

**Dover Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Dover Town Office
Tuesday, Oct 15, 2019**

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE DOVER SELECT BOARD

Select Board members present: Josh Cohen, Victoria Capitani, Dan Baliotti, Joe Mahon**

Select Board members absent: Sarah Shippee

Also, present: Office Manager, Jeannette Eckert

Public: Lauren Harkawik, Shannon Wheeler, Randy Johnson, Jim McDevitt, Bob Holland, Rich Werner, Marco Tallini, Linda Sherman, Andrea Seaton, Jay Giarratana, Mike Garber, Steve Petrik, Tim Shannon

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 6:30pm by Chair Josh Cohen

I. Public Comments:

- Bob Holland informed the Board that paving has finally begun
- Jeannette informed the Board that she is attending the BC/BS meeting Thursday; rec'd 2020 plan information—our plan rates went up nearly 13% over last year
- Vicki requested that budget meeting schedules be added to the next agenda

II. Assessor:

A. Addendum to Appraiser Contract

- Use of personal laptop to provide services to Dover
- Jeremiah will retain ownership of the hardware while Dover retains ownership of the software

On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously agreed to have the Chair sign the addendum on the contract with Jeremiah Sund

B. Errors and Omissions

#1:

- Thomas Lipnicki, owner of parcel YE035—32 Yeaw Rd; combined parcels totaling 24.16 acres; purchased 89 Snow Rd (SN002) They are contiguous parcels
- Total acreage is now 52.29
 - \$449,560 old value before change
 - \$513,410 new value
 - \$10,759.23 combined tax bill
- Paid tax on one parcel but not the other

On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously agreed to the error and omission for SN002, 89 Snow Road

#2:

- Veronique Czechorowski, owner of parcel RT048—136 Route 100
- Apartments with owner's quarters and ski shop
- Fire destroyed the L section of the apartment building on 2/3/2018
- Was not inspected since the fire

Board comments:

- Questioning how to put a value on it if it has not been inspected
- Tim Dolan indicated that the whole back of the building is open; dilapidated shape
- Would like to defer decision until the building has been inspected

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C. Recommendation for Commercial/Mt Snow Appraisal Firm

- Update, rather than recommendation at this point; Looking at two different firms; asked for additional information from both which has been rec'd; confusing situation, commercial versus time share; Timeshare portion is not really owned by Mt Snow so it can't be part of the appraisal but falls into the commercial side; Mt Snow has a lease for the building
- Choice is a difficult decision—two very good firms; ongoing process
- Board requests a complete presentation from any firm being recommended; consider skype interview to gather the most details

III. New Business:

A. Appropriation Increase Request from Grace Cottage Hospital (Andrea Seaton)

- Budget item—asking for increase from \$2000 to \$3000
- Can appear in the budget as either an increased appropriation amount or as a separate warned article
- Will not require a new petition, just submit a letter of request

B. Vacancy for School Director Position (Rich Werner)

- Rules have changed, now need to consult the Select board of the town that the member is representing; Kerry Cady has stepped down due to her new position as a judge; position has been advertised; would have to be a person from Dover, selected by the whole unified School board; position will then be voted on at Town Meeting

C. Letter from Jay Giarratana Regarding Parcel on Capt. Copeland Rd (Marco Tallini & Jay Giarratana) ***Joe Mahon arrived at 6:45pm during this discussion*

- Jay is looking to purchase Lot 13 on Capt. Copeland Rd; He already owns an adjacent property
- Roughly three acres; may not be buildable; beneficial for a possible tax break; offers more privacy

Marco:

- Went to tax sale once, no one bought it; Town bid on it to retain the parcel
- Town owns about a dozen parcels that have not been redeemed
- The Select board has the purview to decide the process: auction or tax sale for this one parcel or more properties
- Late Dec, early Jan is the timetable for a tax sale, which is a different process than an auction
- \$2000 was owed in taxes on this property prior to tax sale

Board:

- Believe we should put them all together for an auction
- Are there any that the Town wants to keep?
 - There may be some that the town wants to retain for trails etc.
- Auction can be a sealed bid with a reserve dollar \$\$
- Town has the right to reject or accept any bids
- Needs to be properly noticed so everyone has an opportunity to bid
- Written, sealed bids to be opened at Select board meeting similar to cruiser bid process

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Linda:

- When there is a piece such as this one at 3 acres, it's considered buildable until it is proven *not* to be buildable

Marco to review the list of available properties with Steve & present at next Select board meeting to consider moving forward an auction

IV. Economic Development:

A. Dover Area Recreational Trails (DART) Request for Development of Short Term Multi Use Trails (\$3960.30)

- Trails meeting held last week; proposal was reviewed; group recommends moving forward with this budget plan
 - Some trails will be kept, others may be reworked
 - Green trails are beginning snowshoe trails
 - Blue are backcountry ski trails
 - Northern green trails are being reconfigured for snowmobile trails
- Request additional funding in the amount of \$3960.30
- Potential name change of property to Maple Hill

On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously agreed to expend \$4000 from ED funds for DART's short-term Maple Hill multi use project

Board Comments:

- This is great!
- What are the volunteer and paid hours indicated on the budget? How is that determined? Who is ultimately getting paid? *One check to Southern Vermont Trails Association & one to Deerfield Valley Stumpjumpers*
- Checks and balances; how do we know when this is completed? *Steve is monitoring the process; will have a grand opening when complete*
- What is the timeline of completion? *End of November, depending on weather*

Tim Shannon: A lot of this work will be clearing corridors; step in the right direction for the multi uses of the trails

Linda Sherman mentioned that at a recent meeting another Appraiser from Jay indicated that Dover's trail plans were awesome; anything like Kingdom Trails would be great

Steve Petrik: We are going more multi use than Kingdom Trails which is all biking

B. Dover Area Recreational Trails (DART) Request to Review and Approve the Dover Trail Signage Plan

- Guidelines for signage in Dover for all the different trail uses
- Version 1; Any feedback from the Board can be given to Steve
- Trying to match signage to USFS standards
- Need to at least put the posts in before the ground freezes
- Cleared almost 100 acres of town forest for back country skiing and snowshoeing
- Will be ready to go at the end of October
- Another item to be discussed at Nov 5th meeting ~\$300 for signage; donating all the work

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Board comments:

- A lot of work; appreciate the time and effort in putting this together; will really help to integrate the trail system
- Will review and get back to Steve; thank you for all your efforts, to be using the land this winter is fantastic
- Thanks for sticking with us

FYI: Housing survey—deadline extended to Nov 1st as not many have come in; really do need input. Link to survey can be found on Dover's website:

<https://www.doververmont.com/node/1619>

V. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approve Minutes of October 1, 2019
On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board voted 3-0-1 to approve the minutes of October 1, 2019 (Cohen abstained)

- B. Approve Warrants of Oct 5, 2019 for \$114,626.97
On a motion by Victoria Capitani, seconded by Dan Baliotti, the Board unanimously approved the warrants of October 5, 2019

VI. FYI:

- A. Thank You Note from the Bartlett Family
- B. Report from Sullivan & Powers—next full audit in two years
- C. Next Concerts at Town Hall:
 - Oct 23, Rob Hubert & Company, 6-8pm
 - Nov 6, Jacksonville Blues Band, 6-8pm
 - Nov 13, Open Mic Night, 6-8pm (17 people in attendance at first one; lots of interest from the Facebook page)
- D. Dover Library is holding a public meeting this Saturday, Oct 19th from noon to 1pm to discuss how they can better serve the community

VII. Liaison Reports: None

VIII. Executive Session, as needed: None

IX. Adjournment at 7:17pm

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Eckert

Public notices of these minutes have been posted at the following locations:
Dover Town Clerk's Bulletin Board, Dover Town Meeting Bulletin Board, Dover School
Dover Free Library, East Dover Post Office, Town of Dover Website: www.doververmont.com