

Minutes of April 9, 2024 Meeting
Warren Select Board
Streamed on MRVTV
6:30 PM

Members Present: Luke Youmell, Chair; Andrew Cunningham, Vice Chair; Camilla Behn; Devin Klein Corrigan, Kalee Whitehouse

Staff Present: Jeff Campbell, Fire Chief; Rebecca Campbell, Town Administrator; Dayna Lisaius, Treasurer

Others Present: Jared Alvord (Fire Department), Perry Bigelow, Alice Cheney, Mary Gow, Anthony Italiano (MRVTV), Brian Jenkins (Ward's P&H), Josie Klein, Steve Korrow (Gillespie Fuels)

Public Comment

Perry Bigelow offered comments regarding a section of Lincoln Gap Road shoulder having suffered some damage. Mr. Youmell noted that the Road Department will be notified of this.

Agenda Changes

Mr. Youmell indicated that an Executive Session for legal discussion was necessary. Ms. Behn asked that road reclassification discussions and decisions be scheduled.

It was realized that a quorum will not be available on April 23, and so the next regular Board meeting will be on May 14. Because no notification of the appointment of a Town Moderator had yet been posted, that item will be on the May 14 agenda.

OSHA Requirements – Fire Department

Mr. Campbell and Mr. Alvord provided information regarding OSHA's pending redefinition of emergency responder guidelines, explaining that the draft document is open for public comment until the end of June.

They explained some of the impacts that the new guidelines will have on volunteer organizations, and provided a document outlining some of the points that will directly affect the Warren FD. The challenges are both legal and monetary, with increases in administrative work and training required.

Letters will be submitted from the FD and from individual members, and the men asked that the Selectboard support the submissions from the FD. Board members agreed to do so, and also proposed that Mr. Campbell and Mr. Alvord attend a Board meeting in May so that a more refined letter may be drafted from the Selectboard perspective as well. VLCT will also be consulted regarding any potential legal implications that should be noted in letters of comment.

Pavilion Discussion

Ms. Klein Corrigan provided a proposal for an amended design, which includes interim posts along the gable to support the benches, noting that the revision opens the entry way a little more, and cuts the bench space slightly. She asked that a site visit be scheduled to determine an accurate placement of the structure so that work may begin. It was agreed to warn a meeting for Friday, April 12 at 3 pm in order to stake out the accurate placement of the pavilion.

Town Furnace Update

Ms. Campbell explained that three vendor quotes had been received, but they all differed in the scope of work outlined and so are difficult to compare.

The bid from Chuck's Heating was for a simple switching out from burning oil to burning propane, with no tank removal included in the bid. Nobody from Chuck's was present to provide further information.

The bid from Ward's P&H includes a heat pump option. Brian Jenkins was present, and explained some of the details included in the proposal, noting that the heat pump information is based upon the building structure; he needs some more information in order to provide any ROI estimate. Mr. Jenkins explained that the Bosch heat pump currently located at the site is not operational, and that his system will not work in conjunction with that piece of equipment, but that he would help to determine another use for it at a Town-owned building. The use of the dual fuel system using a heat pump would provide for heating as well as cooling of the building.

The work outlined in the Gillespie quote includes switching from an oil to a propane burner as well as removal of the existing oil tanks. Steve Korrow was present, and noted that another option would be to install two direct vent propane furnaces to replace the existing furnace, rather than retaining the existing furnace and switching the burner from oil to propane.

There was some further discussion regarding current air conditioning configuration and future needs, as well as potential use of the existing Bosch heat pump, as it was determined that this would not be suitable for the Library's HVAC needs, as that building is configured using baseboards. A preference for using renewable energy for some aspect of the system was expressed, as well as a need to look at the long-term costs associated with each solution presented.

It was agreed that all three vendors will be asked for quotes to replace the existing oil furnace with a direct vent propane solution that will be able to work with the existing Bosch heat pump, or to propose using alternative heat pump equipment and work with the Town to determine another use for the Bosch.

Other Business

Mr. Cunningham noted that Jack Mosely had reported that there is some scour on the east side of the river south of the covered bridge, where the water has cut a ledge and dropped the bank about two feet. It was agreed to add an inspection of this area to Friday's site visit meeting.

Ms. Behn noted that she has observed some maintenance and repairs being taken on by Town staff that would typically be designated to a maintenance position, and requested that further discussion of such a role be taken up at a future meeting.

Ms. Lisaius reported that Virginia Roth had retained the funds for the Warren Arts Committee in a personal account, which is currently in probate. Ms. Lisaius indicated that this is not a problem per se, and that a temporary solution is in place for if/when funds are needed.

Ms. Campbell noted that she has not yet been able to connect with Spencer Dumas regarding the library door hardware.

Administrative Items

MOTION: *A motion to approve the payroll warrant in the amount of \$34,354.10 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to approve the accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$48,482.91 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to approve the minutes of March 26, 2024 passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *A motion to ratify the payment schedule and terms of the agreement as outlined by Corrigan and Klein for construction of the pavilion passed with Ms. Klein Corrigan abstaining.*

It was requested that Ms. Campbell reach out to Todd Warnock regarding applying for a permit for this year's Gran Fondo event.

Executive Session

MOTION: *A motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal matters passed unanimously.*

The meeting entered Executive Session at 7:39 pm and returned to open session at 7:47 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Chamberlin

The Warren Selectboard



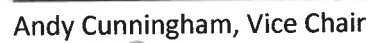
Luke Youmell, Chair



Camilla Behn



Kalee Whitehouse



Andy Cunningham, Vice Chair



Devin Klein Corrigan

