

WESTMINSTER SELECTBOARD MEETING

Wednesday, April 23, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.

In person at Westminster, VT Town Hall and remote by FACT TV

Selectboard Present: Real Bazin (clerk), Stephen Major, Jason Perry (vice chair), and Katrina Hamilton – Dan Crocker was absent

Staff Present: Charles (Chuck) Lawrence (road foreman), Lou Bordeaux (town manager) and Millie Barry (clerk)

Others Present: 1 person from FACT TV

1. **Call to Order:** Jason Perry, vice chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Information to access a future meeting using a remote connection (when available) is on the Town of Westminster website or by contacting the Westminster Town Hall.
2. **Adjustments to Agenda:** Mr. Perry noted under New Business, letter A and D were deleted.
3. **Acceptance of Minutes:** April 9, 2024- Katrina Hamilton moved to accept the minutes of April 9, 2024, Real Bazin seconded. Corrections noted on page 2, under New Business, A. Bid Review, motion passed by 3-1 voice vote. Mr. Major voted nay and Real Bazin abstained from vote, **not** as written, passed by 3-0 voice vote etc. On page 3, Jersey barriers will be placed at the toe of the slope **not top** as written. Also, page 4, bottom of page, under the signature line is clerk, **not chair** as written and **DRAFT** should be deleted at the top of page 1. By a 4-0 voice vote the Board voted to accept the minutes with corrections noted.
4. **Communications and Public Comments:** None
5. **Unfinished Business:** None
6. **New Business:** (Discussion/Action)
 - A. Tobacco and Alcohol License Renewals – Katrina Hamilton motioned to renew the tobacco license for the Westminster Station Market, Real Bazin seconded; motion carried by 4-0 voice vote. Katrina Hamilton motioned to renew the 2nd class alcohol and malt beverage license for the Westminster Station Market, Real Bazin seconded, motion carried by 4-0 voice vote. Katrina Hamilton motioned to approve the renewal of the alcohol malt beverage 2nd class license for Allen Brothers, Real Bazin seconded, motion carried by 4-0 voice vote. Katrina Hamilton motioned to renew the tobacco license for Allen Brothers, Real Bazin seconded, motion carried by 4-0 voice vote.
 - B. Cemetery Deed – Real Bazin motioned the Town of Westminster, in the sum of \$460.00 remise, release and forever Quit Claim unto Dennis and Marion Peters, heirs and assigns two burials in section E, lots 147 and 148 in the Westminster New Cemetery and perpetual care thereon, subject to whatever restrictions are imposed by law. Katrina Hamilton seconded; motion passed by 4-0 voice vote.
 - C. Town Manager’s Report –
 - Mr. Bordeaux said (in part) RFB (request for bids) were issued for a front-end loader, cab and chassis and body hydraulic system. All specifications were

provided by highway department. These items have been posted with contractors and he is in the process of posting on the State of VT (SOV) website. There have been difficulties posting the information on the SOV website. Bids are due May 20, 2024 and will be opened after 2:00 p.m.

- The road foreman and Mr. Bordeaux met with the highway crew on April 11, 2024 for a round of self-evaluations. Generally, the members were satisfied with their jobs. They continue to be hard working looking for a better way to do things. Also, on April 16th the Manager and Dan Crocker looked at the condition of West Road. While there, grading work was initiated to improve the drivability of the road.
- In a conversation with Jessie Haas, Mr. Bordeaux understood repairs to the Hearse House were approved by the Board for up to \$20,000.00 using ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds. Based on one estimate Jessie Haas has, the repairs will go out to bid. Ms. Haas will be working with Fletcher Proctor on this project.
- The bulletin board in the Town Hall has been hung on the wall next to the safe in the lobby. Relevant notices can be posted on the board after checking with the Town Manager.
- On April 22, 2024 State Senators Nader Hashim, Wendy Harrison and State Representatives Leslie Goldman, Michelle Bos-Lun and Mike Mrowicki met at the Town Hall with Lise Sparrow and Sarah Waldo for the presentation of the Declaration of Inclusion. A photo was taken and will be published in the *Westminster Gazette* and in other publications.
- Green-Up day is Saturday, May 4th. Sarah Waldo (Westminster Conservation Commission) will be at the Town Hall on May 4th to hand out collection bags from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Bags are also available at the Westminster West library. Information can be found at greenupvermont.org.

In another matter, Stephen Major questioned the recent analysis and prioritizing repair of Town roads. He noted from the bottom of Barnes Road to Westminster was designated a badly decayed roadbed and said this road did not seem nearly as bad as the Westminster West Road from the Acquaviva Farm to Ranney Farm. Mr. Lawrence said both road sections were bad. The thought of the engineer/report was to preserve what was there that is good and then repair the bad sections. Parts of the road have been patched until the road is repaired. Real Bazin questioned the life of the chip seal process. Mr. Lawrence said people in the industry and experts were recommending the process and grading work damaged chip seal cover. Katrina Hamilton motioned to approve the Town Manager's report, Stephen Major seconded; motion carried by 4-0 voice vote.

D. Executive Session – None

7. **Boards, Committees and Commissions** – None

8. **Other Business:** – Jason Perry noted it was the time of year when people left unwanted items at the end of a Town road for others to take. After discussion, the Board reminded residents to place unwanted items in their driveway of residence, not on the Town highway. Mr. Lawrence said there will be a sign posted at the intersection of Piggery Road and Route 5 regarding dumping unwanted items and the State Police will be watchful of the area.

In another matter: Jason Perry thanked the highway crew for doing a great job patching road potholes.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

10. **Adjournment:** Stephen Major motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 p.m., Katrina Hamilton seconded, meeting adjourned.

Clerk

Date

Minutes composed by Millie Barry 4/24/2024