv) Total expenditures were 2,73 % under budget.

b) Tax rate calculation 0.6869
c) Discussion of assessment of properties with improvements not previously assessed.
   i) With contracted assessor acting as lister, all properties with permits will be inspected following the close of the property tax year on April 1 each year.
d) Discussion of having more frequent reappraisals and more money allocated to reappraisal fund through annual voted appropriation.

Teresa moved to set the 2023 tax rate at 0.6869. Zach seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

6) Determine stakeholders, set meeting for possible Zoning changes
   a) The clerk noted that the organization of the current zoning regulations is not user-friendly. The DRB/PC is not looking to change the current regulations
   b) The Zoning Administrator and Clerk-Treasurer recommend combining the permit application fee and the certificate of occupancy (COO) fee into a single fee paid with the first application. No fee amounts will change.

Zach moved to combine the COO fee with the original permit fee. Teresa seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

7) Arnold Bay
   a) Parking on beach
      i) Reviewed complaint from July 4, 2023.

8) Land records indexing
   a) Post land records indexing opportunity on the Town website and three bulletin boards for two weeks.
   b) The project is approved for not more than 50 hours at $24/hour.

9) Public Comment: None.

10) Communications
   a) Turkey Lane survey stakes
      i) Seth Kittredge cannot find some of the existing markers. He and Rick will stake the ROW together.
   b) Exterior painting of Town Hall
      i) Glenn Bostic of VT Exterior Painting is about half finished.

11) Review/approval of accounts payable warrant, timesheets & payroll warrant
    a) Teresa moved to accept the timesheets and warrants. Zach seconded. All in favor; the motive passed.

12) Executive session to discuss personnel matters
    a) Howard moved to enter executive session. Teresa seconded. All in favor; the board entered executive session at 6:30 p.m.
    b) Teresa moved to enter executive session. Howard seconded. All in favor; the board returned to open session at 6:32 p.m.

Zach moved to award the Zoning Administrator a wage increase. Howard seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

13) Adjournment
    a) Zach moved to adjourn. Teresa seconded. All in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie McCormick

Town Clerk & Treasurer