

SELECTBOARD- TOWN OF BRADFORD
REGULAR MEETING
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 27, 2023
6:00 p.m. at BA Building Rm 26

In Attendance:

Board Members Present: Meroa S. Benjamin, Dan A. Perry III, Michael Wright, Ryan Lockwood, Nikki Stevens

Others Present: Robert Wing, Donna Wing (via web), Marcey Carver, Larry Coffin, Carolyn Coffin, Mary (via web), Alex Nuti-de Biasi, Nancy Jones, Paul Hunt, Jared Pendak, Kerry Pendak, Ed Wendell (via zoom), Jean Carlan, Ethan Friend, Peter Scott, Monique Priestley, Matt Allen, Liane Allen, Natalie Nicholson, Denece Woods, Molly Morin, Maggie Cawley

Meroa Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Additions & Changes to the Agenda:

Add excavator bid to the agenda.

Public Comment:

Larry and Carolyn Coffin expressed their concern for the community with the number of homeless people living in our area. They would like to provide some sort of assistance to these people and hope the Selectboard will discuss it at a future meeting.

The Selectboard hears the concerns, and our state representative and police department are aware of the problem.

Paul Hunt commented that he feels this should be a regional problem/solution.

Excavator Bid Opening:

The Selectboard received three bids which were read out loud at the meeting:

Corey Knapp \$35,650

Peter J. Scott \$36,252

Matthew Puffer \$31,200

Nikki Stevens made a motion to forward the bids to the highway foreman and road commissioners for review and to award the bid.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Memorial Field River Trails- Insurance:

Michael Wright made a motion to send the draft contract to the Orange East Supervisory Union and authorize Meroa Benjamin to when approved by school.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Energy Committee Application for Assessment:

Once the assessment is completed it will allow the town to apply for energy savings grants.

Ryan Lockwood made a motion for the energy committee to move forward with the assessment application.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Town Plan:

The Selectboard reviewed the Town Plan as presented by the Planning Commission.

Dan Perry made a motion to hold two public hearings on August 24, 2023, and September 14, 2023, at 5:30p.m.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

ARPA Funds:

Dan Perry made a motion to approve \$50,000 ARPA funds for the youth innovation lab at The Space On Main. MOTION PASSED, 4 VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 1 VOTE (RYAN LOCKWOOD) RECUSED HIMSELF.

Liquor Licenses:

Nikki Stevens made a motion to approve the special liquor license application for Killington Distillery to hold an event at Farmway on August 5, 2023. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

BA Use Applications:

Dan Perry made a motion to approve the Bradford Teen Center to hold a rummage sale on September 16th on the front lawn of the Bradford Academy building or the gymnasium as a rain backup (setup will be September 15th). MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Dan Perry made a motion to approve Orange County Parent Child center to use the gymnasium for a playgroup for a six-week period on Mondays with the gym tarp. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Purchase Orders:

Michael Wright made a motion to approve the purchase of a computer in the amount of \$1,344.00 for the custodian office. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Dan Perry made a motion to approve the purchase order of a skate ramp up to \$7,200. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Denny Park fencing put in maintenance budget for next year (2024).

Michael Wright made a motion for the parks and recreation committee to put in a request for fencing to come out of the Elizabeth's Park funds from the Trustees of Public Funds and authorize Meroa Benjamin to sign off on the purchase order for the expense if approved by the Trustees.

Ryan Lockwood made a motion to approve the quote from Eastman Electric for installation of the ventilation system for the building at Elizabeth's Park in the amount of \$5,235. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes:

Dan Perry made a motion to approve the hearing minutes of July 13, 2023. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Michael Wrights made a motion to approve the minutes of July 13, 2023, with correction under conservation from "through" to "from". MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Orders:

Nikki Stevens made a motion to approve the orders of July 28, 2023, in the amount of \$98,961.97. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Other Business:

Dan Perry made a motion to accept Zachary Langs letter of resignation from the town health officer position.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

By default, the Chair of the Selectboard is appointed as health officer until a replacement can be found.

Michael Wright made a motion to accept Jessica Proutys resignation from the lister position.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Personnel- Executive Session:

Nikki Stevens 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.

Nikki Stevens made a motion to go into executive session at 7:22 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue as allowed by 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1) and invite Russell Robinson, Danielle Kingsbury, Donna Darling and Robert Wing.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard came out of executive session at 8:00 p.m.

Nikki Stevens made a motion to approve the website contract to hire Lisa Tremaine as designer.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Dan Perry made a motion to appoint Robert Wing to Lister effective immediately.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

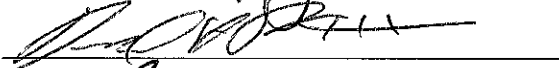
Michael Wright made a motion to hire Donna Darling as the Police Department Administrative Assistant and Grant manager.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Michael Wright made a motion to appoint Nikki Stevens as interim health officer.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The selectboard adjourned at 8:03 p.m.



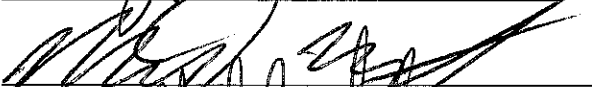
Meroa S. Benjamin, Chair



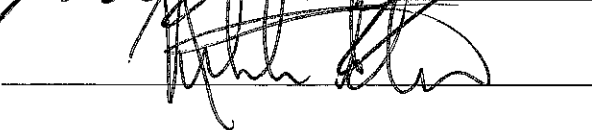
Daniel A. Perry III, Vice Chair



Ryan Lockwood



Michael Wright



Nikki Stevens