

SELECTBOARD- TOWN OF BRADFORD
REGULAR MEETING
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 27, 2023
6:00 p.m. at the Bradford Academy Rm 26

In Attendance:

Board Members Present: Meroa P. Benjamin, Dan A. Perry III, Michael Wright (via zoom), Nikki Stevens

Board Members Absent: Ryan Lockwood

Others Present: Nancy Jones, Marcey Carver, Jean Carlan, Robert Wing, Douglas Miller, Malissa Nann, Susanna Lewis, Berrett Walters, David Allen, Molly Morin, Jessica Prouty, Linda Buermeyer, Elizabeth Towel (via web), Ed Wendell (via web), Paul Hansen (via web), Barb (via web)

Meroa Benjamin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Mike Wright joined via phone at 6:05p.m.

Personnel- Executive Session:

Dan Perry made a motion that the Selectboard has determined that a personnel issue needs to be discussed in executive session because the premature public knowledge would place both the Town and the employee at substantial disadvantage.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Dan Perry made a motion to go into executive session at 6:05 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue as allowed by 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1) and invite Danielle Kingsbury, Jessica Prouty, David Allen and Rodney Sherburne to attend.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard came out of executive session at 7:00 p.m. and continued regular meeting.

Additions and Changes to the Agenda:

Mention the dock at Bugbee landing under other business.

Public Comment:

Bob Wing urged the Selectboard to vote no for 12 parking spaces being designated for electric car charging at Denny Park.

Mary Kline made a statement via phone message to encourage the Selectboard to think about more parking at the library.

EV Charging Stations- Energy:

Phil Page stated that there is already limited parking downstreet and taking up 12 spaces at Denny Park for electric vehicles will make less, and less space for tractor trailers who need to make deliveries on KD Welch Road. The chargers will also make snow removal in that area difficult.

Phil encouraged the Selectboard to see data from the four charging stations that were already approved by the Selectboard before they add more. The few Bradford residents that have electric vehicles will charge their vehicles at home.

Susanna Lewis spoke to a lot of people in town and that thought it would benefit the downtown. Will be fast chargers, and allow people to visit businesses on Main Street.

Ed Wendell commented that it's hard to find successful businesses for downtowns, and this would boost the traffic. The energy committee voted to move forward with the 12 parking spaces for electric vehicles.

Marcey Carver commented that the current town plan shows support for energy efficiency.

Nancy Jones stated that there is other parking spaces in Town like down Barton Street.

Dan Perry commented that Jared Pendak sent an email that the Denny Park lot never gets use and he wants it to go on record that it gets used a lot.

Berrett Walters explained that there are only two grants to apply for one with the 3 charging stations (four spaces total) or one with the 6 charges stations (twelve spaces total). The grant also requires that all of the chargers be close together in or to only install one transformer.

Meroa Benjamin stated that she does not feel comfortable approving 12 spaces for electric vehicle charging. The State park and ride has chargers, as well as Hannaford's and the Selectboard already approved for the 3 charges to be installed at Denny Park.

Berrett Walters explained that the first grant with the three chargers would include:
2 level three chargers and 1 level two charger
The second grant with the 6 chargers would include:
Four new ones would be level three

Dan Perry commented that for events, we will have 12 parking spaces that are only designated for electric cars.

No other towns are currently getting the additional chargers.

Questions: How long before we switch out the equipment? When will we see four cars using it at the same time?

The city of Lebanon currently has 16 spaces for electric vehicles.

Mike Wright stated that it will cost the Town more money because we will have to hire a dump truck for snow removal and shovel around the units. The additional parking around Town is all for private businesses and the Town can't promote to park there (WRSB, and OESU parking).

Nikki Stevens made a motion to approve the Town apply for the 6 charging stations and transformer at Denny Park (12 spaces total designated for electric vehicles).

MOTION PASSED, 3 VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE (NIKKI STEVENS, DAN PERRY, MICHAEL WRIGHT) 1 OPPOSED (MEROA BENJAMIN).

Berrett Walters stated that the Town will see the first 3 chargers this summer and the rest will come next year (2024). Waiting on the transformer

Emergency Management Plan:

Dan Perry made a motion to approve the emergency management and authorized Meroa Benjamin to sign.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Omitted Appropriations Requests:

Michael Wright made a motion to fund the omitted applications for 2023 funding for Capstone in the amount of \$1,000 and for the Clara Martin Center in the amount of \$4,413 to be funded at the end of the year with surplus money.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

ARPA Funds:

No action taken.

Purchase Order Requests:

Dan Perry made a motion to approve continuing work on the Bradford Academy building slate roof, with Rod Roofing in the amount not to exceed \$1,595.18 because the previous quote of \$3,086.23 came in under budget.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes:

Michael Wright made a motion to approve the minutes of April 13, 2023.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Orders:

Michael Wright made a motion to approve the orders dated 4/28/23 in the amount of \$22,790.46.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Other Business:

Phil Page and Jean Carlan made the Selectboard aware that the dock at Bugbee landing is in bad shape and the State likes the docks to be put in around May 15th.

Phil Page and Michael Wright will look over the dock together and bring more information back to the Selectboard at the next meeting.

Jean Carlan made the Selectboard aware that the State will pay for 75% of the project to replace the dock if the Town makes the dock ADA compliant and could make the area ADA compliant as well. The Highway Department could help with an in-kind match. The Town would need to pay for the project up front and then be reimbursed for 75%.

Mike Wright- We can add materials down there, as long as not changing height.

Meroa Benjamin would like a sign down at the library parking that states "2 Hour Parking, violators will be towed".

There was talk about contacting the property owner for the low mansion and expanding parking in that area.

Personnel- Executive Session:

Dan Perry made a motion that the Selectboard has determined that a personnel issue needs to be discussed in executive session because the premature public knowledge would place both the Town and the employee at substantial disadvantage.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Dan Perry made a motion to go into executive session at 8:12 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue as allowed by 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1) and Danielle Kingsbury.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard came out of executive session at 8:44 p.m.

Nikki Stevens made a motion to approve Monique Priestley's letter of resignation from the public safety commission.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Dan Perry made a motion to appoint Jessica Prouty to vacant Lister position until next Town Meeting Day.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Michael Wright made a motion to hire Rodney Sherburne as interim facilities manager.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard adjourned at 8:46 p.m.



Meroa Benjamin, Chair



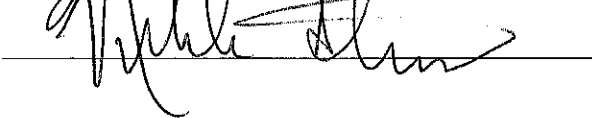
Daniel A. Perry III, Vice Chair



Ryan Lockwood



Michael Wright



Nikki Stevens