

Agenda
Warren Selectboard
Tuesday, August 25, 2020
6:00 PM
VIA Zoom

6:00 PM – Public Comment

6:15 PM – Covid 19 – Update – Jeff Campbell

6:25 PM – Plunkton Road – Speed Limit Change/Discussion – with Data

6:45 PM – Discussion of Appointment of Road Commissioner to Assist the Road Foreman

6:55 -Approval of Minutes from August 4 and August 11, 2020

6:58 PM – Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

6:59 PM – Other Business

PPE VOSHA Clothing Policy for Highway Personnel

Summer Fall 2020 - Rachel Gilgorn
Road Use Permit - herch

*Agenda Subject to Change**

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Minutes of August 25, 2020
Warren Selectboard
VIA Zoom
6:00 PM

Members Present: Andrew Cunningham, Chair, Bob Ackland, Vice Chair, Luke Youmell, Randy Graves & Camilla Behn.

Others Present: Jeff Campbell, Joannene Kidder, Ken Campbell, Mike Malekoff, David Campanelli, Tony (TV 44/145) & Cindi Jones.

6:00 PM – Public Comment – None

6:06 PM – Covid 19-Update – Jeff Campbell – Mr. Campbell commented that from 2 weeks ago, Vermont had 1572 cases of Covid-19, a 100 more than two weeks ago with 8 new cases in Washington County and no deaths. The Governor has released new updated information on school guidance, issuing a strong healthy start. The Unified District has updated their school plan for K-5 on the district website. The Town also received 400 masks from the State which are being distributed in the Town clerks Office. Mr. Campbell also posted some informational items on the Warren Website: Masks & Kids – What you need to know, what is a close contact and a video feed – Simple ways to stop Covid-19 from spreading. The State has also sent masks supplies to schools. The State is working to extend the unemployment Grant and has just announced that households would receive \$150 in coupons to spend on Main Street in Montpelier. Mr. Campbell commented that food and beverage sales in Vermont are down by 87% from last year. UVM has opened to students and they have tested 10,000 students and will retest again in 2 weeks. There has been a total of 123,000 people that have been tested in Vermont so far.

Mr. Cunningham commented that Mr. Win Smith had spoken to him about the liquor Laws and public gatherings and wanted to know if the Selectboard was going to get stricter compliance on this. Mr. Cunningham commented that the Warren Selectboard is sticking with the State Guidance and that the board had no reason to act as they are doing in Burlington. Mr. Campbell commented that they should wait and see what other ski resort towns are doing such as Killington or Stowe. Sugarbush is a much smaller ski area than the others.

6:20 PM – Plunkton Road/speed limit change/discussion with data – Mr. Malekoff started off the discussion by saying that he had summarized the data reports and is still asking for a speed reduction of 25 MPH as what is on the Granville section. He commented that the study showed 3400 vehicles a week with about 85% speeding between 35-45MPH in the recreational area. Mr. Cunningham commented that the road was paved because of a recent study of the excess traffic which is one factor of paving a road and that mud season was an issue in that section. Mr. Malekoff commented that about 1/3 are large trucks travelling through the area. Mr. Ackland commented that there seemed to be more

6:45 PM – Discussion of Appointing a Road Commissioner to Assist Road Foreman, Andrew Bombard –
Mr. Cunningham started off the discussion stating it was a statutory position. It is an appointed position and there is no money tied to it. This was what Barry Simpson was doing as the Public Works Director. This person would work with the road crew to assist in budgeting, earthwork projects, prioritize roads for budget work, look at curb cuts, and be a liaison with the public and crew. In the past Mr. Ackland has helped out and Mr. Cunningham have been doing road curb cuts. This person would also be a liaison with the Selectboard and make decisions that do not need to come before the Selectboard. Mr. Ackland fully supported having a front person on the Selectboard to help with communications inter-departmentally. Mr. Youmell also commented that he thought it would be good to help Mr. Bombard with all the changes. Mr. Graves commented that in the Vermont Statutes it says that the Selectboard can appoint 1 or 2 people to a one- or two-year terms. It also can be turned over to the town to elect a 1, 2, 3-year term for a Road Commissioner. Mr. Graves commented that he felt it was another layer of excess administration that is not needed and that the Town pays the Road Foreman and Town Administrator well. They should be able to do budget and that the town has a 5-member road crew. Ms. Behn commented why does Mr. Bombard go to Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Ackland and Mr. Youmell when there is a budget/road plan/ paved road plan in place? Mr. Graves commented that he has asked 3 times to have the Road Foreman check in with the Selectboard. Ms. Behn commented are we circling back to a DPW position that was budgeted to work with the road crew more closely? If we are coming back to a DPW then why do we need a Road Commissioner? Ms. Behn asked Mr. Ackland are you saying that we need a Road Commissioner because of communication issues? Ms. Behn commented that I don't see this happening in other departments. Ms. Ackland commented that yes there are communications issues with the highway and the municipal building. Ms. Behn asked did the Road Crew request this? Mr. Ackland commented Yes as Mr. Ackland and Mr. Youmell have been talking with Mr. Bombard and Mr. Kathan about it. The rest of crew were not involved. Ms. Behn also commented that she would like to hear from Mr. Bombard. Mr. Cunningham commented that it wasn't necessary to involve them in this discussion. He also stated that he does not see a DPW position in the next budget as he felt it was not needed. Ms. Behn asked for clarification that the town didn't proceed hiring a DPW because of Covid and tax revenue correct? Mr. Cunningham commented "yes" that is correct. Ms. Behn would like two things concerning this: a written-up description of what the Road Commissioner does and to hear from Mr. Bombard. Mr. Ackland finally commented that there have been problems over the last year and it keeps going on with no solutions. He finally announced that he was resigning as he was tired of expending his energies on this board and disconnected from the meeting. (7:40PM). Also discussed was getting an official job description to the Town Administrator. It was presented earlier in the year by Ms. Behn and Mr. Graves, however there were some edits and things that need to be worked out from the discussion with Ms. Jones. Ms. Behn had circulated it with edits and questions for feedback but did not get all the board member feedback. After a very long and intense discussion of this issue, Mr. Cunningham and the board agreed to table this discussion until the next meeting and that the TA job description to the Ms. Jones would be completed. Discussion on this issue would

7:39 PM – Summer/Fall Garden Maintenance – Ms. Grigorian had sent over an email in regard that she needs about \$720 to finish up the season. She did not want to continue because she was over the previously submitted estimate for \$1080. She also had some concerns about the erosion from the water running off the sidewalk and Fuller Hill. She also noticed that some of the plants she planted had disappeared from the triangle by the municipal building and she could purchase 2-3 more plants to fill it back in. She was also asked about the small garden plot at the Mill Stone Park & Ride as no one takes care of it. The board agreed to authorize the additional money since it was budgeted in the original budget.

Motion by Mr. Graves to approve Ms. Gregorian's request for the additional \$720 to finish up the fall maintenance and to give some care to the Mill Stone Park & Ride Lot, second by Mr. Youmell. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

7:50 PM – Approval of Road Use Permit for Mr. Michael Lerch – Ms. Jones presented a Road Use Permit and contractor summary of installation of a fiber optic line crossing Golf Course Road to Mr. Lerch's property. The permit states the conditions about how the installation will be installed and the requirements of the Town for digging up the road for installation.

Motion by Mr. Youmell to approve the Road Use Permit as submitted by KCC and Waitsfield Telecom for the installation of a fiber optic line for Mr. Lerch, second by Ms. Behn. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

7:50 PM – Approval of Minutes for August 4 and August 11, 2020 – Motion by Mr. Youmell to approve the Minutes of August 4 and August 11, 2020, second by Mr. Behn. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

7:55 PM – Approval of Accounts Payable: Motion by Mr. Youmell to approve the accounts payable warrants as presented for \$81,168.06, second by Ms. Behn. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

7:58 PM – Approval of Payroll Warrants – Motion by Mr. Youmell to approve the payroll warrants as presented for \$20,629.36, second by Ms. Behn. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

Comments prior to adjournment: Mr. Campbell commented that it was an interesting meeting and thanked the board for letting him attend. Ms. Kidder also commented that all the discussed was very transparent and thanked the board for allowing her to participate. Mr. Cunningham and the board thanked both Mr. Campbell and Ms. Kidder for joining the Zoom meeting.

8:00 PM – Motion by Mr. Youmell to adjourn, second by Mr. Graves. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Cindi Jones, Warren Town Administrator

The Warren Selectboard

Andrew Cunningham, Chair

Bob Ackland, Vice Chair

Luke Youmell

Randy Graves

Camilla Behn

Signature: Andrew Cunningham
andrew.cunningham (Sep 9, 2020 12:13 EDT)

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Robert M Ackland (Sep 9, 2020 15:46 EDT)

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Randall Graves (Sep 9, 2020 16:20 EDT)

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