Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Selectboard Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2023

In attendance: Selectboard Chair Howard Hall, Selectboard Member Zach Weaver, Town Clerk & Treasurer Maggie McCormick

Via Zoom: Selectboard Vice Chair Teresa Boucher, Emergency Management Coordinator Bob Groff

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 August 14, 2023 Selectboard meeting

Zach moved to approve the minutes as written, Howard seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

4) Emergency Management Coordinator's Report
   a) FEMA and the FCC will conduct a test of the Emergency Broadcasting System on October 24, 2023 through radio, television, and cellular phone alerts.
   b) The Vermont Emergency Operations Committee continues to meet twice weekly with flood recovery efforts progressing.
   c) The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) finalized draft will be presented by mid-September.
   d) The swimmer struck by a boat in Arnold Bay has prompted a discussion about the possibility of separating a swimming area from the boating and fishing areas.
   e) Bob will be away from October 4 through October 26.

5) Hiring road crew
   a) Clerk has placed ad on Front Porch Forum, VLCT website, and an ad in the Addison Independent starting this week.
   b) One candidate from last search has applied.

6) New dump/plow truck delivery and financing
   a) Clerk outlined Vermont Municipal Equipment Loan Fund (MELF) program
      i) Truck price is $277, 185.
      ii) State will fund $110,000 or 75% of purchase price, whichever is less.
      iii) Interest rate is 2%.
      iv) Five annual payments

Zach moved that the Town apply for a MELF loan in the amount of $110,000. Howard seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

7) Observed holidays
   a) The Town already observes 9 holidays and provides floating holidays. At this time, no new holidays will be added.

8) Late Homestead Penalty
   a) The state changed the homestead filing rules this year:
      i) Homestead deadline was April 18, 2023.
      ii) State will accept late homestead filings through October 16, 2023.

Howard moved to impose a late homestead penalty for filings after October 16. Zach seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

9) Public comment: none.

10) Communications
   a) Telling and Hillman Audit Contract to be signed.
   b) Vermont League of City and Towns Town Fair is 9/27 and 9/28. Clerk will see if there is a pass available for the exhibitor hall only for Howard.
   c) Michael Morris has asked for property tax abatement for 500 Adam's Ferry Road due to a lister error showing a basement valued at $33,000. There is no basement.
      i) Abatement hearing set for 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 26, 2023.

11) Review/approval of accounts payable warrant, timesheets & payroll warrant

Howard moved to approve the timesheets and warrants. Zacch seconded. All in favor; the motion passed.

12) Executive session if needed. Not needed.

13) Adjournment

Zach moved to adjourn. Howard seconded. All in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie McCormick
Town Clerk & Treasurer