

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission and Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting
Monday January 7, 2020
Akeley Memorial Hall

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Neil Van Dyke
Town Manager Charles Safford; Public Works Director Harry Shepard; Finance Director Cindy Fuller,
Police Chief Donald Hull, Parks and Recreation Director Matt Frazee; Fire Chief Kyle Walker; Diana
Duclos, Nancy Banks, Helene Martin, Robert DiMario

Call to Order

Chair William Adams called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Ms. Morgan Nichols, seconded by Mr. Neil Van Dyke, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Approve the Minutes of 12/9/19

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the minutes of December 9, 2019 as presented.

Water & Sewer Commission

Chair Noyes opened the Water & Sewer Commission meeting at 5:04pm

Water & Sewer Consent Agenda

- a. 591 S Main Street Water/Sewer Allocation

On a motion by Mr. Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved the Consent Item.

Ms. Hagerty stated that premature general public knowledge of legal advice from the Town's counsel would place the Town at a substantial disadvantage, therefore Ms. Hagerty moved and Ms. Nichols seconded and the board approved to go into executive session to receive that advice and invited the Town Counsel, Town Manager and Public Works Director.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 5:30pm.

Liquor Commission

Chair Noyes opened the Liquor Commission meeting at 5:30pm

Liquor Consent Items

Special Event Permit Application:

- Go America Go Beverages dba WhistlePig Rye Whiskey: Tasting @ Lodge at Spruce Peak December 21, 2019 10:00am – 10:00pm
- Caledonia Spirits: Tasting and Cocktail Event @ Spruce Peak Bar January 11, 2020 4:00pm – 7:00pm
- Vermont Distillers: Tasting @ Rusty Nail / Tres Amigos at 1190 Mountain Road January 17, 2020 6:00pm – 12:00am
- Caledonia Spirits: Cocktail & Tasting Event @ Edelweiss 2251 Mountain Road January 18, 2020 5:00pm – 9:00am

Selectboard Meeting 01/06/2020

- Caledonia Spirits: Barr Hill Cocktail Class @ Spruce Peak Bar 7412 Mountain Road February 05, 2020 4:00pm – 9:00am

Art Gallery, Book Store, Museum or Library Serving Permit:

- Helen Day Art Center: Gallery at 90 Pond Street January 16, 2020 4:30pm – 8:00pm
- Vermont Ski & Snowboard Museum: Serving at 1 South Main Street January 23, 2020 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Request to Cater:

- The Skinny Pancake dba Love Local Catering: Pop-Up at the old McCarthy's December 27-29, 2019 8:00am – 11:00pm
- The Skinny Pancake dba Love Local Catering: Pop-Up at the old McCarthy's December 30, 2019 – January 1, 2020 8:00am – 11:00pm
- The Skinny Pancake dba Love Local Catering: Pop-Up at the old McCarthy's January 2 – 4, 2020 8:00am – 11:00pm

Wine Tasting Permit:

- American Crafted Spirits dba Silo Distillery: Tasting @ Stowe Public House at 109 Main St January 4, 2020 4:00pm – 7:00pm

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Lisa Hagerty, the Board approved the Special Event Permit Application, Art Gallery, Book Store, Museum or Library Serving Permit Applications, Requests to Cater and Wine Tasting Permit as presented.

Selectboard

Chair Noyes opened the Selectboard meeting at 5:35pm

Consent Agenda

1. Certificate of No Appeal or Suit Pending 2018 Grand List

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Ms. Hagerty the Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

Rail Trail Annual Meeting Article Request

Hans Huessy has requested that the Selectboard include an article pertaining to the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail on the Town Meeting warning. The language would read: "WE, the citizens of Stowe, strongly support the completion of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. We urge the Governor and Legislature to jointly develop a plan that will ensure the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is completed by 2025. Diane Duclos and Nancy Banks were at the meeting to support the request, noting that it is a good resource both for residents and an economic driver for tourism. The overall plan was for the trail to run for St. Johnsbury to Swanton, currently only 33 of the 95 miles are complete. A new plan and financing are required by the legislature and the Friends of the LVRT are asking all towns in northern Vermont to speak with one voice using this article.

The Selectboard indicated that they supported the inclusion of the article on the Town Meeting warning and Town Manager Mr. Charles Safford will include it on the draft warnings presented for final approval on 1/13/20.

Proposed FY21 General Fund & Capital Budget

Town Manager Charles Safford presented the Selectboard with the proposed FY21 General Fund and Capital Budget. He noted that the CPI-U for October was 1.5%, which per contract is used for payroll increases. The Grand List is projected to grow by 1.5% which is about \$336,341 on the Grant List and would provide \$146,241 in new tax revenue. The budget as proposed represents a net budget increase of \$352,419 (3.69%) which would increase the municipal tax rate by \$0.0092.

Mr. Safford began by going over the requested capital projects for FY21, which includes \$65,000 for a replacement of the Akeley Building dry sprinkler system which has outlived its anticipated lifecycle and is experiencing major issues; \$69,000 for Public Safety Facility camera system replacement to replace a system that is failing and does not have enough storage capacity; \$95,000 Cemetery Road Foundation stabilization for a bridge that has shown signs of settlement and erosion of the footings. This is an attempt to hold the bridge until the State replaces it, but it is currently #137 on the list; \$155,000 for Fire portable radio replacement of radios that have outlasted their life expectancy and experiencing reliability issues; \$50,000 for Depot Street Construction Phase 1 which includes preliminary engineering and study as well as permitting for an overall project of full width reconstruction of curbing, drainage, water main and paving base; \$11,000 for Emerald Ash Borer ROW tree inventory to determine the full scope and cost of the anticipated project to remove the ash trees before the onset of the EAB; 3 Acre Stormwater Rule Permit Phase 1 to get further costs and determinations on how the Town will meet the State required permit; \$20,000 Bridge 48 Preliminary Engineering which is the Town's 10% match on the State plans to work on Bridge 48 concurrently with Bridge 51. These projects total \$505,000, of which the Town is anticipating \$438,264 will come from -new local option tax revenue and the remainder will come from the unallocated capital reserves. Mr. Safford noted that -some of these projects are phased projects (Depot Street, Emerald Ash Borer, Bridge 48) with large anticipated future needs. Additionally, FEMA has not declared the Halloween storm an eligible disaster. If not declared, then the cost may need to come out of unallocated capital.

Mr. Safford then went through each department's expense and revenue changes. Of note, the Recreation Department has gone from 3 full time employees to 2, and the proposed budget includes a second assistant engineer in the Public Works Department at a cost of \$114,454 as well as a new Director of Buildings and Grounds, with a departmental budget (salary, benefits and office costs) of \$137,123, for a net gain of one full time employee. In future budgets, the Buildings and Grounds department will absorb Akeley Building, Cultural Campus, Public Safety Building and Parks Department budgets. Mr. Safford noted that the Town (excluding the Electric Department) currently has \$21M in buildings assessed value and 2,500 acres of land, which this role would be responsible for maintaining. It would be the third largest operational budget. The intent of these positions is to help the Town maintain its assets and increasing permit requirements such as stormwater.

Other notable budget changes include an increase in Accounting for a new server that would be more current and also have capabilities of linking with the Public Safety Building server for redundancy purposes; \$3,400 in Admin to make the Town website mobile friendly; New debt of \$139,645 in Debt Services budget due to the Sidewalk/Overhead Utility project; - Highway shows an increase in Stormwater funding to work on high priority segments, as well as pit reclamation. Paving was level funded with plans to work on Edson Hill Road and potentially School Street; Adjustment of staffing in Parks and Arena staffing. The Arena went from four full-time employees to three. Parks went from two full-time employees to three. Parks took over winter sidewalk plowing. -; Police budget decreased largely due to senior officer turnover; Public Safety Building has an increase in IT support and custodial services; Stowe Arena has earmarked \$20,000 for promotion/marketing at the request of the Rec Commission and also increased the equipment maintenance costs. The Board discussed how the funds would be used. The Town Manager indicated that the Rec Director has had discussions with former users of the Arena that are tied into the hockey world, but not have expressed an interest to date in marketing the Arena on a contract or employee basis. Staff will continue to keep looking and would welcome any leads. The Rec Director has reached out to discuss with existing camps and other renters on how we can

be of assistance in helping them maintain / expand their use. Staff has also been meeting with Stowe Area Association on messaging. The Selectboard indicated they are looking for additional feedback from the Rec Commission on the proposed use of the Promotional / Marketing budget.

In the Economic Development and Community Affairs budget, to date there are four new or increased requests. Stowe Area Association has requested \$40,000 in funding, an increase of \$20,000; Lamoille Housing Partnership has requested \$7,500 in funding, an increase of \$2,500; Stowe Performing Arts has requested \$3,000 in funding, an increase of \$1,000 and Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center is a new request of \$2,500. In the Social Services budget, to date there are six new or increased requests. Clarina Howard Nichols Center has requested \$5,000 in funding, an increase of \$2,250; Lamoille Family Center has requested \$6,000 in funding, an increase of \$3,000; Lamoille Food Share has requested \$10,000 in funding, an increase of \$3,000; North Central Vermont Recovery Center has requested \$2,500 in funding, an increase of \$1,500; Good Beginnings of Central Vermont is a new request for \$500; Lamoille County Conservation District is a new request of \$500. Good Samaritan Haven has not submitted a request for funding for FY21 and Lamoille County Mental Health has requested \$5,000, a decrease of \$3,000 from FY20. The proposed budget level funds community, economic and social services appropriations at their FY'20 level. Non-profits that have new or increased funding request have been invited to the Selectboard's 1/13/20 meeting to discuss the basis of their request to the Selectboard.

Other Business – Manager's Report

Mr. Safford updated the Board regarding Local Government Day in the Legislature on 2/13, the 2019 Equalization Study Results which indicated the CLA for Stowe is 90.87%, and Cell phone tower notices that AT&T plans to upgrade its wireless communications facilities at the Town's cell tower on the Wastewater Treatment Facility and Verizon plans to add a telecommunications facility on Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center. Finally he noted that the Green Mountain Inn will be doing work on their front porch adjacent to the sidewalk this month, but will construct a staging tunnel for pedestrians.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Van Dyke, the Board went into Executive Session at 7:38pm to discuss personnel.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:50pm.

There being no further business, Chair Noyes adjourned the meeting at 7:50pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission and Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting
Monday January 13, 2020
Akeley Memorial Hall

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Neil Van Dyke
Town Manager Charles Safford; Finance Director Cindy Fuller, George Petit, Bruce Nourijan, Jessica
Bickford, Peter Danforth, Walter Frame, Carrie Simmons, Chuck Baraw, McKee Macdonald, Michael
Smith, Darsey Moon, Kerrie Lohr, Daniel Franklin, Kirby Dunn, Lisa Mugford, Maggie Macdonald,
Floyd Nease, Caity Filkins, Audra Hughes, George Lewis, Hope Sullivan, Rachel Moore, Andrew
Gonyea, Diane Arnold, Dominick Donza, Bobby Murphy, Sarah Henshaw, Mindy Parish, Gretchen
Elias, Becky Gonyea, Lynn Paparella, Rachel Vandenberg, Scott Honsman,

Call to Order

Chair William Noyes called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Mr. Neil Van Dyke, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Approve the Minutes of January 6, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the Consent Items.

Liquor Commission

Chair Noyes opened the Liquor Commission Meeting at 5:31pm

Liquor Consent Items

Special Event Permit Application:

- White Mountain Distillery dba Stowe Cider: Penthouse Tasting @ Lodge at Spruce Peak
February 15, 2020 3:00pm – 8:30pm

Request to Cater:

- Trapp Family Lodge: Pool Party @ 700 Trapp Hill Road
January 23, 2020 5:00pm – 9:00pm
- 802 Cocktails: Winter Rendezvous Cocktail Party @ 511 Mountain Road
January 24, 2020 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- OB2 LLC dba Higher Ground: Che Malambo @ Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center
February 5, 2020 5:00pm – 12:00am
- OB2 LLC dba Higher Ground: Apres Chic Gala @ Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center
March 14, 2020 12:00pm – 12:00am

2020 Annual Liquor License:

- Alpine Mart (Howard & Howard Inc.) @ 968 Mountain Road
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
- Butchery, The (Main Street Partners) @ 504 Mountain Road
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
- Doc Pond's @ 294 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors

Selectboard Meeting 1/13/20

- Outside Consumption Permit
- Hob Knob Inn @ 2364 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- Maplefields (RL Vallee) @ 14 South Main Street
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
- Ranch Camp (ENR) @ 311 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Outside Consumption Permit
- Stowe Public House (Some Saucy) @ 109 Main Street
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
Outside Consumption Permit
- Sushi Yoshi (KNH of Stowe Corporation)
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Lisa Hagerty, the Board approved the Liquor Consent Items as listed.

Selectboard Meeting

Chair Noyes opened the Selectboard Meeting at 5:34pm

FY'21 Community & Economic Appropriation Requests

The Town of Stowe has received the following requests for new or increased Community & Economic appropriations:

Stowe Area Association: Requesting \$40,000, an increase of \$20,000

Lamoille Housing Partnership: Requesting \$7,500, an increase of \$2,500

Stowe Performing Arts: Requesting \$3,000, an increase of \$1,000

Spruce Peak Performing Arts: New request of \$2,500

Stowe Jazz Festival: New request of \$1,500

Lamoille County Conservation District: New request of \$500

Representatives from each of these organizations were on hand to discuss their organizations, requests and answer questions.

The Selectboard discussed their policy guidelines to keep Community & Economic Services Budget at or below three quarters of one percent of the Selectboard proposed General Fund Operating Expenditure Budget. At level funding from FY20, the Board would be at 0.70% of the General Fund. Adding in all of the requests would bring it to 0.91%, over the current guidelines. The Board discussed that Stowe Area Associations increased request was mainly to support the public restrooms and welcome facility on Main Street. Currently the Town has an MOU with the Green Mountain Inn to provide public restrooms for \$29,000 a year, which is budgeted in the Akeley Memorial Building budget. The Selectboard directed Town Manager to work with Stowe Area Association to develop a similar MOU to support the public restrooms and facility. In an effort to stay within the 0.75% of the General Fund guideline while leaving some capacity for future needs, the Selectboard felt that all increased requests would be capped at 20%

Selectboard Meeting 1/13/20

increases and new requests would be capped at \$1,000. Accordingly, the Selectboard plans to advance the organizations into the General Fund Budget at the following amount:

Stowe Area Association - \$20,000, with MOU for bathrooms and visitors center to be developed

Lamoille Housing Partnership - \$6,000

Stowe Performing Arts - \$2,400

Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center - \$1,000

Stowe Jazz Festival - \$1,000

Lamoille County Conservation District - \$500

FY'21 Social Services Appropriations Requests

The Town of Stowe has received the following requests for new or increased Social Service appropriations:

Clarina Howard Nichols Center: Requesting \$5,000, an increase of \$2,250

Lamoille Family Center: Requesting \$6,000, an increase of \$3,000

Lamoille County Food Share: Requesting \$10,000, an increase of \$3,000

North Central Vermont Recovery Center: Requesting \$2,500, an increase of \$1,500

Good Beginnings of Central Vermont: New request of \$500

Home Share Vermont: New request of \$500

Vermont Foundation of Recovery: New request of \$2,500

The Selectboard discussed their policy guidelines to keep the Social Services Budget at or below one half of one percent of the Selectboard proposed General Fund Operating Expenditure Budget. At level funding from FY20, the Board would be at 0.42% of the General Fund. Adding in all of the requests would bring it to 0.48%. In an effort to stay within the 0.5% of the General Fund guideline while leaving some capacity for future needs, the Selectboard felt that all increased requests would be capped at 20% increases and new requests would be capped at \$1,000. Accordingly, the Selectboard plans to advance the organizations into the General Fund Budget at the following amount:

Clarina Howard Nichols Center - \$3,300

Lamoille Family Center - \$3,600

Lamoille County Food Share - \$8,400

North Central Vermont Recovery Center - \$1,200

Good Beginnings of Central Vermont - \$500

Home Share Vermont - \$500

Vermont Foundation of Recovery - \$1,000

Ms. Hagerty brought up the idea of a Stowe “community fund” that could be used to accept funding from the Town and then determine which organizations to distribute it to and at what amount. That way it would be simply a pre-determined percentage of the budget for the Town to handle. -

FY20 General Fund Operating & Capital Budget Deliberations

Mr. Safford noted one change since the January 6, 2020 meeting at which the budgets were presented. He explained that one employee has opted back in to the Town’s health insurance, resulting in an increase of \$15,097.

There was no other discussion at this time, a public hearing will be held on January 27, 2020.

Draft Annual Meeting Warning

Selectboard Meeting 1/13/20

Mr. Safford presented a draft Annual Meeting warning and Australian Ballot warning to the Board. The major change is that the School District Meeting and Australian Ballot articles are no longer included as they will be holding their own meetings. Additionally, staff have included the article regarding the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail completion on the Annual Meeting warning as discussed at the January 6, 2020 meeting.

Other Business – Manager’s Report

Mr. Safford presented a draft Annual Meeting Survey to the board and asked for their input. Additionally, he will send the survey out to various Town Boards and Commissions asking if they have any questions they would like included and will mention it in the Town Manager’s next newspaper column.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board went into Executive Session at 8:42pm to discuss Personnel and Legal issues.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:57pm.

There being no further business, Chair Noyes adjourned the meeting at 8:58pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission and Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting
Monday January 27, 2020
Akeley Memorial Hall

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Neil Van Dyke
Town Manager Charles Safford; Public Works Director Harry Shepard; Barbara Baraw; Robert Page;
John Thurgood; Paul Sakash; Drew Clymer; Arnold Ziegler; Gregg Goodson

Call to Order

Chair William Noyes called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Ms. Lisa Hagerty, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Approve the Minutes of January 13, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Neil Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved the Minutes of January 13, 2020.

Liquor Commission

Chair Noyes opened the Liquor Commission Meeting at 5:31pm

Liquor Consent Items

Special Event Permit Application:

- GoAmericaGo Beverages LLC dba WhistlePig Rye Whiskey: Tasting @ Lodge at Spruce Peak Founders Cup Race January 25, 2020 11:00am – 9:00pm
- Frost Beer Works: Conference Reception/Dinner@ The Lodge at Spruce Peak February 3, 2020 5:30pm – 9:30pm
- North Branch Vineyards: Chad Holister @ Spruce Peak February 8, 2020 6:00pm – 12:00am
- Champlain Orchards: 6 Shades of Pink & Red Party @ Stowe Cider 17 Town Farm Lane February 14, 2020 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Art Gallery, Book Store, Museum or Library Serving Permit:

- Spruce Peak Arts Center: Serving @ Spruce Peak Lobby of Theatre February 5, 2020 4:30pm – 6:30pm
- Helen Day Art Center February 13, 2020 4:00pm-8:00pm
- Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum: Serving @ 1st & 2nd Floors of Museum February 20, 2020 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum: Serving @ 1st & 2nd Floors of Museum March 7, 2020 5:30pm – 7:30pm
- Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum: Serving @ 1st & 2nd Floors of Museum March 26, 2020 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Request to Cater:

- Trapp Family Lodge: Season Passholders Party @ Trapp Outdoor Center

Selectboard Meeting 1/27/20

March 29, 2020 12:00pm – 5:00pm

- Trapp Family Lodge: Catamount Ultra Marathon @ Trapp Outdoor Center
June 27, 2020 7:00am – 5:00pm
- Trapp Family Lodge: Trapps Mountain Marathon @ Trapp Outdoor Center
October 17, 2020 7:00am – 5:00pm

2020 Annual Liquor License:

Enclosed is a letter to the VT Dept of Liquor Control requesting blanket approval for Class 3 liquor license applications in 2020, in addition to the previously granted permissions for Class 1 and Class 2 applications. This request was approved by the VT DLC on January 17, 2020.

- Commodities Natural Market of Stowe @ 512 Mountain Road
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
- Green Goddess Café (TCAS LLC) @ 618 South Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- Harvest Market (Carpenter Food Company) @ 1031 Mountain Road
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages

- Idletyme Brewing Company @ 1859 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- Shaw's (Brockton Corporation) @ Route 100
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
- Stowe Cinema 3 Plex (North Country Enterprises) @ Baggy Knees Shopping Plaza
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
- Stowe Jolley (Jolley Associates) @ 911 South Main Street
Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
- Swiss Fondue by Heinz @ 48 South Main Street
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- Trattoria la Festa/Toscana (PAGA Inc) @ 4080 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit

On a motion by Ms. Hagerty, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the Liquor Consent Items as listed.

Water & Sewer Commission

Chair Noyes opened the Water & Sewer Commission Meeting at 5:32pm

Consent Agenda

1. Water & Sewer Abatement Request Stonybrook Condominiums

Selectboard Meeting 1/27/20

On a motion by Mr. Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved the Water & Sewer Commission Consent Agenda as presented.

Selectboard Meeting

Chair Noyes opened the Selectboard Meeting at 5:33pm

Consent Agenda

1. SED Note Allonge for Attachment

On a motion by Ms. Hagerty, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

FY'21 General Operating & Capital Fund Budget Public Hearing

Chair Noyes opened the public hearing on the FY'21 General Operating & Capital Fund Budget at 5:35pm. Town Manager Charles Safford noted that the budget had been adjusted to include the Community Appropriations as decided at the January 13, 2020 meeting. As presented, the net budget represents 4.13% increase and the projected tax rate represents a 2.58% increase.

Resident Arnie Zeigel spoke to the board - requesting that this include a section of Weeks Hill Road for a 0.25-mile section from where pavement ends now to White Gates Road since we the Town already planned on paving Edson Hill Road. The Board and staff noted that there are many dirt roads in Stowe that could be considered for pavement but the Town is primarily focusing its resources on managing existing pavement. Also, prior to committing the pavement of a gravel road the sub-base should be evaluated. Billy noted that when he first got on the Selectboard the Town was spending \$200,000 on paving and it is now over \$400,000 per year. It was also noted that not only are traffic volumes a factor in considering new road sections for pavement, but stormwater sediment control will also need to be taken into consideration.

The Board also discussed the two proposed new positions to add to organizational capacity to maintain our infrastructure. The first position is a Buildings & Grounds Director, which would be a new department to oversee the Town's buildings and lands. Adding this position would remove this burden from a variety of staff, including Public Works. It would also help bring focus to the need to maintain our buildings and our investment in them. The second position is a Public Works Assistant Engineer, who would help meet stormwater permit requirements and other departmental demands. It was asked if the Town needed to be quite as proactive on stormwater requirements. The Town Manager noted that the Town is only focusing on high priority segments at this time. The Board thought this was a reasonable stepped in approach and that they didn't want to risk the Town facing fines for non-compliance.

Other topics discussed included the Annual Leave Transfer, EMS use of Per Diem staff along with volunteers.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Hagerty, the Board approved the FY'21 General Operating & Capital Fund Budget as presented.

Annual Meeting Warning Adoption

Selectboard Meeting 1/27/20

Mr. Safford presented the Board with Annual Meeting and Australian Ballot Warnings to be signed by the Board. They both include the standard articles. In addition, the Annual Meeting Warning also includes an article pertaining to the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail.

On a motion by Mr. Van Dyke, seconded by Ms. Hagerty, the Board approved the Annual Meeting and Australian Ballot Warnings as presented.

Stagecoach Road Culvert Emergency Repair and Permit Conditions

Public Works Director Harry Shepard provided the Board with a report on the deteriorating conditions of the culverts at the crossing of Moss Glenn Brook and issues associated with the permits and required future bridge for compliance with VTDES Stream Alteration Permit requirements. He explained that the current culverts are degraded, and after the flood events on November 1, 2019, the bottom plates on both culverts have partially failed. Public Works is regularly monitoring the conditions and will take action to reduce the weight limit or close the road if necessary. The Town drafted some plans, but the VT DEC issued a permit condition that it do a permanent replacement 10/1/24 because they felt the repairs would take up hydraulic capacity. A permanent replacement could cost millions of dollars and the Town is not in a position to fund it by itself. Staff is going to work with VT DEC, VTrans and the Federal Government to find a solution that would be eligible for Federal funding.

Other Business – Manager’s Report

Mr. Safford noted that the Halloween/ November 1 storm has been declared eligible for FEMA assistance at the rate of 75%. Additionally, Mr. Safford noted that Fire Chief Kyle Walker has been named Emergency Management Director. He thanked Ed Stewart for his years of service, but explained it was advantageous to have the responsibility with a full-time employee.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:47pm to discuss contracts.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:08pm.

There being no further business, Chair Noyes adjourned the meeting at 7:08pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission and Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting
Monday February 10, 2020
Akeley Memorial Hall

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Neil Van Dyke
Town Manager Charles Safford; Public Works Director Harry Shepard; Mary Black

Call to Order

Chair William Noyes called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Approve the Minutes of January 27, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the Minutes of January 27, 2020.

Liquor Commission

Chair Noyes opened the Liquor Commission Meeting at 5:31pm

Liquor Consent Items

Special Event Permit Application:

- Caledonia Spirits Inc: Barr Hill Tasting Event @ Spruce Peak Resort
February 22, 2020 2:00pm – 8:00pm

Festival Event Permit Application:

- Gray Matter Marketing: Craft Brew Races Stowe @ Stoweflake Mtn Resort
May 15, 2020 9:00am – 5:00pm
May 16, 2020 12:00pm – 4:00pm
- Gray Matter Marketing: Vermont 10 Miler @ Mayo Farm Field
October 30, 2020 9:00am – 5:00pm
October 31, 2020 9:00am – 5:00pm
November 1, 2020 11:00am – 2:00pm

Art Gallery, Book Store, Museum or Library Serving Permit:

- Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum: Serving @ 1st & 2nd Floors of Museum
February 06, 2020 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Request to Cater:

- Black Diamond Barbeque: Fundraiser for Team IMPACT @ 551 Edson Hill
February 29, 2020 4:00pm – 9:00pm
- OB2 dba Higher Ground Chamber Society Music @ Spruce Peak Performing Arts
March 28, 2020 3:00pm – 12:00pm

2020 Annual Liquor License:

- Black Cap Coffee & Beer (Fifty-Five Consulting & Enterprises) @ 144 Main Street

Selectboard Meeting 2/10/20

- Second Class License to Sell Malt & Vinous Beverages
- Commodores Inn (Sylvan Park Inn, Inc.) @ 823 South Main Street
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- Mountaineer Motor Inn @ 3343 Mountain Road
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Hotel License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
- Stone Hill Inn (Roling Stone Hill Inn) @ 89 Houston Farm Road
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Outside Consumption Permit
- Sunset Grille and Tap Room @ 140 Cottage Club Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the Liquor Consent Items as listed.

Selectboard Meeting

Chair Noyes opened the Selectboard Meeting at 5:32pm

Consent Agenda

1. Clerk's Record Retention Schedule
2. 2019 Certificate of No Appeal or Suit Pending
3. SAA/Town MOU Re: Visitors Center & Public Restrooms
4. Annual Certificate of Highway Mileage
5. Adoption of 2019 Road & Bridge Standards
6. Special Event Applications

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Security Alarm Ordinance Amendments – 1st Reading

Town Manager Charles Safford presented a proposed Security Alarm Ordinance which would replace the existing Police Alarm Ordinance. The revisions make this policy in alignment with the recently revised Fire Alarm Ordinance but is tailored to security alarms. These revisions include fines for violations such as not posting a 911 address or having an accessible lockbox. The revision would also make the ordinance a civil violation rather than a criminal one. Finally, the fines are increased to mirror the Fire Alarm Ordinance.

The Board discussed the public information campaign that will occur for educational purposes if the amendments are approved. Mr. Safford noted that with the Fire Alarm Ordinance the Town has alerted alarm monitoring companies and property owners, put information in the Stowe Reporter and Town website and has been leaving informational cards when there are false alarms. It was also suggested that in the future the Town do a recap in the Annual Report of ordinance changes.

Selectboard Meeting 2/10/20

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board moved to warn a public hearing for Monday February 24, 2020 to consider the proposed changes to the Security Alarm Ordinance.

Void Highways and Other Public Ways and Places Ordinance – 1st Reading

Mr. Safford presented the Selectboard with the current Highways and Other Public Ways and Places Ordinance, stating that the 2019 Road and Bridge Standards is an update to the standards in the ordinance. He also stated that these standards do not need to be in an ordinance as they are for internal staff guidance and not intended to regulate or fine others for non-compliance.

On a motion by Mr. Neil Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board moved to warn a public hearing for Monday February 24, 2020 to consider voiding the Stowe Highway and Other Public Ways and Public Places Ordinance.

Annual Meeting Survey

Mr. Safford presented a draft Annual Meeting Survey with seven questions as submitted by the Planning Commission and staff. There were additional questions from a resident of Stowe, however they were of a statewide or national level and historically the Selectboard has included only questions pertaining to municipal government. The Board discussed including questions specific to Stowe Vibrancy and events but determined that this year there were not enough pressing issues to warrant a survey. It could be brought back in future years.

Other Business – Manager's Report

Mr. Safford noted that Fire Chief Kyle Walker, also Stowe Emergency Management Director, will be rolling out the VT Alert system as the Town of Stowe's primary communication system for local emergency management notifications. This is a statewide service; however, users can opt into specific towns. Stowe already has 1605 people signed up. There will be a public awareness campaign to promote more sign ups. It was also discussed that there will be a protocol in place to determine what qualifies for alerts to avoid too frequent alerts and alert fatigue for users.

Mr. Safford also presented an Act 250 permit for the recently completed streambank stabilization project, which stipulates among other things that a plan for the Recreation Path be prepared based on the 2007 West Branch Management Plan.

The Board also discussed the upcoming Annual Meeting. With the move to the Akeley Building, space will be limited, and because of that there will be no food for sale for breakfast or lunch, and no other solicitations. Public information from public officials will be allowed.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Van Dyke, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:00pm to discuss personnel and legal matters. Mary Black was invited to stay for the first part of the Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:22pm.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board appointed Mary Black as an Alternate to the Development Review Board for a three-year term to expire April 30, 2023.

On a motion by Mr. Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board returned to Executive Session at 6:25pm.

Selectboard Meeting 2/10/20

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:35pm

There being no further business, Chair Noyes adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle

chaStowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission and Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting
Monday February 24, 2020
Akeley Memorial Hall

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Neil Van Dyke
Town Manager Charles Safford; Public Works Director Harry Shepard; Catherine Crawley, Liz Soper,
Adam Davis, Marina Meerburg

Call to Order

Chair William Noyes called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Neil Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. William Adams, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Approve the Minutes of February 10, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the Minutes of February 10, 2020.

Liquor Commission

Chair Noyes opened the Liquor Commission Meeting at 5:31pm

Liquor Consent Items

Special Event Permit Application:

- Caledonia Spirits Inc: Rusty Nail Tasting Event @ The Rusty Nail 1190 Mtn Rd
March 6, 2020 5:00pm – 11:00pm
- St Johnsbury Distillery: Table/Tasting Event @ 1190 Mtn Rd
March 6, 2020 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- Silo Distillery (American Crafted Spirits): Ski Vermont Tasting Event @ 700 Trapp Hill Rd
March 7, 2020 10:00am – 5:00pm
- Caledonia Spirits Inc: Edelweiss Cocktail Class @ Edelweiss 2251 Mtn Rd
March 15, 2020 5:30pm – 9:00pm

Art Gallery, Book Store, Museum or Library Serving Permit:

- Spruce Peak Arts Center: Serving at Lobby of Theatre @ 122 Hourglass Drive
March 10, 2020 4:30pm – 7:30pm
- Helen Day Art Center: Serving at Gallery @ 90 Pond Street
March 12, 2020 4:30pm – 8:30pm

2020 Annual Liquor License:

- **Bench, The** (Split Ventures) @ 492 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Blue Donkey** (Bombastic Industries LLC) @ 1669 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Outside Consumption Permit

Selectboard Meeting 2/24/20

- **Green Mountain Inn** (Three White Birches Development) @ Main Street
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Hotel License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Over the Wall** (Bombastic Industries LLC) @ 2160 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Pantry & Beanery, The** (DH Stowe Management LLC) @ 208 Hour Glass Drive
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Rim Rocks** (TAAG LLC) @ 394 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Skinny Pancake, The** (DH Stowe Management LLC) @ 216 Hour Glass Lane
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Speak Easy/Line House** (DH Stowe Management LLC) @ 7412 Route 108
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
- **Stowe Bowl** (Dutchess Inn Inc) @ 1613 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Stowe Country Club** (DH Stowe Management LLC) @ 216 Hour Glass Lane
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Stowe Mountain Club Alpine Clubhouse, The** (DH Stowe Management LLC) @ 7412 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Stowe Mountain Club Golf Cottage, The** (DH Stowe Management LLC) @ 7412 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Stowe Mountain Lodge** (DH Stowe Management LLC) @ 7412 Mountain Road
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Hotel License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Stowe Quick Mart** (Collins Associates) @ 745 South Main Street
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Topnotch Resort** (Spire Hospitality LLC) @ 4000 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages

Selectboard Meeting 2/24/20

Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit

- **Tres Amigos** (Tres Amigos LLC) @ 1190 Mountain Road
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit

Water & Sewer Commission Meeting

Chair Noyes opened the Water & Sewer Commissioners meeting at 5:32pm.

Water & Sewer Consent Agenda

1. Water/Sewer Allocation 257 Lintilhac Lane

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Van Dyke, the Board approved the Water & Sewer Consent Agenda items as presented.

Selectboard Meeting

Chair Noyes opened the Selectboard Meeting at 5:33pm

Consent Agenda

1. Mayo Farm Agricultural Lease Renewal
2. Special Event Applications

On a motion by Mr. Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Annual Meeting Informational Meeting

Chair Noyes opened the meeting to questions from the public regarding the proposed FY'21 General Fund Operating Budget, Capital Plan or any other articles on the warning. There was no public comment or questions at this time.

Security Alarm Ordinance Public Hearing

Chair Noyes opened a public hearing to discuss the proposed changes to the Security Alarm Ordinance, including a name change from Police Alarm Ordinance to Security Alarm Ordinance. Changes include converting it from the criminal to a civil ordinance, putting an enforcement mechanism for non-compliance with posting your E911 address, and increasing the fines for false alarms. - There will be an extensive public education campaign to work with alarm monitoring companies and property owners with alarms-

There was no public comment at this time.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Van Dyke, the Board voided the Police Alarm Ordinance and adopted the Security Alarm Ordinance as presented.

Void Highways and Other Public Ways and Places Ordinance Public Hearing

Mr. Safford presented the Selectboard with the current Highways and Other Public Ways and Places Ordinance, stating that the 2019 Road and Bridge Standards is an update to the standards. - He also stated

Selectboard Meeting 2/24/20

that these standards do not need to be in an ordinance as they are for internal staff guidance and not intended to regulate or fine others for non-compliance.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board voided the Stowe Highway and Other Public Ways and Public Places Ordinance.

Stowe Energy Committee Formation and Charge

Stowe residents Catherine Crowley, Marina Meerburg and Liz Soper presented to the Board a proposal to establish a Stowe Energy Committee, which would help the residents and businesses to reduce energy use, save money and protect the environment. They noted that the Town already has an adopted Energy Plan which they would work with. The Committee would also attend conferences such as the VCANN and CT Council on Rural Development Climate Related Initiatives. Tom Jackman, Town Planner, -has offered to - staff - the committee. This would be a volunteer committee, but the cost to the Town would be in Mr. Jackman's time and potentially cost associated with projects. . Mr. Safford also provided a Committee Charge should the Selectboard move to establish the committee.

On a motion by Mr. Van Dyke, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the formation of a Stowe Energy Committee with the Charge as presented, and directed the Town Manager to advertise for interested persons.

Other Business – Manager's Report

Mr. Safford reminded the Board that Annual Meeting will start at 8:00am on Tuesday March 3rd in the Akeley Memorial Building Theater. The Town is working to get the word out that location of Town Meeting has changed.

On a motion by Mr. Van Dyke, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board went into Executive Session at 5:47pm to discuss personnel. Chris Carey and Sam Schofield were invited to stay for the first part of the Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:04pm.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board appointed Chris Carey as an Alternate to the Development Review Board for a three-year term to expire April 30, 2023.

There being no further business, Chair Noyes adjourned the meeting at 6:08pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission and Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting
Monday March 9, 2020
Akeley Memorial Hall

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
Town Manager Charles Safford; Public Works Director Harry Shepard; Edwin Bitter, Catherine Crawley,
Richard Weinstein, Sara Opel, Liz Soper

Call to Order

Chair William Noyes called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. He welcomed newly elected Selectboard Member Nick Donza.

Election of Officers

Traditionally, at the first meeting after Annual Town Meeting, the Selectboard Members elect a new Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk.

On a motion by Mr. Billy Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board appointed Ms. Lisa Hagerty as Chair.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board appointed Mr. Adams as Vice Chair.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board appointed Ms. Abigail Earle as Selectboard Clerk.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Approve the Minutes of February 24, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the Minutes of February 24, 2020 as presented.

Liquor Commission

Chair Hagerty opened the Liquor Commission Meeting at 5:38pm

Liquor Consent Items

Request to Cater:

- Idletyme Brewing Company: Jake Burton Celebration of Life Tailgate @ Stowe Kitchen & Bath
March 13, 2020 3:00pm-6:00pm
- Idletyme Brewing Company: Hyde Cup Hockey @ Stowe Arena
March 14, 2020 3:30pm-10:30pm
- Black Diamond Barbeque: Mens Hockey @ Stowe Arena
March 14, 2020 4:00pm-10:30pm
- Black Diamond Barbeque: Fundraiser @ Stowe Cider 17 Town Farm Lane
March 14, 2020 3:00pm-9:00pm
- Black Diamond Barbeque: Wedding Rehearsal @ Strawberry Hill Farm
July 10, 2020 3:00pm-11:00pm
- Black Diamond Barbeque: Wedding Reception @ Strawberry Hill Farm

Selectboard Meeting 3/09/20

July 25, 2020 2:00pm-11:00pm

- Black Diamond Barbeque: Wedding Rehearsal @ Strawberry Hill Farm
August 7, 2020 3:00pm-11:00pm
- Black Diamond Barbeque: Wedding Reception @ Strawberry Hill Farm
August 8, 2:00pm-11:00pm
- Black Diamond Barbeque: Corporate Event @ 51 West Shaw Hill Rd
October 3, 2020 12:00pm-12:00am

Malt Tasting Permit:

- Idletyme Brewing Company: Stowe Kitchen & Bath @ 1813 Mountain Road
March 14 & 15, 2020 1:00pm-3:00pm

Miscellaneous:

- **Stowe Cider @ 17 Town Farm Lane**
Amendment to Manufacturer Permit

2020 Annual Liquor License:

- **Burts Pub (MK Enterprises) @ 135 Luce Hill Road**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Butler's Pantry (Zomax 1 LLC) @ 128 Main Street**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Cork Wine Bar & Deli @ 35 School Street**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Edelweiss Mountain Deli (Squash Blossom) @ 2251 Mountain Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Field Guide (433 Mountain Road Operating Co LLC) @ 433 Mountain Road**
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Hotel License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Fine Wine Cellars (Fine Wines of Vermont) @ 344 Mountain Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Harrison's (Kneale Family Enterprises) @ 7412 Route 108**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Hotel Sportiva Stowe (2) @ 876 Mountain Road**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Jeff's at Stowe (Backtostowe) @ 990 Mountain Road**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors

- **Mac's Stowe Market (Sherman V Allen Inc) @ 88 South Main Street**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Moscow Schoolhouse (Jack Fox Enterprises Inc) @ 383 Moscow Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Notchbrook General Store (Bourne Food Mart) @ 4968 Mountain Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Picasso NY Pizza @ 1899 Mountain Road**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Plate (Ari Oli LLC) @ 91 Main Street**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
Caterer's License
- **Salute (Popi LLC) @ 18 Edson Hill Road**
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Stowe Seafood (Dayboat Fish Co) @ 394 Mountain Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Stoweflake Resort and Conference Center (Baraw Enterprises) @ 1746 Mountain Road**
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Hotel License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Stowehof Inn (CH Vermont LLC) @ 434 Edson Hill Road**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
Outside Consumption Permit
- **Trapp Family Lodge (Hotel) @ 700 Trapp Hill Road**
First Class Hotel License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Hotel License to Sell Spirituous Liquors
- **Trapp Family Lodge Inc @ 42 Trapp Hill Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Trapp Family Lodge Inc (Bakery/Deli) @ 285 Trapp Hill Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Trapp Family Lodge Inc Gift Shop @ 700 Trapp Hill Road**
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Trapp Family Lodge (Restaurant) @ 285 Trapp Hill Road**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
- **Trapp Family Lodge (Brewery) @ 1333 Luce Hill Road**
First Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages
Third Class Restaurant/Bar License to Sell Spirituous Liquors

Water & Sewer Commission Meeting

Chair Hagerty opened the Water & Sewer Commissioners meeting at 5:39pm.

Water & Sewer Consent Agenda

1. 511 Thomas Lane Water/Sewer Allocation
2. 493 Thomas Lane Water/Sewer Allocation
3. 112 Main St. Units 5-6 Water/Sewer Allocation

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the Water & Sewer Consent Agenda items as presented.

Selectboard Meeting

Chair Noyes opened the Selectboard Meeting at 5:40pm

Consent Agenda

1. Designation of Local Newspaper
2. AT&T56 River Road Tower Lease
3. Special Event Applications

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

FY19 Audit Review

Fred Duplessis, from the audit firm Sullivan & Powers, presented the Town of Stowe FY'19 audit. He provided the audit opinion on the financial statements as well as a report on compliance with laws and regulations and internal control. Mr. Duplessis stated that there were no new regulations this year that would impact the Town audit. He also directed the Board to the Management Discussion and Analysis, written by Town Finance Director Cindy Fuller which provides a narrative on all major changes, and budget overages and underage. Mr. Duplessis stated that they found no issues with compliance, no weaknesses or deficiencies. The auditors did make one recommendation which was to update the fraud risk assessment, last done in 2011. He stated there are new cyber risks that should be included in an update. This is something that Finance will work on updating over the next year.

Stagecoach Road Culverts – Alternatives Analysis

Town Manager Charles Safford, along with Public Works Director Harry Shepard presented the Selectboard with an alternatives analysis for repair or replacement of two culverts on Stagecoach road. Currently there are two 14' x 9' corrugated metal culverts that are 62 years old and in poor condition, with the bottom and corners deteriorated. Since the Halloween flooding these culverts have been in critical condition, losing earth around the culverts. Public Works is monitoring the situation closely but any solution is likely to be at a significant expense. The culverts currently do not qualify for inclusion in State or federal funding due to the spacing between the culverts and a lack of a new bridge program does not allow for the standard 80% federal, 10% state and 10% local funding. However, since the installation of the those culverts 62 years ago, the environmental regulations have changed so that the current arrangement would no longer be permissible. Because of Vermont Stream Alterations Rules, a natural bottom culvert would be required. Mr. Shepard stated that the Town may qualify for a federal Emergency Relief Program which provides federal funding assistance for secondary highways. The program normally requires a replacement in kind, but since that is not allowable by the Vermont Stream Alterations Standards, there is a provision to allow for betterments if there is economic justification and improved flood resiliency. While a bridge would cost more than other options to replace the culvert, the life cycle of a bridge is higher (75 years) making it more cost effective in the long run. If a repair or

replacement of the culverts is chosen, the Town would have to install a third, supplemental culvert to avoid any altering of the hydraulic capacity of the existing culverts. Additionally, any repairs done to the culverts would need to be upgraded within 5 years per the Stream Alteration Rules.

The Town is asking VTrans for assistance in getting this through the federal government, but does not anticipate that they will assist financially. This means that the Town will likely need to pay the 20% match to the 80% federal funding. The cost of the bridge is estimated at \$850,000, meaning that the Town would need to fund \$170,000 out of unallocated capital reserves.

The Board discussed the timeline, noting that likely a bridge would not be constructed until 2021. In the event of a failure, such as a sinkhole, the Town would need to close the road until temporary measures such as temporary bridge, can be put in place.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the Stagecoach Road Alternatives Analysis for submission to Vtrans and FHWA and authorized the Town Manager to endorse the letter to the Secretary of the Agency of Transportation requesting VTrans support and assistance in securing funding under the FHWA ER Program with the bridge replacement being the preferred alternative.

Other Business – Manager’s Report

Mr. Safford provided an update on the Town’s response to the COVID19 (Corona Virus) concerns. The State of Vermont Department of Health has put out a press release with links for daily updates, which the Town has posted on our website. Additionally, a memo has gone out to all employees instructing them to stay home if they feel ill, and suspending the requirement that employees provide a doctors note to use Sick Time if they have under 100 hours of Sick Time. Handwashing is encouraged as well as covering coughs. The Town is also preparing to take measures if employees are required to work from home to stay operational. Town Health Officer Kyle Walker is attending trainings and State debriefings to stay abreast of the situation. At this time the Town is taking all reasonable precautions and deferring to the State.

Mr. Safford also presented a letter from the Planning Commission to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs regarding a proposed bill that would mandate lot sizes within zoning districts served by municipal water and sewer. Aside from the loss of local control, it would greatly increase the potential density of development and would likely require expansion of our municipal facilities to meet the capacity demands.

Mr. Safford and Mr. Shepard spoke with the State VTrans project planned for summer 2020 to pave Route 100 from Stowe to Morrisville. The project bid has been awarded. At the Stagecoach Road intersection there are no plans for intersection improvements due to the complexity and right of way rights. However, at Randolph Road there are plans to “T” up the intersection. Ryan Percy has requested that a right turn lane on the northbound lane be added, and the State is looking at what it can do within the Right of Way. The Board then spoke to a need to also include a left turn lane from the southbound lane. Mr. Safford said he can request this, but it would need to be studied to see if it was warranted from a traffic volume standpoint, as well as further Right of Way issues. It was also noted that the light planned for the intersection of Route 100 and West Hill Road has been postponed until 2021 or later.

Ms. Hagerty requested time to do a Town Meeting debriefing and discuss what worked well and did not work well. The location in the Akeley Building was intimate, and easier for staff to logistically put on the meeting, however visibility was a challenge as was space to congregate and have other community things

Selectboard Meeting 3/09/20

such as lunch and cookies. Mr. Safford also noted it was nice to bring people into Town Hall. The overall goal is to get more people to attend Town Meeting Day, and to do a better job of presenting information in advance so people have fewer questions. However it was noted that the discussion and debate at Town Meeting day was engaging and respectful, which will hopefully build momentum for more people to attend. It was also discussed that Town Meeting Day could include presentations from the School Board, local representatives as well as each Town Committee and Commission. It was also discussed that looking at other times such as evening or later in the day may be helpful to increase attendance.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:56pm to discuss personnel.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:40pm.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board appointed Catherine Crawley, Sarah Evans, Elizabeth Soper, Peter Collotta, Cap Chenoweth, Marina Meerburg and Rick Weinstein to the Stowe Energy Committee for a one-year term to expire April 30, 2021.

There being no further business, Chair Noyes adjourned the meeting at 7:48pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard Special Meeting
Friday March 27, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 12:05pm. She noted that this was the first virtual Stowe Selectboard meeting, welcoming those joined and asking for patience as we figure it out.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, spoke about the current status of COVID-19. He stated that things are changing quickly, but as of 1pm 3/26/20 there were 158 people in the State diagnosed, with 5 being in Lamoille county. There have been 9 deaths statewide and 2,008 people have been tested. He stated this was in line with what was expected, and current health care centers are prepared to handle worse. They are stocked with Personal Protective Equipment, but would always use more, and are accepting donations. Local emergency responders are prepared to continue to respond to all emergencies. At this time the Town is following the recommendations of the CDC and Vermont Health Department, and it is important to have a consistent message. Mr. Walker stated that if anyone feels they have symptoms of COVID-19 they should reach out to their health care provider, and if they do not have one they can call Stowe Family Practice. At this time it is important to call first as testing is limited. Mr. Walker spoke about the Governors order to stay home/stay safe order closing all non-essential businesses, limiting movement within the community and practicing social distancing when you do need to leave the house. Mr. Walker stressed checking the Stowe Public Safety website page dedicated to COVID-19 for links and information. Finally, Mr. Walker noted that vigilante and "us vs. them" mentality when it comes to second home owners and out of state plates is not helpful at this time, when we should be including people and offering support where we can. When asked about outside recreation, Chief Walker stated that it can be done while practicing social distancing but people should avoid heavily trafficked areas and parking lots as places to congregate. While there hasn't been a noticeable uptick in mental health crisis calls yet, he noted that cabin fever is real and encouraged people to electronically check in on those who may be struggling.

Tracy Wrend, Lamoille South Supervisory United Union Superintendent, spoke to the schools response to COVID-19. She stated that the school has switched to remote learning as much as possible, following the news that the governor has closed schools for the remainder of the year. All school buildings are closed except for some administrative workers and daily meal deliveries. Children were sent home with devices and school work, and the schools are working to help with internet access whenever possible. They are attempting to do daily face to face connections with all students. They are providing 200-300 youth meals per day. When asked about support for special needs children, Ms. Wrend stated that they are looking at and adjusting to each individual students needs, including working with Lamoille County Mental Health where appropriate.

Charles Safford, Town Manager, stated that in an effort to limit exposure of Town Employees, work has been limited to essential employees and they are practicing safe social distancing, frequent hand washing, etc. The road crew has been instructed to stay home unless there is a travel safety issue at this time. Non-emergency construction projects have been put on hold by VTrans, meaning the Town's sidewalk and

underground utility relocation project has been suspended until that hold is lifted. The Akeley Building is currently closed to the public with access only for time dependent essential services. Department heads are working remotely to continue to serve the community. He noted that zoning director Sarah McShane is working from home to process applications that are within her purview but people should anticipate delays in applications that need review by the Development Review Board.

Heidi Scheuermann, State Representative, thanked those in the community who are helping others in this time of need. She reiterated Chief Walkers sentiments that this is not the time for an “us vs. them” mentality and urged everyone to comply with the Governors stay home orders. She stated that the legislature is continuing to work remotely to get things done for Vermonters, including changes to the Vermont Unemployment Insurance program, financial stability for health care providers, allowing municipalities to work remotely and other administrative changes such as not allowing the disconnection of utilities at this time. Representative Scheuermann noted that she is working to get information out regarding essential vs non-essential business, unemployment filings, and more. She also spoke to the local COVID-19 task force that has started up with the assistance of a number of local volunteers. Currently at 150 volunteers, they are organizing ways to safely assist with errands for vulnerable or quarantined individuals. Anyone who could benefit from this service or knows someone who might is encouraged to contact them. She noted that non-emergency COVID-19 information can also be found by calling 211. Those experiencing a medical emergency should call 911.

Carrie Simmons, Executive Director of Stowe Area Association, spoke to the business community and the efforts they are taking to serve as a central communication hub for businesses, legislators, the community and the Town by sharing as much information as possible via their website. They are also working on how they can help businesses at this time with resources. The Visitors Center is currently closed. Ms. Simmons encouraged people to continue to support local businesses through online engagement, reviews, shares, etc.

Questions and comments from the public also included if another time would be better for parents of students, and it was decided that next week the meeting would start at 1pm. Another commenter asked to have a medical professional on the call, however it was noted that this meeting is not for medical decisions and the Town will follow the CDC and VDH.

The Selectboard then discussed the playground equipment at Memorial Park as a [high contact area that is place where it is](#) difficult to clean and [maintain social-keep](#) distance. The Board instructed the Town Manager to close [the Memorial Park playground](#) with signage and notices on the Town website and in the local newspaper.

Lamoille Regional Solid Waste District Representative

Selectboard Member Willie Noyes has historically served as the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste District Representative, and his term is due for renewal.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board appointed Willie Noyes to serve as the Stowe Representative to the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste District.

Chair Hagerty thanked all for attending the first virtual meeting of the Stowe Selectboard. There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 1:56pm.

Selectboard Meeting 3/27/20

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard Special Meeting
Friday April 3, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, gave an update on COVID-19, stating that while the numbers have gone up as they were expected to, guidelines have not really changed. Emergency services continue to respond to calls while reducing the exposure to first responders. As directed by the Selectboard last week, Memorial Park playground has been closed and signage encouraging social distancing have been put up in recreation areas. More signage will be going up. Chief Walker noted that people should continue to follow CDC and VDH directives, including the Governors recent order regarding lodging establishments no longer accepting reservations. Overall the goal is to limit movement and encourage people to stay home. Chief Walker also stated that current guidelines are for any visitors with symptoms to self-quarantine for 14 days, and those from known “hot spots” should self-quarantine for 14 days even without symptoms. Those who have tested positive should be in 14 days of isolation with monitoring by a physician and the VDH. Anyone with symptoms should be staying home. He also noted that the Stowe Public Safety Departments are still in need of masks. At this time they are not asking for ski goggles as they can be difficult to sanitize.

Dr. Anne Volanksy, Stowe Family Practice, discussed ongoing work at their practice to handle the virus. She stated that they are working with Copley Hospital and local nursing homes to be as prepared as they can be for the anticipated peak at the end of April. Dr. Volansky also updated that more tests have been released from FEMA so testing is no longer restricted. At this time there are no patients at Copley Hospital with COVID-19, all known cases are recovering at home. Stowe Family Practice is taking steps to limit exposure with decreased visits, telehealth, and using separate entrances and appointment times for healthy and potentially ill patients. The CDC is currently recommending cloth masks for all when in public places.

Heidi Scheuermann, State Representative, thanked those in the community who are helping others in this time of need. She urged everyone to comply with the Governors stay home orders, only going out for necessities. State legislature and its committees are continuing to meet remotely, with updated being put out on social media. On the federal level, there are programs to support small businesses being developed, and Ms. Scheuermann encouraged those with concerns to talk to their banks and the Vermont Small Business Association. Workers should be following the Vermont Department of Labor website and have patience with the processing as this department is currently very overwhelmed. She also spoke to the local COVID-19 task force, which is up and running and taking calls. A GoFundMe has also been set up to raise money, with an oversight committee. that has started up with the assistance of a number of local volunteers. Currently at 150 volunteers, they are organizing ways to safely assist with errands for vulnerable or quarantined individuals. Anyone who could benefit from this service or knows someone who might is encouraged to contact them. She noted that non-emergency COVID-19 information can also be found by calling 211. Those experiencing a medical emergency should call 911.

Police Chief Don Hull spoke to the ongoing operations of the Stowe Police Department. He stated that they are fully operational and responding to emergency matters. Minor issues are being handled over the phone as appropriate. Patrols are ongoing, and police ~~are~~ are using social distancing and PPE as time allows. He also noted that currently the department is short on goggles, gowns and face shields, but they have asked the State for assistance in obtaining more. Chief Hull asked for people to discontinue gatherings in public places, and stated that police are working to provide education on compliance. If there are specific complaints they will look into them, although he also encouraged people to use the online portal from the State and Attorney Generals Office for business complaints. Chief Hull also warned of a spike in spam calls and emails and reminded citizens to be vigilant in protecting their private information.

Charles Safford, Town Manager, updated on town operations. At this time highway and utility departments have been operated at reduced levels to reduce exposure, but are still responding to hazardous and emergency situations. At this time, Mr. Safford is asking that people only call or visit Town Hall for essential, time sensitive business. Memorial Park has been closed to avoid exposure risks. At this time Town parks are open, but Mr. Safford noted that respecting social distancing is still critical when outside recreating. ~~Pets-Dogs~~ should be on ~~leashes and~~ under immediate control at all times. Parking lots are being monitored by police to discourage gatherings. ~~They have also asked that people discontinue "6' partying" and are asking parents to assist with compliance from teenagers.~~ Mr. Safford also spoke to concerns about the Local Option Tax in these times, noting that the Town does have some capital reserves to get it through temporary downturns such as this. The Sidewalk/Overhead Utility Relocation project is currently on hold ~~as it is non-essential construction~~, but it will at this time the plan is to continue-move forward when the governors order is lifted. The financing for this project is already in place. Mr. Safford explained that water and sewer meters cannot be safely read at this time, however the billing software used requires access and usage fees, so the Town will be billing access fees as it always does, but the usage fees will be based on .01% of the average monthly use. The flow portion of the based on average use and will reconcile accounts will be reconciled and billed accordingly once business returns to normal-we are in position to read meters again and users will be billed accordingly. Additionally, Mr. Safford asked the Selectboard to waive late fees on water and sewer accounts until the Stay Home Stay Safe order is lifted. ~~It should be-~~ He noted that utilities are not permitted to shut-off water and sewer during the declared State of Emergency.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Water & Sewer Commissioners approved the suspension of late fees and interest charges on all water and sewer accounts until the State of Emergency is lifted or until otherwise decided by the Stowe Water & Sewer Commissioners. Billing will be based on access fees plus 0.1% of ~~the prior year~~ average monthly use, with reconciliation of accounts after the State of Emergency is lifted.

Consent Agenda

1. West Hill Road / Rt. 100 ROW Option
2. VTrans Annual Financial Plan
3. Trapp's Consecutive System Water Agreement
4. Trapp's Sewer Collection System Easement/Conveyance
5. VTrans-Stagecoach Road Bridge Grant Agreement Application

Selectboard Meeting 4/3/20

Mr. Paul Sakash asked about the West Hill/100 Intersection item, which Mr. Safford explained was a small amount of right of way required to install the traffic light in 2021. The State is offering \$3,000 compensation which the Town Assessor has agreed to, and the Selectboard is supportive of the light project.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Chair Hagerty thanked all for attending the virtual meeting of the Stowe Selectboard. She noted with security changes to Zoom there will likely be a password required for future meetings, but that it will be advertised in advance of the meeting. She also noted that registration will be required to create a name and email history for recording purposes.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 1:49pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard Special Meeting
Friday April 10, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

Chair Hagerty began the meeting by stating that Governor Phil Scott has extended the Stay Home/Stay Safe executive order until May 15, 2020, which also extends all of his previous COVID-19 related orders. Governor Scott has indicated that the State will be monitoring trends and will slowly open things back up and get people back to work when it is responsible and safe to do so.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, gave an update on COVID-19, reiterating that the Governor has now extended his orders until May 15, 2020. Chief Walker indicated that there are currently 679 cases in Vermont with 19 of those in Lamoille County. The Governor has also asked that people wear cloth masks in public to help avoid spreading the virus before symptoms are present. Chief Walker is working with local volunteers to organize distribution of handmade masks. Regardless of masks, the public is still asked to remain 6' away from others for social distancing. The Town will continue to follow the guidance and directives of the Governor and Vermont Health Department at this time.

Dr. Melissa Volansky, Stowe Family Practice, spoke to trends from Vermont that are encouraging, stating that we be reaching peak soon. There are currently no patients at Copley Hospital with COVID-19, and there have been no new cases in Lamoille County for a few days despite more testing being available. Dr. Volansky stated that mitigation strategies should continue into May, but that they do not anticipate any supply shortages for the hospital at this time. She spoke to concern that people are no longer seeking out routine medical care, and in states like New York they have seen an increase in deaths of all causes due to delayed care. She encouraged those with medical needs or mental health needs to reach out as doctors are still providing care and people should not be afraid to see them. Finally, Dr. Volansky encouraged those needing prescription assistance due to being laid off to call as there are many resources available such as patient advocates and discount pharmacies.

Emily Rosenbaum spoke on behalf of the Incident Command System and area health and human service organizations. She is working to coordinate all the good work being done throughout Lamoille County, which would include mask pick up and drop off, structure for communication and connecting people to resources such as Capstone, Lamoille Restorative Center and Copley Hospital.

Police Chief Don Hull spoke to the ongoing operations of the Stowe Police Department. He stated that they are fully operational and responding to emergency matters, cautiously and with as much distance as possible. The Stowe Public Safety Chiefs are in communication daily with each other and Town Manager Charles Safford, and are also getting regular updates from the State. Chief Hull indicated that he has seen an uptick in mental health and family issue calls, which follows national trends. He encouraged people to

Selectboard Meeting 4/10/20

still reach out to the county and state resources for mental health and family issues as well, some of which have hotlines and can be found by calling 211.

Chair Hagerty read a statement from State Representative Heidi Scheuermann who was unable to attend today's meeting. She stated that the legislature is working to allow - lodging businesses to accept reservations for June 15th or after. They have also stopped all in person real estate transactions although those that can be done vial phone, email or online may continue. Financial and legal services continue to operate in limited capacities. The Stowe C-19 volunteer group is getting requests, and is urging others to use this service for errands. Those interested should contact Leslie Anderson at leslie.anderson@stowelawyers.com. The group is also doing outreach to check on those who need it, so if anyone is aware of someone who could benefit, please let them know. Additionally, funds are being raised to help those who need assistance with groceries and other essential supplies.

Charles Safford, Town Manager, updated on town operations. At this time highway and utility departments have been operated at reduced levels - in order to minimize exposure, but are still responding to hazardous and emergency situations. At this time, Mr. Safford is asking that people only call or visit Town Hall for essential, time sensitive business. Very limited in person meetings are allowed but otherwise all business should be conducted online or over the phone. He noted that boards are looking into meeting electronically, but it can be challenging, so the Selectboard is only handling time dependent essential and ministerial business at this time. Mr. Safford also noted that special events are being looked at on a case by case basis, there is currently one scheduled for May 20th that is being looked at, but a final determination hasn't been made. The Town recognizes that lodging can't be booked until after June 15th and this might impact the amount of visitors for a special event, but could be regional or local event if social gatherings are permitted. Mr. Safford also spoke to the upcoming tax payment date of May 15, 2020. Many payments are received through mail and autopayment, but the Selectboard may chose to move the date back. To do this, the Town would need to obtain a tax anticipation note from the bank and is currently working with the finance department and the bank to get this in place. The Town is not able to waive penalties or interest fees as they are in the Town Charter and would require both voter approval and legislature approval to suspend them. Currently Stowe imposes a 2% interest penalty which is less punitive than most Vermont municipalities. Going forward the Selectboard could adjust the FY21 tax dates as long as they are 4 equal payments, but cash flow is a consideration.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Water & Sewer Commissioners approved the

Consent Agenda

1. Suspension of Dog Licensing Late Fees
2. Proposed Tax Collection Policy Amendment (Suspension of Tax Sales)
3. Close Memorial Park Basketball and Tennis Courts
4. Approve 3/27/20 and 4/3/20 minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Chair Hagerty thanked all for attending the virtual meeting of the Stowe Selectboard. It was discussed that perhaps Selectboard Business could be a separate or every-other-week thing and the COVID updates do not necessarily dictate a full Selectboard Meeting. With this in mind, the next weekly COVIC update will be Friday April 17th, and the next full Selectboard Meeting will be April 24th, and this meeting will also include an update.

Selectboard Meeting 4/10/20

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 2:39pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard Special Meeting
Friday April 24, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Billy Adams, seconded by Mr. Willie Noyes, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, gave an update on COVID-19. Chief Walker indicated that there are currently 827 cases in Vermont with 25 of those in Lamoille County, and 44 deaths as a result of the disease. The Governor has now relaxed the workplace restrictions to those in manufacturing and construction in groups of 5 or less people who are 6' apart and wearing face masks. Chief Walker is working with local volunteers to organize distribution of handmade masks, noting that the first wave will be mailed to residents early next week. Those who are not residents can request a mask by contacting Nancy Small or emailing Masks@stowevt.gov.

Dr. Melissa Volanksy, Stowe Family Practice, spoke to concern that people are no longer seeking out routine medical care. She reiterated that precautions have been put in place to have those who are not suspected of having the disease at different times and locations than those who may be ill. Routine care is still being deferred but those with chronic diseases, and well child visits are still occurring. She encouraged those with medical needs or mental health needs to reach out as doctors are still providing care and people should not be afraid to see them. She also noted that Waterbury Urgent Care is closing, which may put more demand on Stowe Family Practice, so they have increased staff to meet that demand.

Heidi Scheuermann spoke to the need to remain vigilant with Stay Home Stay Safe restrictions despite the drop in the number of new cases. She asked all people to wear a cloth face mask when in public. She noted that the State is currently working on the Pandemic Unemployment Program for Self-employed workers who have lost wages, as well as the regular unemployment system. There are issues with both systems but they are working on getting advance checks out to those unable to process. She also spoke to work the Stowe COVID19 group is doing, including having \$20 in free dairy products for those who work or live in Stowe from Mansfield Dairy, and gift cards available at Shaws Customer Service for those unable to afford groceries. If anyone is struggling or knows someone struggling, please contact the group for assistance.

Police Chief Don Hull spoke to the ongoing operations of the Stowe Police Department. He stated that they are fully operational and responding to emergency matters, cautiously and with as much distance as possible. He reminded everyone to be aware of increased frauds and scams out there and directed people to the Public Safety website and Facebook for more guidance on handling them.

Tiffany Donza, Stowe representative on the Lamoille Unified Union School Board, stated that online learning was ongoing, but that grades would not be negatively impacted by the transition to distance learning. At this time the school has approximately 90% participation rates which is close to the average

daily attendance when school is in session as normal. The State is anticipating quite a shortfall in the education fund, which will make things financially difficult. The School is currently filling all full-time teaching positions, but they are not planning to fill open custodial or math coaching positions at this time.

Charles Safford, Town Manager, updated on town operations. Town Hall is currently closed but the Town Clerks are allowed to operate on a limited basis. Therefore, they are only accepting people by appointment due to limited space. A lot of their documents are currently on line and people are encouraged to use that whenever possible. The Parks, Water and Highway departments are being trained on COVID19 protocols and will be returning to work in small groups, per the Governors directive. This does not mean business is back to usual, so please continue to be patient. The Sidewalk and Utility Relocation Project is scheduled for a soft start next week with signage and set up. Starting the week of May 11th South Main Street will be closed from 6:00am to 6:00pm for approximately 6 weeks. Detour information will be put out soon, and full updates published on the Town Website, through Stay Connected emails and on Front Porch Forum. -

Consent Agenda

1. Annual Appointments
2. 4/10/20 Minutes
3. 607 Maple Street Water / Sewer Allocation
4. 3391 Mountain Road Water / Sewer Allocation

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Tax Anticipation Note

Mr. Safford presented a \$5.5 million dollar tax anticipation note for the Selectboard to consider assisting with anticipated cash flow needs of the municipality. The Town Finance Department has put together a cash flow analysis which shows that by potentially moving the May 15th property tax payment that the Town would need this note to cover its cash flow, including the payment to the State Education Taxes on June 1, 2020. Additionally, the Town is anticipating an increase in delinquencies and tax abatements due to an inability to pay. The interest rate is 1.47% on any money borrowed between 4/27 and 10/27/20, the Town only draws down as needed and there is no pre-payment penalty. -

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the Tax Anticipation Note documents.

Request to Move Back Property Tax Due Date

Mr. Safford presented the Board with an email From Catherine Crawley requested the Selectboard “take up consideration of postponing the May 15th property tax collection until later date within the current fiscal year to provide relief to individuals and businesses. The Town Attorney has agreed that the Selectboard has the authority to amend the payment due dates so long as it doesn't go beyond the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30, 2020. The Town must pay the State Education Taxes on June 1st and the local schools twenty days after the tax due date- The Town is not able to change the 2% interest rate on late payments as that is part of the Town Charter. This charge is compounded monthly, starting the day after the due date. If approved, the Town will provide notice to residents of the change in date through both online notices, newspaper notices and signs outside the Akeley Building.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved moving the 4th FY20 tax installment from May 15th to June 15th and authorized the Town Treasurer to issue payment to the local schools prior to the end of the current fiscal year rather than waiting the full twenty days.

Selectboard Meeting 4/24/20

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford stated that a group of citizens is working on a way to honor the graduating seniors of Stowe High School, possibly through some sort of signs on public property. The Selectboard agreed by consensus to have the Manager to reasonably work with the community group to accomplish this objective.

He also noted that the Town is currently monitoring when social gatherings will be allowed by the Governor and working with Special Event organizers to meet the governor's mandates. Currently the Catamount Ultra Marathon is looking at moving their event from June 27th to a tentative date of August 22nd. The Selectboard was agreeable by consensus to have the Manager work with event organizers that wanted to move back their special event dates.

The Manager indicated that they are also preparing to work if Stowe Area Association, hotel owners, special event organizers to help educate visitors on the COVID-19 protocols in place at the time hotels open back up and / or special events are allowed to occur again.

The Selectboard discussed the need to continue to have special meetings on Friday afternoons, and decided that unless there is a compelling need for a special meeting they will resume their usual Monday night meetings at 5:30pm via virtual meetings starting on Monday May 11th.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 3:04pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard Special Meeting
Monday May 11, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:34pm. She thanked the efforts of Health Officer Kyle Walker, Town Manager Charles Safford and the employees in the Town Clerks Office for the distribution of cloth face masks to Stowe residents.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Willie Noyes, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, gave an update on COVID-19. Chief Walker indicated that there are currently 926 cases in Vermont with 26 of those in Lamoille County, and 53 deaths as a result of the disease. The Governor has announced that childcare, recreation and retail establishments may open in the coming weeks with new restrictions in place. Chief Walker encouraged everyone to continue social distancing, wearing cloth masks, practicing good hand hygiene and also kindness to all. Chief Walker is working with local volunteers to organize distribution of handmade masks, with about half of the masks being mailed out at this time. Currently there is only enough supply for residents, but those who need masks may request them by contacting Nancy Small or emailing Masks@stowevt.gov.

Walter Frame, Executive Vice President of Trapp Family Lodge and member of the Governors task force for the reopening of businesses in Vermont, spoke to the process for local businesses to begin to reopen. He outlined that there are 15 mandated health and safety requirements that the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development that must be followed. This includes the VOSHA training, designating a "health officer" on each shift to implement and enforce guidelines, prescreening health survey of staff, required face coverings, and other mandates. Mr. Frame encouraged businesses to reach out to their specific associations for guidance, as well as following the State mandates. He stressed that it is important to take this opportunity to reopen and do it right the first time assuring that Stowe is a safe place to come visit.

Heidi Scheuermann, State Representative, spoke to the ongoing challenges at the State to keep up with unemployment claims and small business assistance, she said the system is improving but encouraged anyone still struggling to get through to contact her directly. She also spoke to the Governor allowing the restart of businesses under new mandates and stated that businesses need to be thoughtful in how they reopen and if businesses need assistance to reach out to her. Those with questions about capacity can reach out to the fire warden or follow common sense for allowing 6' social distancing. Guidelines for retain opening and childcare opening are still being developed and should be released soon. Nothing has been announced for hospitality reopening at this point, but Ms. Scheuermann remained optimistic that will be soon.

Bobby Murphy, Vice President and General Manager of Stowe Mountain Resort (Vail), spoke to ongoing efforts to promote Stowe as a safe and healthy place for both visitors and employees. Many local businesses and organizations are working together on signage, support and ideas. He encouraged

businesses to think not only about distancing between visitors but also for employees, in places such as breakrooms, using staggered shifts, etc.

Charles Safford, Town Manager, indicated the Town has been providing training for employees and modifying work spaces to provide for a safe work environment, The State has indicated that summer camps can open but the Town is - waiting on further guidance f on operating conditions. Mr. Paul Sakash questioned if any Town employees had been furloughed. Mr. Safford said no. He explained that public safety employees are essential and have been working all along. Some employees were ordered to stay home and work in shifts to help ensure that employees were available for treatment purposes and emergencies. Other employees have been working from home when feasible as directed by the Governor's Stay Home / Stay Safe Executive Order. – Most employees were back to work on-site or at still working from home, but the Library is still not open. If we are not able to return employees to work on a protracted basis then we may ask for voluntary furloughs or require it. Mr. Safford also addressed concerns about loss in Local Option Tax revenues as a result of business closures. He said the Town is working on closing out as many capital projects as possible to see what funds are available, as well as putting a hold on any new capital projects for the foreseeable future. The Town is also able to use unallocated reserves if necessary.

Consent Agenda

1. 4/24/20 Minutes
2. Stowe Emergency Management Plan Update
3. Palisades Temporary Pedestrian Access Agreement
4. Stowe Internal Controls Checklist

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Billy Adams, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Open Memorial Park Tennis & Basketball Courts

The Town has received a request from Adam Rice of the Recreation Commission to open up the Memorial Park tennis courts and basketball courts in accordance with the Governors Play Smart and Play Safe orders. This would permit groups of 10 or fewer -on a non-contact basis. This would not include the playground. The Public Safety officials have indicated that they support opening of the tennis courts and basketball courts so long as no contact is allowed and will be monitored. The Town reserves the right to close them down again if people are not complying with social distancing. Signage will be posted noting that there is to be no contact and encouraging responsible recreation.

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the opening of the Memorial Park tennis and basketball courts in accordance with the Governor's Play Smart and Play Safe requirements.

Interim Zoning Bylaws for Sandwich Board Signs

In 2019, the Selectboard adopted Interim Zoning in order to help downtown businesses promote themselves during active construction of the Class 1 village sidewalks by allowing temporary signs, including sandwich boards, in the Designated Downtown. Those interim bylaws expired November 15, 2019. With the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions limiting businesses to curbside take-out, as well as the resumption of construction activities in 2020, a number of businesses have been using sandwich boards illegally. The Town has proposed Interim Zoning Bylaws that allows for temporary signs for all businesses town-wide, which will expired November 15, 2020.

Selectboard Meeting 5/11/20

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the Interim Zoning bylaws effective immediately.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford noted that the Town, in conjunction with Stowe Land Trust and Stowe Mountain Bike Club is opening up the Cady Hill Forest with the understanding that the Town reserves the right to close the parking area should people start tailgating. Stowe Police will monitor and remind people to socially distance. The Selectboard discussed safety with porta potties being available, Mr. Safford noted they are necessary for workers to have access, and that the Town has increased the cleaning frequency and ensured they are stocked with hand sanitizer. Porta potties are open to public use, but it is an option if the public wants to use them.

He also noted that the Town has begun construction on Lower Main Street with a section of the road closed from 6am to 6pm and a signed detour in place. The State has also begun work on Route 100 from Morristown to Stowe. Travelers should expect delays and plan accordingly.

The Selectboard discussed concerns over increasing mask usage. At this time the Town is not able to mandate masks, however local businesses can and the municipality can as a condition of entering the building. Mr. Safford encouraged everyone to set a good example by wearing masks, socially distancing and practicing good hand hygiene. Chief Walker is planning to send out letters to second homeowners and is working with Stowe Area Association on how to best message to visitors the importance of wearing masks and following social distancing.

Mr. Safford reminded everyone that the next Selectboard meeting will be on Tuesday May 26th due to Memorial Day holiday on Monday the 25th.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:20pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

**Stowe Selectboard Special Meeting
Tuesday May 26, 2020
Virtual Meeting**

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Ms. Morgan Nichols, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the agenda with the modification that Item 3-A-2 would be moved to 3-A-3 and Item 3-A-3 would be moved to 3-A-2. Additionally, consent agenda item 3-B-2 was pulled from the consent agenda and moved to 3-C-3.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, gave an update on COVID-19. Chief Walker indicated that there are currently 967 cases in Vermont with 29 of those in Lamoille County, and 54 deaths as a result of the disease. The Governor has continued to open the State up for business slowly. Currently places of religious worship can open up with proper precautions and social distancing, as well as restaurants with a limited capacity and outdoor seating placed at least 10' apart. Vermont Parks and Trails are now open to the public with social distancing and face coverings when encountering others. Chief Walker reminded everyone this is not the time for tailgating or hanging out, but rather to recreate and then go home. At this time, all masks to residents have been mailed out. The Town is now working on fulfilling requests and is waiting on one final shipment of masks. Anyone who would like to request a mask and has not already received them should email masks@stowevt.gov no later than May 29th. At this time the Town is not able to meet demand for additional face masks for those that have already received two.

Stowe Selectboard Face Covering Resolution

Charles Safford, Town Manager, presented the Selectboard with a proposed Selectboard Resolution encouraging people to wear face coverings in accordance with the Governor's Stay Home/Stay Safe order. Ms. Hagerty noted that while the Governor has required masks for employees he has not gone so far as to require them for all customers, but rather allowed local authorities to make their own recommendations to strengthen his resolution. Walter Frame suggested language that would change the resolution from encouraging to requiring face masks when in the presence of others in retail and municipal settings. It was noted that requiring face masks is not enforceable by law, but rather a statement towards making mask wearing a social norm. It was discussed if the resolution should include hotels but noted that the resolution includes the language for any other places that accommodate the public, which would include other industries. It was also noted that the resolution should also have a timeline, making it effective immediately and for 30 days, unless otherwise extended or rescinded by the Selectboard.

It was noted that the resolution references the Stowe Promise which the Selectboard will be taking up next, so the topic was tabled until that was approved.

Stowe Promise Support

A number of Stowe business leaders have been working on drafting a Stowe Promise statement to promote health, safety and supporting local economic recovery in Stowe. They have asked the Stowe Selectboard along with other community organizations to support it. The statement is primarily aimed at

Selectboard Meeting 5/26/20

businesses, but it was noted that the Stowe Promise section could be changed from “I” to “I/We” to also include organizations and individuals that may choose to take the pledge.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board moved to support the Stowe Promise.

Stowe Selectboard Face Covering Resolution

With the Stowe Promise supported, the Selectboard took up the Face Covering Resolution.

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the Stowe Selectboard Face Covering Resolution with the changes discussed.

Consent Agenda

1. Capital Project Closeouts
2. PULLED
3. Stagecoach Road Engineering Agreement
4. Water/Sewer Agreement 34 Park Street

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda items 1, 3 and 4.

Revoke Special Event Permits

The Governor’s Stay Home / Stay Safe Executive Order prohibits large social gatherings. The State requires permit approval for any assembly over 2,000 people, while the Town of Stowe requires a permit for events of 300 people or more. The State has indicated they have not yet issued any event permits for Stowe events, but if they did they would rescind them given the Executive Order. The Town Attorney has also indicated that the Selectboard is obliged to affirmatively determine that an event being applied for doesn’t present or create a threat to public health, safety and welfare of Stowe Citizens, and thus would recommend the revocation of all Special Event Permits. Should circumstances change with the Governors orders, organizations can re-apply for their Special Event Permits and the Town will hold their original dates. Ms. Hagerty noted it was heartbreaking for everyone involved with the number of Special Events in Stowe but unfortunately necessary under the given circumstances.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board revoked all Special Event Permits issued to date with the understanding that new applications may be considered once large social gatherings are permissible taking into consideration any restrictions that may be in place at that time and that the Town will tentatively hold applicants’ dates.

Interim Zoning Bylaws for Outdoor Restaurant Seating and Retail Displays

On May 11, the Board adopted Interim Zoning to allow sandwich board signs town-wide in order to help businesses promote themselves during active construction and COVID-19 Social Distancing restrictions. Now that the Governor is allowing limited opening of retail and is heading towards allowing more services and limited restaurant opening, the Planning Commission and the Town has developed additional Interim Zoning Bylaws that would allow for outdoor seating, outdoor displays of merchandise and outdoor provisions of services and tents. Town Planner Tom Jackman noted that the intent of these interim bylaws is to allow businesses to do what they would normally do inside, but outside with the opportunity for Social Distancing. Ms. Nichols noted that the reduction of parking by no more than 20% might be restrictive given that restaurants are currently limited to 25% capacity or 50 seats maximum,

Selectboard Meeting 5/26/20

and different locations may have different opportunities for outside seating. The Interim Zoning was revised to include a reduction in parking by no more than 50%.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the Interim Zoning bylaws as amended effective immediately and as allowed by Executive Order of the Governor of the State of Vermont.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford noted that the Stowe Library would be opening up for curbside pickup of books on June 8th, that the Stowe Theater Guild has announced that they will postpone the entire 2020 season to 2021, the public restrooms at the Green Mountain Inn will be opening back up on July 1, and that the Town of Stowe Recreation Department is actively moving forward with summer camp plans and taking registrations.

He also included the April financials for the Town General Fund, Water and Wastewater April budget summaries. As well as the Local Option Tax Receipts. While the Town continues to run tight on the General Fund things are coming in on-line at this time. Local Option Tax is impacted by the economic downturn, and the Town is obligated to first use what funds it receives for debt obligations, and second for any capital projects currently under contract. All other capital projects have been put on hold at this time. Should the Town need it, it does have - unallocated reserves.

Additionally, Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems has applied to the Vermont Public Service Board for a new telecommunications facility on an existing performing arts center. Finally, the State has indicated that the Education Tax Rate will not be available until August 1st, which may require the Town to push back the first tax due date from August 15th to September 15th. At this time the State has not given any indication of what the tax rate will be.

The Selectboard asked Mr. Safford to speak with Tracy Wrend at the school about the possibility of opening up the School Grounds to recreation but noted that it is within the Schools jurisdiction to make that decision.

The Selectboard also discussed when they could resume in person meetings, which the Town staff will explore but at this time are planning to continue with Zoom meetings.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:49pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday June 8, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
There were 40 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the agenda with the modification that Item 3-B-2 and item 3-B-5 would be pulled from the consent agenda and discussed before new business.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, gave an update on COVID-19. Chief Walker indicated that there are currently 1,075 cases in Vermont with 29 of those in Lamoille County, and 55 deaths as a result of the disease. There have been no new cases in Lamoille County since the last meeting. The Governor has announced that Vermonters may now travel to counties in New York and New England without the 14 day quarantine, if the county has less than 400 cases per million people. A map of those counties can be found on the State website. Travelers from other areas must still do the 14 day quarantine, or can get tested after 7 days of quarantine. Chief Walker encouraged residents to continue to self monitor and wear masks as appropriate.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of May 11, 2020 and May 26, 2020 Meetings
2. PULLED
3. Vermont Health Information Exchange Services Agreement
4. VLCT Resolution Encouraging Federal Aid to Municipalities
5. PULLED
6. Liquor Consent Items

On a motion by Mr. Nick Donza, seconded by Mr. Willie Noyes, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda items 1, 3, 4 and 6.

HDAC Exposed Exhibit

The Helen Day Art Center has proposed a number of sculptures for their annual Exposed exhibit. The Board discussed one that appears to have sharp edges, and requested that HDAC install a perimeter or fencing to discourage climbing on it or people being in close proximity to it.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the 2020 HDAC Exhibit conditioned upon receipt of a Certificate of Insurance and artist addressing review comments and providing any additional supplemental requirements, including a perimeter, as requested by Public Works after review of the installation.

South Main Street Sewer Extension

During maintenance activities last year for a clogged sewer at 4 Highland Ave, it was discovered that the sewer laterals for both 4 Highland Avenue and 109 South Main Street discharge into an old sewer pipe

that goes under Mac's Market), which then discharges to the sewer main behind the building. Public Works would like to eliminate this undesirable condition and with current construction on South Main Street, they have proposed a sewer relocation plan with a 150' sewer extension. The Selectboard asked about test pit results and the amount of rock that is expected in this area, as that will be paid at Contract Unit cost and not part of the quoted \$16,435. Public Works Director Harry Shepard indicated that while there is a possibility of rock in that area, there is already existing utilities nearby and they anticipate it will be minimal.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the board approved the proposed South Main Street Sewer Extension and appropriate \$20,000 from the Unallocated Sewer Capital Reserves for the work.

Alternatives Presentation Public Hearing – Nebraska Valley Road Bridge #48

VTrans representatives presented alternatives for the Nebraska Valley Road Bridge #48, which they are planning to replace concurrently with Bridge 51, also located on Nebraska Valley Road. Replacement of these bridges is anticipated to happen in -2023, and the Town will be responsible for a 10% local match on the cost of the project. Currently the bridge has a rating of 5 (fair) for the deck and superstructure and 6 (fair) for the substructure, with signs of sagging and rust scale buildup. Alternatives presented were to take no action which was not recommended due to the rapidly deteriorating condition of the bridge, replace the deck (30 year anticipated life), replace the superstructure (40 year anticipated life), and full bridge replacement (75 year anticipated life), which would allow for widening of the road to meet current standards. Replacement of the bridge is the recommended alternative. Full Bridge Replacement could be with either a new bridge or a buried structure. Mr. Shepard recommended a replacement bridge as the buried structures are more sensitive to flooding. With a full bridge replacement there are several options for traffic management including phased construction or a temporary bridge located either upstream or downstream of the current bridge location. VTrans recommends a temporary bridge as a cheaper and more time efficient solution. The upstream location has a utility line that -may need to be moved, and the downstream location has archeological sensitive areas. It was determined that Public Works would look into the two locations, working with Stowe Electric, and bring back a recommendation. The Board discussed if this bridge work could be delayed due to current economic climate and the decline in local option taxes, but it was noted that once this bridge is off the program it could be 10 or more years before the State would consider it again. Mr. Robert Moore of Lamoille County Planning Commission noted that should the Town choose not to repair or replace the bridge and the bridge subsequently failed, the Town would be responsible for all costs for the replacement. There are also economies to doing both Bridge 48 and Bridge 51 at the same time with the same contractor.

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved Alternative 3b – Full Bridge Replacement with a Temporary Bridge for maintenance of traffic during construction for Bridge #48.

Preliminary Design Project Update – Nebraska Valley Road Bridge #51

VTrans representatives provided an update on preliminary drawings for Bridge #51 located on Nebraska Valley Road. Of note, they have located the proposed temporary bridge to the south of the existing bridge as requested to avoid the nearby house, and have undertaken geotechnical investigations to confirm that the bedrock in the slope near the SE corner of the bridge does not exist and the earthwork activities previously suggested have been significantly reduced.

Stowe Arena Summer Use

On Friday, May 29th the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development released conditions for Stage 2 – Close Contact Business which permits indoor recreation facilities to open, including ice rinks. There are a number of operating requirements, including limiting the size of groups and capacity in the building, no contact games, and maintenance of a log of visitors. Based on current capacity, the Stowe Arena could hold up to 50 people if the ice was divided in half and each group of 25 was kept separate. As of July 1, adult hockey groups can have some games, but no interstate leagues. All of the hockey camps have indicated that they still plan to hold camps if the Arena is open and are willing to work within the restrictions. Skating lessons and figure skating could still happen as well. Stowe Arena has received some interest from groups who have been renting ice time at rinks that will not be opening this summer. The Recreation Commission voiced their support for the opening of Stowe Arena. The Adult Hockey League has offered assistance with screenings and other procedures as needed. The Stowe Arena will be required to create a COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan. There was a discussion on cost and the Town Manager indicated that an additional cost of \$6,000 per month for electricity. Also, the Town only budgeted for one full-time employee and some part-time help this summer. It is likely to take a minimum of two full-time equivalent employees due to increased cleaning, screening and other requirements associated with opening the Arena at this time.

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the opening of Stowe Arena for summer ice use and staff the rink adequately for the expected growing demand and comply with the VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development's COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford noted that the Helen Day Art Center will be holding their summer camp outside in the rear parking lot under a tent this summer, with a portalet. He also notified the Board that Richard Grogan, Water Superintendent and Chief Operator has resigned effective 6/18/20.

Rachel Vandenberg, representing Stowe Promise, requested that the Selectboard reconsider the cancellation of the July 4th fireworks. -Mr. Safford noted that Northstar Fireworks has indicated they can do the fireworks show for a cost of \$11,000. The Governor has deferred to municipalities on whether or not to hold fireworks on the 4th of July with conditions to help protect the public health. These include parking cars at least six feet apart and people should stay in or near their vehicles to prevent interaction with other parties.: Legal counsel has indicated that -that a special event permit is not required to be issued as long as no fees, donations or concessions are sold/collected. -- Mr. Safford noted that Northstar Fireworks has indicated the majority of towns in the State have chosen to cancel fireworks and there is concern that the Town could get a high demand from visitors to watch the fireworks. The consensus of the Board was to support having July 4th fireworks, and directed the Town Manager to work with the police, health officer and parks and recreation department to determine how to accomplish this event safely.

Additionally, Ms. Vandenberg requested that the Town consider putting up large signs on the way into Town to alert visitors to the Stowe Promise requiring face masks. It was noted that there is concern with the many construction projects going on at this time that there may be too many signs and they could become a distraction to motorist. It was suggested that overhead banners may be an option. It was also noted that the construction signs could be turned to reminders on the weekends when active construction is not occurring. Public Works Director Harry Shepard indicated that he would look into working with

Selectboard Meeting 6/8/20

Dale E Percy on signage to see what if anything they would be willing to accommodate and might be feasible.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel at 8:36pm.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:00pm

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 10:00pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday June 22, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
There were 25 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the agenda with the addition of Public Water System Official Contact Form to the consent agenda as item 3-B-8.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer -, gave an update on COVID-19. Chief Walker indicated that there are currently 1,163 cases in Vermont with 30 of those in Lamoille County, and 56 deaths as a result of the disease. The Governor has extended the State of Emergency until July 15, 2020, while also continuing to work on opening up the State in a slow and steady manner. This included allowing places of worship and restaurants to open up to 50% capacity inside and up to 150 people outside. Masks are still required in the presence of others, and Chief Walker indicated that the Town has been working on education and notification of that through use of message boards, posters and banners. Mr. Adams questioned what could be done about enforcing compliance of mask wearing and quarantine requirements for visitors. Chief Walker indicated that it is difficult to enforce, particularly because some visitors do not have to quarantine, some can quarantine at home, etc. At this time the focus is on education to get compliance. Reports can also be made to the Vermont Attorney General. Concern was raised about the upcoming lacrosse tournament and the visitors it might bring in, Chief Walker did agree to reach out to the organizer and make sure he is aware of the requirements and offer resources.

Consent Agenda

1. Water Allocation – 0 Luce Hill Rd (Lots 2A)
2. Water / Sewer Allocation – 504 & 512 Mountain Road
3. Water/Sewer Allocation – 3108 Mountain Road
4. Minutes of June 8, 2020
5. Dispatch Contract
6. Village Sidewalk Capital Project Closeout
7. Liquor Consent Items
8. Public Water System Official Contact Form

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

FY21 Water & Sewer Operational Budget, Capital Plans & Rate Schedule Public Hearing

Town Manager Charles Safford presented the FY21 Water & Sewer Operational Budget, Capital Plans & Rate Schedule. He noted that budget included a 5% reduction in water rates and no change in sewer rates. There are no capital projects being proposed at this time. Due to COVID-19, the Town is anticipating a decrease in water/sewer usage, and have budgeted for a 30% decrease in commercial/mixed-use usage. There were no comments or questions from the public or the Selectboard.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded Mr. Adams, the Board approved the FY21 Water & Sewer budgets and rate schedule as presented.

Helen Day Art Center Ceramics Classroom Project

Helen Day Art Center (HDAC) has indicated that they would like to convert their basement storage space into a classroom space with 2 kilns. They presented plans that have been drawn up, which include a 1 hour fire safe room for the electric kilns, with venting. The design firm noted that ventilation for the classroom was also included. The Town is also requiring HDAC to obtain a permit from the Vermont Department of Fire Safety before advancing the project. HDAC will also have their own electrical meter to pay for the cost of the kiln usage.

Mr. Safford also noted that while planning this project, it came to the Town's attention that the existing electrical service for the building is inadequate and not compliant with code requirements for the building. Upgrading to an -600-amp service is required for the existing building needs and is estimated to cost \$25,000.

Friends of the Stowe Library voiced concerns about the air quality for their section of the basement particularly with dust from the ceramics and the division of the space. They requested a fresh air source for their work in the basement. It was noted that dust should not be a concern as that will be contained in the classroom and kiln room areas. Mr. Safford noted that the Town has budgeted money to assess the HVAC system for the entire building but has not been able to advance that project at this time. He also stressed that the basement is an unfinished space not designed to be occupied and to try to improve that - may be a large expense for the Town. The Board requested that the Town and HDAC work together to assess how the new ventilation will connect with the existing HVAC system to assure that air quality will not be negatively impacted, and that HDACs project will not hinder the Towns ability to upgrade the building HVAC system in the future.

Mr. Safford suggested that the Board table the discussion until the July 13th meeting when Public Works can meet with Helen Day Art Center to evolve plans to understand how this system will interact with the existing system and make sure there is no negative impact to the rest of the basement. The Board concurred that they are open to the project as long as the concerns can be addressed.

Broadband Innovation Grant

The Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) has received a Broadband Innovation Grant from the Department of Public Service to help communities conduct feasibility studies and create business plans relating to deployment of broadband in rural, unserved or underserved areas. Lea Kilvadyova of LCPC spoke to the project, explaining that a municipal corporation would be formed including voting representatives from all participating towns, and that the corporation would be responsible for determining how to design, build & operate broadband infrastructure in underserved areas if it is advanced. It was noted that Stowe has many places where high speed internet is already available, but there are some remote areas that still do not have it. She noted there are several ways that the municipal corporation can be structured, including a partnership with private providers, and ways it can be funded, including loans, promissory notes and grants. Mr. Safford cautioned that there is inherent risk with municipal corporations such as this that are not a monopoly like electric, water and sewer. The corporation would have to invest in infrastructure potentially with long-term debt service obligations and others may compete for the market share. Also, technology can change. Any study should be careful not just to look at the opportunities, but also the risk so people can make an informed decision. Larry Lackey of the Stowe Electric Commission voiced his support of the study, noting that participating in the study does not obligate the Town financially or for further participation in the program.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board requested inclusion in the feasibility study with the understanding that there is no financial cost to the Town of Stowe and that the Town is not obligated to participation in any recommendations that may result from the feasibility study.

Temporary Bridge Location – Nebraska Valley Road Bridge #48

Following the Public Informational Meeting for the scoping study for the Nebraska Valley Road Bridge #48, Public Works investigated the existing conditions at the desired locations for a temporary bridge to maintain traffic during construction. Public Works Director Harry Shepard advised that there are not existing overhead utilities that would require relocation for the bridge to be build on the north side of the existing bridge. It is also the least impactful for the approaches to the bridge and avoids an archeologically sensitive area on the south side of the bridge. Mr. Shepard recommended locating the temporary bridge to the north side of the existing bridge.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved alignment of the Temporary Bridge for maintenance of traffic during construction for Bridge #48 to be on the north side of the existing bridge.

Tax Collection Policy – No Postmarks

The Town of Stowe and other communities have historically accepted postmarks as evidence of timely payment for municipal taxes. However, with the use of electronic postage and private postage machines, this has become difficult to verify and many municipalities have moved away from accepting postmarks as proof of timely payment. The Town Treasurer has requested this change to assure the policy is fair and equitable, by making sure the money is in hand on the due date. Staff will be embarking on an education campaign including notice on tax bills, in local papers and online to alert taxpayers to this change in the policy.

The Board was in agreement in support of this change to the Tax Collection Policy no longer accepting postmarks.

Face Covering Resolution Extension

On May 26, 2020 the Stowe Selectboard passed a Face Covering Resolution requiring face masks in public buildings for 30 days, to expire on June 25, 2020. At this time the Selectboard would like to extend the requirement date.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board adopted the Selectboard Face Covering Resolution expending it until the Selectboard rescinds it.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford noted that the State is expected to get the Town the educational tax rates in time to hold a special meeting of the Selectboard on July 8th at 7:30am to set the tax rates for FY21.

Mr. Safford explained that Morgan Stanley will no longer be servicing the Stowe Retirement Plan as of 9/30/20, and financial is researching other options to bring to the Board in the future.

Mr. Safford included the Stowe Water Department Consumer Confident Report for 2019 for reference, the Town of Stowe water quality meets all standards.

Selectboard Meeting 6/22/20

Mr. Safford noted that as instructed by the Selectboard, Parks and Recreation has contracted with Northstar Fireworks to launch high projectile fireworks for the Stowe Community on July 4th. Fireworks will be launched from the Mayo Fields. There will be no activities, concessions or bathrooms. There is concern that because Stowe is one of only two towns in the State offering fireworks that there could be a larger than average turnout. Due to public health concerns and public safety, the Public Safety Chiefs are recommending not allowing parking on the Events Field and to encourage people to watch them from their homes or private property. Pedestrians will still be able to use the field due to the difficulty of trying to keep people off of them, but they will be encouraged to socially distance and wear mask when in the presence of others. Parking will be allowed along the roads, as long it doesn't impede the ability of emergency vehicles to pass through. The Town will work on messaging in the paper, online and through Stowe Area Association and Stowe Vibrancy on getting the word out that there will be no public gathering or services. The challenge will be getting people who don't read local news media to understand that there will be limited parking, no bathrooms, etc. so they don't make the trip.

The Board discussed the unallocated capital reserves, noting that the unallocated reserves are building up. -Mr. Safford noted that there is likely to be a substantial decline in local option taxes over the next fiscal year, so the unallocated reserves will be needed to fund existing projects. At this point there is not a lot of capacity for new projects. Mr. Safford indicated that he plans on reviewing in further detail the capital reserve fund at the Selectboard's 7/13/20 meeting.

Mr. Donza requested that the Town look into having a crosswalk located near the Cady Hill Trail parking lot on Mountain Road. Mr. Safford noted that this location is within the State highway and would require permission of the State along with site line and warrant study. Mr. Donza said in lieu of crosswalk perhaps a ramp on the sidewalk so that cyclist don't have to jump the curb. Mr. Safford indicated staff will further explore the idea.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard Special Meeting
Thursday July 9, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
There were 9 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 7:32am.

Set FY21 Tax Rate

Town Manager Charles Safford presented the Selectboard with tax calculations from Tim Morrissey, Town Appraiser, indicated that based on the budget approved by the Voters at Town Meeting Day 2020 (\$13,014,744) with the amount to be raised by taxes being \$9,937,258, and with the Grand List as set by the Board of Listers being \$22,528,317, and with previously voter approved tax exemptions, the FY21 Municipal Tax Rates would be \$0.4411 for the Town General Fund Tax Rate, plus the \$0.0052 Voter Approved Tax Exemption Rate, for a total Municipal Tax Rate of \$0.4463.

It was noted that the State of Vermont provides the Education Tax Rates for homestead & non-homestead.

The Board discussed concern that this tax rate is higher than was predicted at Town Meeting Day, due to a -lower than anticipated growth in the Grand List. At that time, the Grand List was predicted to grow by 1.5% but actual growth was 0.4%. Mr. Morrissey explained that during the appeals process as well as equity adjustments there was less growth, particularly related to condos at Stowe Mountain Lodge and other timeshare sales being down. He stated that they are estimating slow growth in the next year as well, likely due to COVID-19 impacts.

Mr. Safford noted that usually the voter-approved budget cannot be adjusted, however the State Legislature has authorized local boards to reduce voter approved budgets and tax rates if they so choose this year. The Board discussed the tools for reducing the budget, which would include use to reserves or cutting expenses. Mr. Safford noted to bring the tax rate into alignment with what was projected on Town Meeting Day, the Board would need to reduce the approved budget by roughly \$100,000. He noted that as of the 2019 audit, the Town had \$568,678 in reserves, but that is reduced due to \$166,783 being budgeted in FY'21 to offset current taxes, with an estimated \$300,000 available. This money is built into the tax rate and carried forward each year, at the recommendation of the Auditors who would like to see 5-15% of the total budget in reserves. Mr. Safford cautioned this is not a lot of capacity for unexpected expenses, and the Capital Fund is also stressed due to decrease of Local Option Taxes from COVID-19. The Unallocated Capital Fund is currently at about \$800,000, however the Town is committed to paying debt service, which means that there is nothing left for anticipated FY'21 LOTAC revenue to pay for capital projects approved at the last Annual Meeting, which means the Town will have to draw down on its reserves in order to advance those projects. Looking at possible expenses to cut, Mr. Safford suggested the new position of Buildings & Grounds Director, which would amount to savings of \$137,123. He also suggested removing \$100,000 from Stormwater Permit efforts in the highway budget as another possibility, although he cautioned that there are a number of small and mid-sized culverts that need attention in Town that this would impact. Mr. Safford said that while it was not ideal to have department heads managing facilities, it could continue like that for now as that is what the municipality has historically done. The Selectboard acknowledges this was a needed position, and applauded Public Works for their efforts to date on keeping facilities running but felt this was a position that could wait until the Town is more financially stable following COVID-19.

Selectboard Meeting 6/22/20

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board eliminated the Buildings & Grounds Director position from the Voter Approved Budget, reducing the budget by \$137,123. The Board set the FY21 Town General Fund Tax Rate at \$0.4350 and the Voter Approved Exemption Tax Rate at \$0.0052 for a total FY21 Municipal (Non-School) Tax Rate of \$0.4402.

Manager's Report

Mr. Adams asked if the Town had needed to use the line of credit that it had gotten in anticipation of delayed or decreased tax payments. Finance Director Cindy Fuller stated that the Town had been able to manage the cash flow without using the Line of Credit to date. She said tax payments overall have been coming in on target with past years.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 8:13am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday July 13, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
There were 18 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:32pm. She thanked the Town Employees, including Charles Safford, Chief Walker and Chief Hull for their work to put on the Fourth of July fireworks.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Town of Stowe Health Officer -, gave an update on COVID-19. Chief Walker indicated that are currently 1,296 cases in Vermont with 38 of those in Lamoille County, and 56 deaths as a result of the disease. There have been no deaths from COVID since the June 22 meeting. Chief Walker spoke to a current concern about an employee at Shaw's grocery store testing positive for COVID-19, and the resulting negativity on social media. He said that the management at Shaw's has been transparent about the case, and that the employee did not return to work after testing positive, and that they had completed a through cleaning and disinfecting as they do every day. Chief Walker explained that when an employee tests positive for COVID-19, the VT Dept of Health may contact the employer if they were working during the time they were infected. The Dept of Health does not notify the Town. Chief Walker also pointed out that contact tracing is done for anyone with "direct contact" which is defined as being within 6' of a person for a period of time in excess of 15 minutes. He reminded everyone that COVID-19 has been in Stowe and will be here again. It should not cause panic but should be a reminder to continue best practices such as washing hands, staying home when sick and wearing a mask.

Mr. Adams asked if the municipality was planning to assist with schools opening in the fall. Town Manager Charles Safford explained that the Schools are working with the Vermont Department of Education who has available to them the assistance of other State agencies such as the Vermont Department of Health to help guide them. The Town would make themselves available as a resource however we also rely on the expertise of the Vermont Department of Health. k like.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 6/22/20 and 7/9/20
2. Banner Request & Fee Waiver
3. Development Agreement 57 Depot St. Stormwater
4. Liquor Consent Items

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Motor Vehicle Ordinance Proposed Amendments

a. No Parking – Moss Glenn Falls Road

b. No Parking – Brownsville Road

Mr. Safford presented requests from Walter Opuszynski from the VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation to create two new "No Parking" zones. On Moss Glenn Falls Road, the parking area capacity

gets exceeded and motorists park along both sides of the road, around a sharp corner which can be difficult for line of sight, pedestrian safety and emergency vehicle access. Mr. Opuszynski has requested a no parking zone be established on the west side of Moss Glenn Falls Road from the driveway of 381 Moss Glenn Falls Road to the driveway of 542 Moss Glenn Falls Road. It was noted that the current parking lot is not large enough for the number of vehicles per day, and Mr. Opuszynski said that they are looking at how to expand parking - or adding a second trail head. He also noted a kiosk is being installed with information on other locations people can go when the parking lot is full.

On Brownsville Road, Mr. Opuszynski has requested a no parking zone on the east side of the road from the driveway to 1994 Brownsville Road to the intersection with McCall Pasture Road. This will help ensure less negative interactions with the adjoining private property. Mr. Opuszynski noted that they are still in the process of evaluating and planning a -parking area for the Brownsville property that was acquired in 2019.

The Board discussed the signage that would be in place, which would have to comply with MUCD laws. - but the Town will try to keep them as minimal as possible.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board moved to warn a public hearing on the Motor Vehicle Ordinance proposed amendments at their July 27, 2020 meeting.

Memorial Park Playground Potential Opening

Memorial Park Playground has been closed due to COVID-19 concerns. The Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development sector specific guidance states, "Play structures may be open to the public if they are properly signed reminding users not to use them if they or anyone in their household has been ill and to wash hands before and after use. Organizations responsible for the play structure are encouraged to provide hand sanitizer for users." Parks has installed a hand sanitizer dispenser at the playground and signage has been prepared. - Cleaning of the equipment is not required-as UV light and open air are considered enough, and expectation to clean it may not be realistic. The Board discussed limiting capacity, particularly when school is in session., - The Town will reach out to the school and see what their intended use of the playground equipment is. It was also noted that while Parks and Rec as well as the police can keep an eye out to make sure it isn't getting overcrowded., -The Town will -also install signs reminding people to wear mask. Chief Walker did note that masks are not required when exercising or otherwise exerting yourself.

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the opening of Memorial Park.

FY21 General Fund Budget Projections

The Town of Stowe FY21 began on July 1, 2020. With the impacts of COVID-19, the Town is expecting a decline in non-property tax revenues of \$230,636. The Town has proposed to delay hiring of three positions (librarian, EMT and Assistant Engineer) for a cost savings of \$232,401 to offset those lost revenues. The town is projecting that tax revenues to hold steady, as the 4th quarter FY20 payments were in line with historic numbers. There is concern that if the Board of Abatement abates taxes due to an inability to pay, which could put additionally financial stress on the budget, as the Town would have to absorb the loss of municipal taxes as well as paying the education taxes. The Town also had \$568,678 in unassigned surplus as of 6/30/19, which it could use to help offset unanticipated losses. Mr. Safford stated that overall he felt the General Fund budget would be able to come in okay if the economy didn't further deteriorate, although it would be tighter than past years. The Board discussed overtime of municipal staff, with Mr. Safford noting that there was no unnecessary overtime, as police are getting paid for traffic control so there is a revenue-Mr. Safford also noted he has spoken to his department heads

asking them to be thoughtful with their spending knowing the current economic challenges. The Board also discussed delaying paving, as that is a large line item in the budget, but it was felt that the Town is in position to take advantage of good bid prices to get two roads that are in rough shape fixed. Mr. Safford said that the Town would continue to monitor the budget closely and would report back periodically on as the future fiscal picture emerges.

FY21 Capital Fund Budget Projections

Mr. Safford provided the Board with a revised capital project for FY21 through FY23, showing open projects, voter approved projects for FY21 and bridge commitments the Town has made for FY22 and FY23. Originally the Town had projected \$1 million dollars in Local Option Tax revenues, but given the COVID-19 impacts on the Town, that has now been reduced to \$500,000 in FY21. Out of the LOT funds, \$500,000 is already committed to debt service on existing bonds. In order to complete the open projects and voter approved projects for FY21, The Town will need to utilize the unallocated capital fund, which is currently at \$841,181, reducing it down to \$157,183 in FY22. It was noted that the State has not issued the 3-acre permit requirements, so that project may be delayed. Mr. Safford said using the reserves was manageable, but cautioned that going forward there will be reduced capacity for non-essential capital projects unless the Town is prepared to borrow money. He also noted some voter approved capital projects may be naturally delayed, such as the Memorial Park Tennis Courts which are on hold until the Town can further develop the 3-acre stormwater plans. If the Board feels they want to discontinue a capital project, they would need to discuss at a future meeting when interested parties could have notice. It was noted that by December the Town should have a better picture on the LOT COVID-19 impacts, and by Town Meeting will have two quarters of reported income. The Board felt that at this time there was no need to cut specific projects, as they are all legitimate need and did not object to the staff advancing the approved projects.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford noted that 4th quarter FY20 taxes were in line with previous years.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:47pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday July 27, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Adams, William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
There were 28 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Heidi Scheuermann, State Representative, provided a COVID-19 update. She noted that Governor Scott has issued a mask mandate to take effect 8/1/20, and that this mandate was similar to what the Stowe Selectboard had already enacted. She encouraged everyone to wear masks when in public spaces where you are not able to socially distance. She also noted that a number of grants and other financial support programs are still available for those struggling, including both tenants and landlords. It was also noted that as the schools are planning on re-opening, employees with children may need more flexibility with extended drop off times and children being sent home for signs of illness. It was also asked if the Town could look into providing assistance with traffic control at drop off, as well as recreation camps if school is not in session. Mr. Safford indicated that staff would reach out to the schools to see what if any assistance they might be in need of that we could reasonably provide.

Ms. Shylo Bordeau spoke to concerns that the town signs regarding the mask mandate do not reflect that there are exemptions for medical issues. She relayed that recently she was refused service at a Stowe business when she had a doctors note for not wearing the mask. Ms. Hagerty encouraged her to communicate with the business prior to arrival to see what accommodations can be made, and suggested alternatives such as face shields.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 7/13/20
2. Errors & Omissions
3. Public Meeting Agenda Posting Locations
4. 3430 Mtn Rd Water/Sewer Allocation
5. HDAC Exposed relocation of sculpture

On a motion by Mr. Nick Donza, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Noyes abstained.

Volunteer Recognition

The Selectboard honored four long-time EMS volunteers who have recently retired from service. Buck Lee, for 16 years of service; Peter Hall for 25 years of service; Joanne Bradley for 25 years of service; Pat Boyle for 25 years of service. The Selectboard, on behalf of the Town of Stowe, thanked these individuals for saving lives and keeping the community safe.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board awarded recognition plaques to the retiring volunteer thanking them for their service.

Stowe C19 Mask Funding Request

Leigh Pelletier, on behalf of the Stowe C19 organization, has requested funding from the Town to purchase disposable face masks that can be distributed to hotels, nonprofit organizations and possibly restaurants for when customers arrive without masks. It was noted that the group to date has spent approximately \$1,000 on masks that have been distributed and are asking for a matching amount from the Town. It was discussed if disposable masks were preferable to cloth ones, but due to cost it is not practical to continue to give away cloth masks. Disposable masks being available allow guests to get oriented to the mask mandate in a friendly way, and they can then be directed to those stores selling reusable masks. It was also noted that the Stowe C19 group currently has \$18,000 in its fund used primarily for food security, but they anticipate demand will go up when the federal funding decreases.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved up to \$1,000 for the purchase of masks by the Town for distribution by the Stowe C19 group to advance public health.

Motor Vehicle Ordinance Proposed Amendments

a. No Parking – Moss Glenn Falls Road

b. No Parking – Brownsville Road

Mr. Safford presented requests from Walter Opuszynski from the VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation to create two new “No Parking” zones. On Moss Glenn Falls Road, the parking area capacity gets exceeded and motorists park along both sides of the road, around a sharp corner which can be difficult for line of sight, pedestrian safety and emergency vehicle access. Mr. Opuszynski has requested a no parking zone be established on the west side of Moss Glenn Falls Road from the driveway of 381 Moss Glenn Falls Road to the driveway of 542 Moss Glenn Falls Road. It was noted that the current parking lot is not large enough for the number of vehicles per day, and Mr. Opuszynski said that they are looking at how to expand parking - or adding a second trail head. He also noted a kiosk is being installed with information on other locations people can go when the parking lot is full.

On Brownsville Road, Mr. Opuszynski has requested a no parking zone on the east side of the road from the driveway to 1994 Brownsville Road to the intersection with McCall Pasture Road. This will help ensure less negative interactions with the adjoining private property. Mr. Opuszynski noted that they are still in the process of evaluating and planning a parking area for the Brownsville property that was acquired in 2019.

Ms. Hagerty opened the public hearing for comment, there were no comments from the public.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved the amendments to the Motor Vehicle Ordinance as presented.

Contract Award – FY21 Paving Projects

On July 23, 2020 the Town received sealed bids for paving projects on School Street (mill, shim, overlay) and lower section of Edson Hill Road from Mountain Road to just past the Stowehof (full depth reclaim and two course pavement) While F.W. Whitcomb’s bid was initially the lowest, it was found that there was an error in their summations, making Pike Industries the lowest qualified bidder with \$259,025. While the bid did not initially include the upper portion of Edson Hill Road, from the Stowehof to the end of the pavement, with the favorable unit pricing in this bid the Town was able to work with Pike to include mill, shim and overlay of that section of the road at the unit pricing from the initial bid, making

the total for the work \$384,675. The Town had budgeted \$433,900 for paving in the FY21 highway budget. It was asked by Nick Donza if the Town would consider re-bidding due to the additional work and the closeness in pricing between Pike and J. Hutchins, however Mr. Safford noted that per the Town's purchasing policy the award would go with the lowest qualified bidder, and that it is not uncommon to add on to projects with the bid unit price.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved the award of the FY21 paving program to Pike Industries, and to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Town.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Centrifuge Driver and Controls Replacement

The centrifuge at the Wastewater Treatment Plant is currently not operational. This equipment is used for the final dewatering of wastewater sludge before transfer to a storage bunker for final disposal. The equipment is manufactured in Sweden and is considered proprietary. At this point at least 2 of the 4 motors have failed, and the drivers are no longer manufactured. Replacement of all 4 motors and associated controls is required. The cost for the equipment and commissioning from the manufacturer is \$61,106 with 5-7 weeks estimated lead time for delivery. Additional electrical installation expenses are anticipated to be \$5,000-8,000. In the meantime, the non-dewatered sludge will be hauled and disposed at the Morrisville Treatment Plant for an estimated cost of \$4,000, for a total project cost of approximately \$100,000. The equipment purchase and installation will be funded out of the Sewer Capital Reserves, and the short-term hauling costs from the Sewer Operating budget.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board waived the bid requirements for purchase of proprietary equipment and appropriate \$70,000 from the Sewer Capital Reserves for replacement of starters and controls for the centrifuge at the wastewater treatment plant.

Town of Stowe Retirement Plan

The Town of Stowe has received notice from Morgan Stanley stating that we must move the Town of Stowe employee retirement plan 401(a) out of Morgan Stanley custody by September 30, 2020/ A small group of employees and former employees are invested in this defined plan with Morgan Stanley, however the majority of the Town of Stowe, including all new employees, are currently in the Vermont Employee Retirement System Defined Benefits Plan. The local Edward Jones office has provided two quotes on investment firms who can hold a 401(a) retirement plan, John Hancock and One America. -. These funds would transfer out of Morgan Stanley electronically, and there would be a Stowe-based advisor in Edward Jones. There will be a blackout period of 24-48 hours during which the funds will be out of the market, and a total of 1 week for the rollover transition where funds cannot be accessed or changed.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board approved transfer of the Town of Stowe defined contribution plan with John Hancock to be serviced by Edward Jones and rollover fund balances for each employee or former employee from Morgan Stanley.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford updated the Board that the State Capital Bill includes \$2,830,000 to VTrans for work on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail if federal funds are also available if money from the capital budget dollars is needed to match federal funds. He also noted that Stowe Rescue had made a donation of \$25,000 to help continue funding per diems to ensure surety of service. He also informed them that the Worcester Range

Selectboard Meeting 7/27/20

Land Management Plan Is being developed and provided a link for public input. He also spoke to the library tentative reopening on September 1st for limited public use. There is also a survey currently being distributed on Front Porch Forum and the Town website letting Stowe residents weigh in on broadband internet issues as the first step in studying the feasibility of a broadband utility for underserved areas. There was public comment regarding the increase in the number of bear sightings and human/bear interactions in Stowe this year. Brenna Galdenzi of Protect our Wildlife asked if the Town would consider fines for people who leave bird feeders up in the summer. It was also suggested that the Town consider funding for bear-proof trash cans for all residents. Mr. Safford noted that the town has included a link on the homepage of their website to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website regarding living with bears, which has a lot of helpful information. At this time, the Town does not have the money allocated that would be needed to purchase bear-proof trash containers.. Mr. Safford also indicated that he would ask the Conservation Commission to see what they could do for education and awareness raising with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board went into executive session at 7:46pm to discuss Real Estate.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:25pm.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday August 10, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
There were 21 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. William Noyes, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Stowe Health Officer, provided a COVID-19 update, stating that Vermont COVID cases has it 1,462 cases, with 43 of those in Lamoille County. He said there have been no significant changes since the last meeting, but noted that the has issued a mask mandate effective 8/1/20, and that this mandate was similar to what the Stowe Selectboard had already enacted. He also noted the exclusions for children under 2, those with medical conditions and while doing strenuous exercise. In addition, he noted that he has received a number of complaints regarding people on the Rec Path not wearing masks, and encouraged everyone to carry a mask with them even if they aren't wearing it while exercising, as well encouraging people to recreate in less popular areas to avoid crowds.

It was also noted that the Schoolboard was currently having a meeting at the same time as the Selectboard, but that the Board would like to hear an update from them when a COVID plan is finalized.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 7/27/20
2. FY'20 Audit Contract
3. Forest Fire & Deputy Warden Appointment

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Noyes abstained.

Stowe Vibrancy Request to Use Village Green

Aimee Green, on behalf of Stowe Vibrancy, has requested use of the Village Green Saturday evenings from 5:00pm to 9:00pm from August 22nd through September 12th. The space would have a jazz trio playing live music as part of a village promotion, Main Street Live, encouraging people to get take-out from local restaurants to enjoy in designated areas in the village with socially distant seating. Stowe Vibrancy volunteers will be on hand to monitor crowds and ensure distancing. Ms. Green described it as a "Shop & Stroll" promotion for village businesses as well as welcoming restaurants from throughout Town to participate in the take-out option. It was noted that this request does not involve the closure of Park Street.

On a motion by Mr. Nick Donza, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board authorized Stowe Vibrancy to use the Village Green on Saturday nights from 5:00pm to 9:00pm during the summer and fall for music in connection with Main Street Live.

**Proposed Traffic & Motor Vehicle Ordinance Amendment
Notchbrook Road No Parking Request**

Police Chief Don Hull has requested a no-parking zone on Notchbrook Road from its intersection with Mountain Road to 100 Notchbrook Road on the east side of the road. He indicated that the problem is during busy periods and in the winter, when parking overflows from nearby businesses. With vehicles parking on both sides of the road it can be difficult for drivers and emergency vehicles to get through. It was discussed that drivers who parked in a no-parking zone would be issued a ticket, but if there was a hazardous situation the police could have the vehicle towed.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board moved to warn a public hearing of the proposed Traffic & Motor Vehicle Ordinance amendments at their August 24th meeting.

Lane Closure Request: School Street at 144 Main Street

The owners of 144 Main Street have submitted a Right of Way Encroachment Permit Application, requested to close one lane of School Street between Main Street and Pond Street to allow for the reconstruction of approximately 40' of the abutting exterior wall of the building. This wall has been deemed unstable and a potential collapse hazard. The owners noted that since they purchased the building 7 months ago they have been monitoring the condition closely and found movement. Due to the proximity to the road, staging and temporary barriers are required on the northbound lane of the road. Southbound traffic will be maintained during the work. A detour for northbound traffic through Pond Street to Park Street will be implemented. The work is anticipated to last one month. If approved, the owners would like to start work next week, August 17th with work being completed by September 17th. It was discussed that this will conflict with the planned School Street paving project, but Public Works feels that the public safety of this project necessitates it be done concurrently with the paving project rather than waiting. Concerns regarding trucks and emergency vehicles being able to make the turn onto School Street with only one lane of traffic open, however Public Works Director Harry Shepard felt the 12' lane and closure being set back from the intersection would give enough room for a turn radius. It was also discussed that Park Street could temporarily be opened to two-way traffic, although there are concerns that it would cause confusion for drivers.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board authorized the closure of the northbound lane of School Street with the conditions outlined by Public Works while providing staff the flexibility to restore Park Street to 2 way traffic if necessary and to monitor and work with the property owners to assure the closure time is as short as possible.

Manager's Report

Staff discussed aspects of the ongoing Village Sidewalk & Overhead Utility Relocation project, noting that the Town is optimistic that poles may be able to start coming down this fall, but no exact date has been set. It was also noted that the hangers for flower baskets for the streetlights have arrived and we are working on making arrangements to get them installed. It was also noted that the streetlights on the Shaw's General Store side of Main Street were on 24/7 due to an issue with the controls, but that Gould was working on the problem. Finally, it was noted that the Town has historically swept the bridges in town, and it was noted this is done by the street sweeper who was not able to complete all the usual roads and bridges this year due to COVID issues.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 6:21pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday August 24, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza, William Adams
There were 24 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Ms. Morgan Nichols, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the agenda with the addition of a school banner to item 3-C-3.

COVID-19 Update

Kyle Walker, Stowe Health Officer, provided a COVID-19 update. He reminded everyone that masks are required in public where it is not possible to socially distance. He asked that people do their part to remember their masks, wash their hands and stay home if feeling ill. He also asked people to be considerate to employees when they enforce the mask regulation.

Morgan Nichols gave an update on the Lamoille Area Health and Human Services Regional Command Center, a local umbrella organization working to bring social service groups together and provide resources and projects to help the Lamoille Valley community during the pandemic. They are assisting both businesses and employees with resources and connections to assistance. A link to their list of resources will be posted on the Town website.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 8/10/20
2. Water Allocation 38 Country Club Loop

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Adams abstained.

Volunteer Recognition – John Schnee

Assistant Fire Chief John Schnee has announced plans to retire after 26 years of service with the Stowe Fire Department, Stowe EMS and Stowe Mountain Rescue. The Selectboard recognized him for his dedicated service with a plaque. Fire Chief Kyle Walker thanked Assistant Chief Schnee for his many contributions to the department and his unwavering smile. He also recognized the Schnee family for their dedication and sacrifices as a family. Assistant Chief Schnee stated that his time with Stowe Fire Department was one of the greatest endeavors of his life and encouraged others to find a way to volunteer to support their Town and neighbors.

Public Hearing - Proposed Traffic & Motor Vehicle Ordinance Amendment
Notchbrook Road No Parking Request

Chair Hagerty opened the Public Hearing at 5:48pm.

Police Chief Don Hull has requested a no-parking zone on Notchbrook Road from its intersection with Mountain Road to 100 Notchbrook Road on the east side of the road He indicated that the problem is

Selectboard Meeting 8/24/20

during busy periods and in the winter, when parking overflows from nearby businesses. With vehicles parking on both sides of the road it can be difficult for drivers and emergency vehicles to get through.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the proposed Traffic & Motor Vehicle Ordinance Amendments effective immediately.

Elementary School Requested Use of Public Property

Stowe Elementary School has requested the use of municipal property for school purposes to allow for outdoor classrooms and social distancing. They have requested that the playground be closed to the public during school hours (7:30am to 3pm) and that area of Memorial Park and the Helen Day Art Center grounds be reserved for outdoor classroom space. They have also asked that mowing occur on Wednesdays when school is closed and that the sledding hill be mowed. The school has provided a Certificate of Insurance to the Town. Stowe Elementary School Principal Nina Slade explained that children will be kept in “pods” to limit exposure and that playground usage will be limited by pods with students washing their hands before and after using the playground equipment. Limiting access during the school day will ensure that teachers can control that equipment use is limited to the pods. It was noted that in the past daycares, private schools and the public have used the playground during school hours as it is considered a public playground. -Mr. Donza raised the idea of the playground should be restricted to Stowe Elementary School during school hours even after the pandemic. Town Manager Safford indicated that he would consult with legal council on the legality of restricting access on a regular and on-going basis.

The Board also discussed the Elementary School drop off and pick up plans, which are likely to cause traffic backups. In an effort to keep traffic from backing up onto Main Street, vehicles will be routed up to the Arena parking lot while students have health checks done where the existing bus loop is. Children who ride the bus will be screened before getting on the bus and will go directly into the school from the front entrance.

Finally, the Board discussed a request from the Stowe Elementary School PTA and Stowe High School Parents to hang a banner over Mountain Road for two weeks at the start of school to show support for the schools, teachers and staff.

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board authorized the Town Manager to work with the schools regarding the usage of Memorial Park, Helen Day Art Center grounds and exclusive use of the playground during school hours as necessary during the pandemic. They also approved a banner over the Mountain Road with waiver of the banner fee.

Stowe Arts & Culture Council Charge

The Stowe Arts & Culture Council has been meeting as an ad hoc group for several years, working to bring together different arts and cultural organizations and events under one umbrella and to promote the arts in Stowe. The Council has requested to be a formal municipal committee. They have also asked for the seats on the board to be reserved for representatives of specific non-profit organizations. Additionally, they have requested \$2,000 to be used for promotion, materials and possibly stipends for council members. Rachel Moore, speaking on behalf of the Stowe Arts & Culture Council, said that by becoming a Town organization the Council will have access to more grants, funding from the Town, and a closer relationship with the Town for planning purposes. Ms. Moore explained that arts events are an economic

Selectboard Meeting 8/24/20

driver and the council would be working to market arts in the Town through its annual Stowe Arts Week, website and other marketing efforts. Chair Hagerty noted that other Town boards and committees are volunteer driven without a stipend. Ms. Moore noted that the stipend would only be if the involvement went above and beyond normal committees, and was not intended to be used immediately, and would require Selectboard approval before being assigned.

It was also noted that with other boards and committees the Town would advertise for open positions and the Selectboard would appoint people to those positions. In this case, the Council has already been functioning independently and is getting incorporated into the Town, so the Selectboard was amenable to appointing the suggested members but noted that if others showed interest they could participate as it is an open public meeting. -

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the Stowe Arts & Culture Council charge.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols the Board appointed the following members to one-year terms on the Stowe Arts & Culture Council: Kelly Holt, Rachel Moore, Charlotte Maison Kastner, Hope Sullivan, Meghan Reichelt, Sharon Harper, Lynn Paparella.

Proposed Sale of Fire Engine 2

Fire Chief Kyle Walker has presented the Town with a proposal to sell Fire Engine 2 this summer. This is part of a larger fleet management plan to reduce the number of vehicles in the Fire Department fleet by replacing four vehicles with two. This would also involve replacement of Engine 1 in FY22 with a Rescue/Engine vehicle and not replace the stand alone rescue truck. Chief Walker indicated that he currently has four pumpers, but it is rare to have the need or the staff to utilize all four vehicles. He said that after looking at the fleet management for several years and discussing with others on the fire department, felt that reducing the fleet would not cause a gap in service.

Chief Walker has proposed to sell Engine 2 utilizing a non-exclusive agreement with Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus LLC, which would receive a commission on the sale price. If the agency is not able to sell the vehicle within 60 days, they agree to buy it for \$150,000. The Town also plans to advertise the sale locally and Chief Walker will reach out to his contacts.

Engine 1 is scheduled to be replaced in FY22. Mr. Safford also noted that currently the aerial truck used by the Fire Department is 29 years old, but is not scheduled for replacement until FY25. It is also noted that while \$300,000 has been set aside in the equipment fund for an aerial truck, it is understood the estimated cost is closer to \$900,000 and could require use of a bond to purchase. There could be a cost savings of purchasing both trucks at the same time.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board authorized the sale of Engine 2 and approved the agreement with Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus LLC and authorize the Town Manager to accept any offer above \$150,000 that he, in consultation with the Fire Chief, determines is in the best interest of the Town.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford notified the Board that the Vermont Division of Historic Preservation will be temporarily removing a Vermont roadside marker pertaining to Smugglers Notch for refurbishment. Upon completion of the refurbishment the marker will be moved to the Barnes Camp where it will be more proximate to Smugglers Notch.

Selectboard Meeting 8/24/20

It was noted that the FY20 4th quarter Local Option Tax receipts received to date are currently \$67,325. In FY19 4th quarter LOT was \$142,309, with the decrease attributed to the results of COVID-19 shut downs. The Town will continue to monitor and update the Board on the projected and received LOT and its impact on the Capital Fund.

Mr. Safford also reported that the delinquent property taxes as of 8/19/20 was \$1,615,193 compared to delinquencies on 8/19/19 of \$1,405,155. There were no overarching trends noted, but it was noted that the Town Clerks is offering direct withdrawal which aids with the collection of taxes.

Mr. Safford alerted the Board to a DRB public hearing regarding property at 231 Touchstone Drive, to which the Town has abutting land for the Sunset Water Storage Tank. At this time, the Town does not feel a need to intervene.

Finally, Mr. Safford spoke to a request by Danielle Nichols, owner of Cork, to close the School Street lane past the Black Cap building to allow for outdoor parking. The southbound lane of traffic is currently scheduled to be closed in the vicinity of the Black Cap building for foundation repairs. This would allow the Town to close the southbound lane at Pond Street with Jersey barriers installed in front of Cork to allow for safe outdoor dining. It was also noted that on Main Street where there is on-street parking, if restaurants desired the Town could install Jersey barriers to allow outdoor seating in the parking spaces in front of the restaurants. This would be in effect once parking space line striping is completed until the end of October or snow flies, whichever comes first. Stowe Vibrancy will work with Main Street restaurants to determine if they would like to utilize the parking spaces for outdoor dining. The Board had no objections to these plans, with Ms. Morgan Nichols abstaining from the discussion.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board went into Executive Session at 7:28pm to discuss personnel, real estate and contracts.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:58pm.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board appointed Scott Weathers to a one-year appointment on the Stowe Energy Committee to expire April 30, 2021 and appointed Alison Scheoenbeck to a vacant position on the Conservation Commission to expire April 30, 2022.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved an amendment to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Stowe and the Stowe Police Officers Association pertaining to annual leave.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday August 31, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Noyes, Morgan Nichols, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

There was 1 participant on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 7:30am.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Nick Donza, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

1. VLCT Voting Delegate
2. Minutes of 8/24/20

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Approve Lot Line Adjustment Zoning Application between Brush Hill Properties and Town of Stowe in the area of Maple Street and Blush Hill Intersection

The State has agreed to install and maintain a traffic light at the intersection of Route 100 and West Hill Road at no cost to the Town. In order to advance the project, the State needs a Right of Way acquisition of land from Brush Hill Properties. However, this will would make the Brush Hill Properties a non-conforming lot, which would not be permitted under the Stowe Zoning Regulations. In order to continue it as a conforming lot, the State requests the Town - agree to a lot line adjustment for an equivalent amount of land. The Town Appraiser estimates this land to have a value of \$700. -Ms. Hagerty noted this is a necessary step to move the intersection light project forward.

On a motion by Mr. Willie Noyes, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the lot line adjustment and authorized the Town Manager to submit a zoning application for a lot line adjustment and sign all necessary documents.

Proposed Arena Dumpster Fence

Town Manager Charles Safford presented the Board with a proposal to install an 8' deep x 24' long x 6' high fence around the dumpsters at the Stowe Arena for aesthetic reasons and to help prevent bears from getting into the trash. The fence proposed is similar to the one at the Public Safety Facility, which has had no issues with bears. Staff recommends the Parks dumpster will be relocated to the Arena to be included in the fence, so we can have one fenced enclosure rather than the expense of two. Because Stowe Arena is located in the Stowe Historic Overlay District, staff will need to receive input from the Stowe Historic Preservation Commission before finalizing the plan.

The Town is working to take the lead on bear/human contact and see this as first step to see if it deters bears. If the fence does not serve as enough of a deterrent, the Fish and Wildlife website identifies as an electric fencing as an option. Staff will research this option should it become necessary with the understanding that prior to installation of any electric fencing, the issue would be brought before the Selectboard for consideration and signage would be posted.

Selectboard Meeting 8/31/20

Mr. Donza noted that it might be better for aesthetics and convenience for the Parks department, it might make sense to locate the dumpsters at the back of the Arena rather than to the side of the front parking lot where it currently is located. Mr. Safford said he would work with staff and the garbage provider to see if that is a possibility.

It was also noted Thompson Park garbage has been visited by bears. Mr. Safford will work with staff to see about a bear-proof garbage container or increasing the frequency of garbage pick-up at that location.

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the authorized the Town Manager to apply for a zoning permit to install a fence to enclose the dumpsters at Stowe Arena.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford noted that staff will be putting out picnic tables spaced out on the Village Green from now until snow flies to help accommodate outdoor dining. Tables has also been put out at the Recreation Path parking lot.

Mr. Safford updated the Board on S.267, a bill before the Vermont House of Representatives that would mandate one-eighth lots in all zoning districts served by municipal water and sewer. Town Planner Tom Jackman has provided a letter with concerns that this bill would increase the maximum potential buildouts from 2,175 to over 51,000 units. VLCT and the VT Planners Association have also -raised concern. While the goal is to increase affordable housing in the State, the implications of the bill could overwhelm the existing capacity of the Towns water and sewer systems. Mr. Safford noted there is a capacity hardship clause, but it not certain what it would take to meet this threshold or if it would hold up overtime. - It was noted that the Town supports affordable housing efforts but encourages the State to look at ways to encourage towns to address the issue locally in ways that work for individual towns.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:58am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday September 14, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Noyes, William Adams, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza
There were 13 participant on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Willie Noyes, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Chair Hagerty indicated there have been some cases of COVID 19 in Stowe. She thanked everyone for being transparent and taking appropriate measures when there has been exposure. Lisa reminded everyone that the pandemic is still on-going and encouraged everyone to diligent in wearing a mask to minimize the spread of COVID 19. - Health Officer Kyle Walker provided an update on COVID-19 in the state, noting that Vermont has 1,696 cases, with 50 in Lamoille County, and 58 deaths. Chief Walker spoke to the importance of only speaking on facts, and to continue to practice basic precautions, such as staying home when sick, social distancing, hand washing and wearing masks. He encouraged being honest with exposure and to stay home until you feel better. He also encouraged everyone to remember to be kind and compassionate towards those who are sick, and those who are trying to navigate the opening of schools currently. It was noted that the Town continues to follow the Vermont Department of Health guidelines and promote education regarding quarantine for visitors.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 8/31/20
2. Grader Bid Award
3. Highway F550 Bid Award
4. Errors & Omissions
5. Liquor Consent Items

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Flashing Pedestrian Crossing Sign Request

The Town has received a request from a resident, Barbara Gameroff, to install flashing pedestrian crossing signs on Main Street and Mountain Road for safety. She noted that these have been used in both Burlington and Montpelier and seem to bring more attention to drivers so that they stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk. She also stressed that it makes the pedestrians more visible at night, when it can be difficult for drivers to see. Town Manager Charles Safford noted that while the State guidance for signage does recommend signs at mid-block crossings but does not require flashing signs. Stowe currently has 33 crosswalks, many of which are located within the historic overlay district. The Historic Preservation Commission was asked to weigh in and they felt that flashing lights would not be appropriate on Main Street-within the Historic District. It was recommended that a flashing sign might be appropriate at the Mountain Road crossing near Cape Cod Road, which is used for the Recreation Path. Mr. Safford noted that this is on the State Highway and would require State permit approval. Other

locations discussed included the crosswalk in the Lower Village near Stowe Dance Academy, and the crosswalk on Mountain Road near Field Guide hotel, both of which are Town highway.

Chair Hagerty asked about accident history at crosswalks, which Chief Hull provided stating that there have been two accidents in the last three years, one on Maple Street (not a crosswalk) and one on Main Street (at a crosswalk) but noted there have been some near-misses as well.

Mr. Safford noted that the estimated cost per crossing for the flashing signs is \$20,000-\$25,000 which is not included in the FY21 budget. He said to consider these for a future budget would mean creating a capital project and cautioned that the capital fund is currently challenged due economic downturn and the decline in local option taxes.

The Board instructed staff to work with the State to obtain a permit for the flashing pedestrian crosswalk sign at the Mountain Road and Cape Cod crosswalk location and explore if that is a cost the State would cover. They agreed that it should be considered along with other capital request during the budget development process.

Development Review Board Challenges, Trends, etc.

The Selectboard has indicated that they would like to hear from Boards & Commissions to receive periodic updates. Drew Clymer, chair of the Development Review Board, and Sarah McShane, Zoning Director, were at the meeting to discuss the work their Board is doing, the challenges faced and trends noted.

Mr. Clymer noted that the DRB is facing more challenging applications in recent years due to the “easily developed lots” being mostly gone at this point. Developers continue to invest in Stowe, but the applications are more complex and challenging to review. It was noted that lots are being “made developable” which requires more work and finesse. Mr. Clymer also stated that the level of professionalism in applications has increased, with applicants now often coming to meetings prepared with engineers and lawyers specifically knowledgeable in zoning requirements.

Mr. Safford noted that reviewing these challenging cases can be time consuming on the staff level before applications reach the Board, as both Ms. McShane in Zoning and Mr. Harry Shepard of Public Works need to take the time to review the cases and provide the Board with information.

Mr. Clymer praised the strong, engaged members of the DRB with a variety of development-related backgrounds. He emphasized the need for thoughtful board members willing to interpret the zoning regulations in a thoughtful, experience-based way to ensure a fair process that also maintains the standards and character of the town for development. Speaking to the current zoning regulations, Mr. Clymer stated that he felt they were overall very good, giving the DRB the appropriate tools to do their job, but encouraged more collaboration with the Planning Commission in the future so that they can strategize based on trends and challenges faced by the DRB. It was suggested that sharing minutes from the Historic and Planning Commissions in the DRB packets would be helpful.

Manager’s Report

Mr. Safford updated the Board on two speed studies in Town on West Hill and Weeks Hill Roads. Both roads have a speed limit of 35mph, and the studies found the 85th percentile speed was 39.6 and 41.4 mph respectively.

Mr. Safford also spoke to the State 3-Acre rule General Storm Water Permit which has been finalized. Municipalities and landowners with more than three acres of impervious surface have 18 months to complete an engineering plan to determine a stormwater plan. Once the plan is approved, landowners have five years to install the new system. Voters approved \$40,000 for preliminary engineering on the Memorial Park/Stowe Arena and WWTF/Highway Garage lots. The Town will be moving forward with those studies.

Selectboard Meeting 9/14/20

Finally, Mr. Safford noted that the Draft Discharge Permit for the Stowe Wastewater Treatment Facility through 6/30/25205 has been release/ Comment is being accepted until 9/21/20, although the Town does not have plans to provide comment at this time. The permit requires slightly lower phosphorus levels which the WWTF believes they can achieve, as well as plans for engineering studies to replace the Lower Village Pump Station and future needs of the Wastewater Treatment Facility. This is common when facilities near 20 years of age.

The Board also discussed the School Street lane closure, which is estimated to continue for 2 more weeks as the building is repaired, and had preliminary discussions on the closure of Maple Street for Halloween given COVID-19 concerns and gatherings. The Board agreed to discuss further at the 9/28 meeting.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:56pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday September 28, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Noyes, William Adams, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza, Morgan Nichols
There were 17 participant on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Billy Adams, seconded by Mr. Willie Noyes, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Stowe Health Officer Chief Kyle Walker gave a COVID-19 update, stating that there are currently 1,745 cases in the State of Vermont, with 41 of those in Lamoille County, which is up 8 cases in the last 14 days. The number of deaths remains at 58. Chief Walker reminded everyone to continue your vigilance with social distancing, mask wearing and frequent hand washing/sanitizing, as we recognize that COVID-19 is here in our community.

Chair Hagerty shared her personal experience with being exposed to and then diagnosed with COVID-19. She noted that her case was considered mild but was not a joke and she was sick for 10 days, with lack of taste, fatigue and other symptoms, although no fever was present. She praised the Vermont Department of Health for their vigilance in being in touch quickly and frequently and noted that the system for notification of exposure worked well. Chair Hagerty stated that she has been cleared by the VDH to return to normal activities.

Mr. Adams brought up concerns about the Vail winter season and the number of visitors it will be bringing to the community and what protocols they had in place. Chief Walker indicated he had been working with Stowe Mountain Resort as they have been open for tourism since this summer, with rules that are either meeting or going above and beyond current State recommendations. Bobby Murphy, Vice President & General Manager of Stowe Mountain Resort, noted that he would be willing to over any specifics with the Board at a future meeting.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 9/14/20
2. 56 Turner Mill Lane Water/Sewer Allocation
3. 161 Mountain Road Water/Sewer Allocation
4. Liquor Consent Items

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Halloween – Consideration of Maple Street Road Closure

In past years, Maple Street has been closed to motorists on Halloween to accommodate the hundreds of Trick or Treaters that the Town typically sees. Stowe Parks & Rec also spearheads a candy drive for donations to give to those who live on Maple Street, as well as organizing a Halloween party at the Elementary School.

With COVID-19, the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development has limited outdoor events to under 150 people, and the CDC has classified trick or treating and trunk or treating as high-risk

activities. Stowe Elementary School has indicated they do not plan on holding their Halloween parade this year and will consider safer alternatives within the school community. Stowe Parks & Recreation will not be holding their annual events but will look at safer alternatives such as a virtual costume contest.

Neighboring towns such as Morrisville and Waterbury have not yet decided on whether to close down roads for Trick or Treating but have verbally indicated they do not believe they will.

Chief Walker recommended that people in the village follow best practices and not encourage trick or treating and shared a link from the CDC on alternatives for Halloween celebrations.

The Selectboard agreed to not closing Maple Street for trick or treating this year. It was noted that this change is only for the 2020 Halloween, and that future years closing the road for trick or treating will be considered. Signage and ads will be put out to notify the public that Maple Street will not be closed for Trick or Treating this year.

Helen Day Art Center Lease

Town Manager Charles Safford presented the Board with a Lease Agreement between the Helen Day Art Center and the Town of Stowe. This lease is for a term of 20 years, at a rate of \$1 per year, and is substantially in alignment with the current delineation of responsibilities, however it adds a section stipulating “any use of the basement portion of the Premises to make, teach or demonstrate the making of ceramics shall require the installation of a separate electricity meter. Electricity delivered to the Premises through that meter shall be billed to and be the sole responsibility of HDAC.” Rachel Moore, Director of HDAC, noted that the HDAC Board has seen and approved of this lease agreement.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved the Lease Agreement between the Town of Stowe and the Helen Day Art Center.

HDAC Ceramics Classroom and Capital Reallocation

At the June 22, 2020 Meeting, the Selectboard heard from HDAC regarding a proposed conversion of the basement storage space into a classroom space with two kilns. Concerns were raised by some members of the Friends of the Library who also use the basement space regarding air quality. The Selectboard instructed staff to look into potential air quality concerns. Public Works has done so and confirmed that the proposed kiln and classroom project includes new mechanical systems including ventilation independent of the building systems the existing basement does not have any ventilations systems. This will remain unchanged for the areas of the basement used by the Friends of the Library. The ventilation system for the ceramics classroom and kiln will isolate the area and any dust from the rest of the basement area, and the discharge flume will include a filter to minimize dust exhaust. The new ventilation system will require small air intake and exhaust louvers in the north exterior wall, which the Historic Preservation Commission has approved of. All modifications to the space and HVAC system install, including ceiling design revisions to allow access to the existing utilities contained between the ceiling and the floor above, and the moving of one fire pull station will be considered part of the HDAC project costs. At this point the Town is satisfied with the review of the project and the HVAC systems. It was noted that once installed, the ventilation system will become part of the building and responsibility for maintenance will be with the Town.

During the planning for the HDAC project, it came to the attention of the Town that the existing electrical service for the building is inadequate and not compliant with code requirements for the existing building. This will require an upgrade to the existing 400-amp service to a new 800-amp service. This involves a utility pole drop, 200LF trench excavation conduits and feeders, new meter panel and installation of new electrical panels separating the electrical to the HDAC classroom/kilns and the remainder of the building and exterior restoration. The estimated total cost for this work for the Town

sided electrical panel is \$25,000. The cost for the HDAC panel and interior electrical work for the classroom/kiln will be paid by the HDAC. As this cost falls under the \$50,000 threshold for putting out to bid, it will be completed to the Town electrical contractor, Gould Corp.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the proposed classroom/kiln project and to appropriate \$25,000 from the General Fund Capital reserves to pay for the electrical service upgrade required to bring the building up to code, with the understanding that HDAC will pay for upgrades to the new service panel and interior electrical system for their classroom/kiln project.

Police Staffing and Update

Chief Hull provided a memo for informational and discussion purposes regarding current police staffing levels and concerns. The mission of the Stowe Police Department is “to provide quality service in a professional, respectful and ethical manner to the residents and the visitors of the Ski Capital of the East.” The organizational and staffing levels have been established over the years to fulfill this mission. Chief Hull indicated that despite current staff shortages due to medical leave, vacancies, maternity leave and vacations he has been able to assure coverage to meet the needs of the Town and respond timely to all calls with very few delays. However, he did note that some of his officers are currently working very long stretches, as much as 14 days in a row, which can be wearing on the officers. He also indicated that he anticipates 1-2 more vacancies in the next year. It can be difficult to find experienced officers, and the process to bring on a new officer and put them through Police Academy and all required trainings can be about a year long process. The Board discussed the impact of special details such as construction project traffic details. Chief Hull indicated that many of those positions are covered by part time officers who are not interested in doing regular patrol, but that is can be difficult to cover those shifts as well. It was noted that the Town is compensated for those projects, so it is budget neutral. It was also noted that while Lamoille County Sherriff Department provides dispatch services for the Town of Stowe, they are not in a position to provide staffing coverage. Chief Hull indicated that Stowe works closely with Morrisville Police, Vermont State Police and the County Sherriff on many calls.

The Board also spoke with Chief Hull about 21st century policing and transparency in policing. Recently the Stowe Police posted all of their General Orders which cover police procedures and guidelines online for the public to review and ask questions. Chief Hull indicated that policies are up to date to reflect current best practices, but indicated he believes several of them will be updated in the coming year, as model policies are being developed statewide. All Stowe officers are trained in de-escalation and bias training above and beyond state requirements. Chief Hull noted that his officers have received their second round of de-escalation training as a refresher as well as three trainings on bias in policing. - The Board and Chief Hull also discussed a recently released press release from the Boston ATF/State Police and Town of Stowe regarding recent arson attempts and are offering a \$15,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the responsible party. Chief Hull indicated that reward is being split between the three agencies, and that he believes an anonymous citizen has offered an additional \$15,000 bringing the total reward up to \$30,000. He asked all residents to be aware of their surroundings and report anything suspicious.

Mr. Safford thanked the Stowe Police Officers for their hard work, and for showing use of force restraint in the field. Chief Hull thanked the community for their support over the summer.

Manager’s Report

Mr. Safford noted that the Highway Department will be working to extend on-street parking on School Street near the elementary school to include 5 parking spaces. This will formalize and make safer current

Selectboard Meeting 9/28/20

practices of people parking on the side of the road. The cost is estimated to be between \$5,000 and \$10,000 out of the highway paving budget, and they hope to have this completed before winter.

Mr. Safford also reminded the Board that the next meeting will be on Tuesday October 13th as Monday October 12th Town offices are closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day.

Mr. Safford noted that the State legislature adjourned on Friday, and that the bill regarding lot sizes for areas providing water/sewer that the Town Planning Commission provided comments on did not make it through the legislative process this session. He also discussed Bill S.354 which allows for Annual Meeting to be voted on by Australian ballot for 2021 in recognition of the current pandemic and the limits on gathering sizes and the difficulty of large electronic meetings. Selectboard members expressed concern about the loss of the tradition and the need for more public input during the budgeting process in January. Mr. Safford will address this in a Municipal Corner to try to get the word out.

Public Works Director Harry Shepard provided an update on the overhead utility relocation project, noting that it has entered the final stages of removing the overhead wires, and that they are hopeful that the poles will come down before winter. The Town is working with local proponents of the project on a virtual ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of this project.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:26pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Tuesday October 13, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Noyes, William Adams, Lisa Hagerty, Nick Donza

There were 7 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Billy Adams, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the agenda with the change of moving item 3-B-2 out of the consent agenda and making it the first order of business.

COVID-19 Update

Stowe Health Officer Chief Kyle Walker gave a COVID-19 update, stating that there are currently 1,886 cases in the State of Vermont, with 59 of those in Lamoille County, and 23 in Stowe. The number of deaths remains at 58.

Chief Walker praised the community for doing an excellent job of keeping the residents and tourists safe with a large number of visitors in town. He reminded everyone to continue your vigilance with social distancing, mask wearing and frequent hand washing/sanitizing, and staying home if you are not feeling well. He encouraged anyone not feeling well to contact their healthcare provider for further directions. Chief Walker also spoke to the fact that as we enter winter cold and flu season, there will be an impact on the workforce as children are required to stay home from school if not feeling well.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 9/28/20

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Liquor Consent Agenda

The Town presented a Liquor Consent Agenda with one item for ratification – changes to the VT Brewers Festival list of brewers.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the Liquor Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Donza abstained from voting.

Interim Zoning By-law amendments (winter outdoor seating, displays and tents)

At the Selectboard's May 26, 2020 meeting the Board approved Interim Zoning bylaws which allowed expanded outdoor seating, displays of merchandise and outdoor provision of services without needing a zoning permit due to COVID-19 social distancing. They also included the use of sandwich board signs and seating in the Town ROW. These Interim Zoning bylaws expire 11/15/20. The Planning Commission has recommended winter Interim Zoning to both address snow removal and winter safety concerns and to allow businesses to continue to operate some outside heated spaces. The proposed winter Interim Zoning bylaws include no sandwich boards, food trucks, or seating in the Town highway ROW. It does allow for tents and temporary structures, although it was noted that snow shed from those structures cannot interfere with pedestrian, roads or emergency access. Businesses would also be responsible for obtaining a Division of Fire Safety permit if the size of the tent is over 1,200 s.f. It was also noted that these tents

can create a safety hazard with snow loading and heating, which the Town is not able to regulate locally. Any property owner erecting tents should take these safety considerations into mind and understand they are assuming the associated liability.

It was noted that restaurants are still only allowed to accommodate 50% capacity for indoor dining due to COVID-19 restrictions. It is unlikely many businesses will opt for outdoor seating during the winter months, but one business has expressed interest at this time.

There was further discussion regarding recent noise complaints from outside music venues. Town Planner Tom Jackman stressed that the use of outside music is not something that was impacted by the Interim Zoning, but rather was approved for specific locations during their Development Review Process. It was noted that during COVID-19 restrictions there has been an increase in the use of outdoor music and the Board expressed interest in meeting with the Planning Commission at a future meeting to discuss noise regulation further.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board adopted the proposed Interim Zoning bylaws effective November 16, 2020 and lasting until April 30, 2021.

Recreation Commission Update

Lynn Altadonna, Chair of the Stowe Recreation Commission, attended the meeting to provide an update on major trends, and long-term projects that the Rec Commission is concerned about. He noted that use of the Arena, despite COVID-19, is currently up, with September revenue hitting 105% over the prior year. He noted that they had a particularly successful summer with summer camps, despite the loss of NAHA. He thanked the Selectboard for opening the Arena despite COVID-19, and noted that the staff is doing a wonderful job keeping the building clean and following safety protocols, including requiring the wearing of masks on the ice. It was noted that most groups are doing very good with complying with the protocols and those not willing to comply are opting not to skate right now.

Mr. Altadonna also spoke to the increase in the use of mountain biking, road biking and e-bikes in the community. He said he was hoping to get a member from the biking community on the Recreation Commission to represent this growing group of recreators. He also noted that the Recreation Commission will be working with the Stowe Energy Commission on incentivizing use of e-bikes.

Finally, Mr. Altadonna reminded the Board of two long-term projects that the Rec Commission has on its radar – the relocation of the Recreation Path where it intersects Mountain Road, and the replacement of the Gale Recreation Center. The Board noted that it had recently discussed the relocation of the Recreation Path, understanding that moving it to the Gale Bridge underpass may not be possible due to slope, erosion, flood plains and utilities in the area. There is currently a study being done to assess this, but it is anticipated to cost over \$1,000,000 to complete. It was discussed that the Town way want to think more creatively on where else the Recreation Path could go to avoid crossing Mountain Road. Regarding the Gale Center, it was noted that the building is outdated and that the Rec Commission will be working on planning what its replacement could look like and what uses it would accommodate, including the consideration of an after-school program or other uses.

Manager's Report

Town Manager Charles Safford provided updates on staff accomplishments, noting the Technical Services Librarian, Lauren Kelly, recently received her Master of Science in Library and Information Science from Syracuse University, and that Parks Superintendent Bruce Godin recently marked his 40th year of employment with the Town of Stowe. He encouraged the Board and public to thank these staff for their service.

Selectboard Meeting 10/13/20

Mr. Safford presented the Board with a schedule of property taxes raised and where they go. It was noted that some of the delinquencies in taxes are a pattern of lack of payment, and while the Town has temporarily suspended tax sales due to COVID-19, that ongoing conversations with those who are behind on payments need to continue to assure that they are attempting to be resolved.

Mr. Safford noted that at the Town's request, VTrans has installed pedestrian crossing ahead signs on all Class 1 highways entering the village center.

An updated Wastewater Treatment Facility Discharge Permit has been issued due to a few minor changes. The Town does not plan to submit written comments at this time.

Finally, Mr. Safford noted that ridership on the Mountain Road Shuttle has increased significantly from FY16 to FY20. The Selectboard credited a collaboration with Stowe Mountain Resort to promote ridership and awareness over the past few years. It is unknown how COVID-19 restraints will impact usage and capacity this upcoming season, but the Town and Green Mountain Transit will monitor.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:57pm to discuss personnel.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:28pm.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board appointed Ryan Thibault to fill a vacant position on the Recreation Commission effective immediately.

On a motion by Mr. Donza, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board appointed Brian Mullin and Anna Colavito to fill two vacant positions on the Library Board of Trustees effective immediately.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:34pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday October 26, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: William Noyes, William Adams, Nick Donza, Morgan Nichols
There were 11 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Vice Chair William Adams called the meeting to order at 5:34pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Willie Noyes, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Stowe Health Officer Chief Kyle Walker gave a COVID-19 update, stating that there are currently 2,083 cases in the State of Vermont, with 63 of those in Lamoille County, and 23 in Stowe. The number of deaths remains at 58. It was noted that there have been no new cases in Stowe since the last update. Chief Walker noted that the definition of “close contact” has been updated to now include being with 6 feet of someone for a cumulative amount of 15 minutes or more in a 24 hour period. He also noted that the guidance has been put out regarding how to have talks with family regarding safely gathering and encouraged the public to review it.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 10/13/20
2. 70 Pond St Water/Sewer Allocation
3. 1031 Mountain Road Water/Sewer Allocation
4. Weeks Hill, Sampson tax Map 10-123.000 Water Allocation
5. 513 Maple Street Water/Sewer Allocation
6. Stowe Electric Line of Credit Renewal

On a motion by Ms. Morgan Nichols, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Liquor License Applications

The Town presented a Liquor License Applications for Vermont Brewers Fest, Ellison Estate Vineyard, and Dedalus Wine Group.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved the Liquor Applications as presented.

Conservation Commission Update

Rob Moore and Christine McGowan of the Conservation Commission attended the meeting to give an update on the work being done by the Commission. Mr. Moore explained that the Commission keeps an eye on use of Town public properties, including use, vandalism, and parking. They anticipate that crowded trailhead parking is a trend we will continue to see and will bring suggestions on how to handle that to the Selectboard when possible. The Commission also works closely with Stowe Land Trust and Stowe Trails Partnership in these endeavors. Other programs that the Commission participates in are Green Up Day, which was done safely following COVID-19 guidelines this year, planting trees on the Recreation Path and in Moscow Rec Fields as a riparian barrier, and monitoring and removing invasive

species such as Barberry on public lands. He noted that Barberry has been nearly eradicated in Cady Hill Forest. It was also noted that the Commission is working to update kiosks and trail maps in Cady Hill Forest, as well as partnering with Stowe Land Trust to post information on living in bear country, with a focus on education during the late winter and early spring. They are also working with the Recreation Department to provide bear-proof containers in certain areas.

Mr. Safford noted that last year voters approved money for a study of ash trees on town roads and Right of Ways in preparation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) invasion. The Commission has developed an EAB Management Plan in preparation of the Ash Borer coming to Stowe. Mr. Moore stated it is likely already here, and we just haven't seen it yet. He also explained that once dead, ash trees become very brittle and difficult to remove, which is a safety concern. The plan discussed how to be prepared, including public education which is ongoing, as well as a plan to proactively cut down trees. A recent inventory of ash trees along Stowe highway right of ways showed that there are 2,005 ash trees along public roads, with 1,208 of those identified as high priority for removal. There are also 351 ash trees along the Recreation Path, with 199 of those being high priority. There is a cost that comes with tree removal, which is a future capital project. - Mr. Safford noted that the capital fund is strained at the moment and while this is on the horizon, it will likely be considered in future years. He also noted this is just a preliminary study and that many logistics will need to be worked out as the plan progresses, including - which landowners would like to keep the wood from the trees on their property.

Planning Commission Update

Mila Lonetto, Chuck Ebel and Brian Hamor from the Planning Commission attended the meeting to give an update on the work of the Planning Commission, as well as staff support Tom Jackman. Ms. Lonetto noted that in recent years the Commission has been working on an update to the zoning regulations following the adoption of the Town Plan in 2018. These will eventually come to the Selectboard for a public hearing and approval, likely in early 2021. The Commission works with the Development Review Board, Historic Preservation Commission and Lamoille County Planning Commission to address issues that may have come up during their review processes. It was noted that the regulations allow for interpretation by the DRB, and that there are places they have asked for clarification, including clarifying when administrative approval which might take some things off of the DRB to review. Mr. Jackman noted that a lot of the language are defined by the state statute, and in the Town Plan. He encouraged those with specific concerns and suggestions about the zoning regulations attend Planning Commission meetings to give public input into the process.

Ms. Lonetto noted that the Commission spent a lot of time on revisions to the Town Plan in 2018, which included an energy plan that allowed the Town to be one of the first municipalities to have enhanced party status in Public Utility Commission reseeding. The revised Town Plan also addressed forest habitat loss and downtown designation.

Also worked on Interim bylaws to allow flexibility for businesses during COVID-19. The Board asked questions about the move towards outdoor events and dining, and concerns that have recently been raised about noise. Ms. Lonetto stated that the Commission felt that zoning was not the best way to address noise and recommended a noise ordinance for enforcement and monitoring.

Manager's Report

Town Manager Charles Safford provided a summary report from the Mountain Mansfield Colocation Corporation Monitoring Reports Under Land Use Permit #5L1442, which states that Radio Frequency measurements include that ambient RF levels are below established Federal guidelines. A full report is available in Town offices.

Selectboard Meeting 10/13/20

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:50pm to discuss personnel and contracts.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:04pm.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board appointed Ryan Thibault to fill a vacant position on the Recreation Commission effective immediately.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board appointed Ed Stahl and Arthur Shinnars to fill two vacant positions on the Recreation Commission effective immediately.

There being no further business, Vice Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 8:06pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday November 9, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: Lisa Hagerty, William Noyes, William Adams, Nick Donza, Morgan Nichols
There were 15 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Billy Adams, seconded by Mr. Willie Noyes, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Stowe Health Officer Chief Kyle Walker gave a COVID-19 update, stating that there are currently 2,415 cases in the State of Vermont, with 68 of those in Lamoille County, and 24 in Stowe. The number of deaths has gone up to 59. He noted that the number of cases in Vermont has been climbing steadily, with 4 cases in Lamoille County in the last 14 days.

Chief Walker noted that the governor has put out an advisory limiting indoor social gatherings to no more than 10 people, and are encouraging people to keep their social circles small, and to continue to follow mask and social distancing guidelines. Chief Walker reminded everyone that it is important to keep vigilant to keep our schools and businesses open.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 10/26/20
2. Liquor Consent Items

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda as presented.

Library Trustee Update

Kelly Spear, Chair of the Stowe Library Board of Trustees, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Boards work. She noted that recently two long time members of the Board, Charlie Lusk and Dick Johannesen, have termed off the Board. Their service and years of knowledge will be missed, however two new members have been appointed, one of which has a financial background and has taken on the position of treasurer that Mr. Johannesen filled for many years. The Board has been busy working on financial policies to guide the investing and spending of the endowment fund in a way that supports the mission, vision and values of the Library. She noted that the library staff continue to replenish the library inventory following the water damage in 2019, and when the insurance money is spent, the endowment funds will be used to make the collection whole again. She also noted that Library staff have re-opened the library with limited hours and services, using thoughtful and careful COVID policies to protect the staff, visitors and community. Currently there is a limit of 5 people inside the library at any time, with a select portion of the collection available for perusal. There is access to a public computer and wi-fi that reaches to the lawn/gazebo. Curbside pickup is also still available. Ms. Spear noted that the Board is beginning to work on strategic planning for the Library going forward.

Stowe Mountain Resort Winter Operations Plan Update

Bobby Murphy, VP & General Manager of Stowe Mountain Resort, joined the meeting to provide the Selectboard with an update on their winter operations plan. Mr. Murphy explained that SMR is focusing on three main points for the winter season: The Safety of guests, employees and the community; having a full successful ski season; and prioritizing seasons pass holders. He explained that all guests of SMR are required to follow the State Travel Guidelines, which currently require a mandatory quarantine period for anyone traveling from out of state. They have also implemented a reservation system which will allow for both contact tracing if necessary as well as contactless ticketing. He explained that SMR will be opening on November 20, 2020 with as many lifts and terrain open for the season as possible. They are hoping that the vast majority of days all who want to ski/ride will be able to, with some contingencies in place for busier times, such as weekends and holidays. He noted that they have put in place thoughtful and vigilant safety precautions, including requiring masks and social distancing and limiting the time guests can be inside the Lodge common areas to 30 minutes. The resort will be following the Vermont Ski Resort COVID-19 Winter Operations Guidance issued by the State of Vermont, as well as using lessons learned from their summer season as well as from Vail's Australian ski lodges in the hopes of having a successful, healthy season. This will include limiting the number of people on ski lifts and gondolas to only those in the same related parties, and 50% capacity on open air chair lifts. He explained that contrary to every other year, this year guests are being encouraged to ski and go home with limited use of the Lodge amenities. Mr. Murphy explained that ski school will be occurring but with modified hours and limited group sizes. He said the school skiing programs are welcome but are at the discretion of the schools who run those programs. It was noted that the commuter buses are limited to 50% capacity with 6' distancing required, which will impact the number of people able to ride the bus this year. Mr. Murphy thanked the community and SMR staff for their commitment to safety as well as understanding and support as they navigate this unusual winter while trying to maintain safety for all.

Public Informational Meeting – Stagecoach Road Bridge

Public Works Director Harry Shepard, along with engineering consultant John Olin of Hoyle, Tanner and Associates, presented the Selectboard with the design development and permitting update for a proposed bridge on Stagecoach Road. This project is to replace the existing culverts at Moss Glenn Brook which are structurally deteriorated and hydraulically deficient. This project has a total cost of \$1.1 million, -10% (\$220,000) will be paid by the Town. Mr. Olin noted that this project has been accelerated due to the condition of the existing culverts, with the project in the final design phase. Mr. Shepard explained that the goal will be to complete this project in the 2021 construction season. While the Town has been hoping to complete the project in the spring, due to State work to complete their Route 100 project, including rehabilitation of the bridge near Ricketson Farm which will reduce traffic on Route 100 to 1 way alternating, they have delayed the start of the Stagecoach project until the State work is completed, which is currently scheduled for June 30th, 2021. Mr. Shepard noted that doing the work in July August has some advantages including no school buses and lower water levels. By waiting to Mr. Olin explained that the project includes a 50' clear span bridge which will be a pre-cast concrete structure. Mr. Shepard noted that all permits have been secured, but the Town is awaiting NEPPA Federal Government check. Easements are in progress. Mr. Olin noted that as a result of this project, they have projected 3' lower flood levels on the east side of Stagecoach Road. Mr. Adams asked about the hydrological impact further downstream, but Mr. Olin said he felt there would be no major impact based on flow studies.

Manager's Report

Town Manager Charles Safford provided the FY22 Budget Development Schedule, noting that due to COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, it is very likely that Town Meeting this year will be conducted via

Selectboard Meeting 10/13/20

Australian Ballot, and that the time to give input into the budgeting process will be during Selectboard meetings in January. He noted that the initial budget presentation will take place on 12/28/20, with non-profits seeking new or increased appropriations presenting on 1/4/21 and further budget discussions on 1/11/21 with a public hearing set for 1/25/21. After the public hearing, the final budget will be prepared for the ballot. Mr. Safford also noted that staff will work to minimize any property tax increase without major cuts to existing services and noted that capital projects will only be advanced if they are a previous commitment or necessary to protect life or property.

Mr. Safford noted that the Vermont COVID-19 Arrearage Assistance Program has been extended to include overdue water and wastewater bills. Stowe Electric has been administering this program for their electric customers and are willing to do so for water and wastewater customers as well, for an administrative cost.

Mr. Safford presented the Board with a letter from Lamoille County Assistant Side Judges indicating that they Village of Hyde Park Trustees have increased their water meter rates from under \$1,000 per year to over \$50,000 per year. This will greatly impact the Town of Stowe county taxes as the taxes are based on grant list with the Town of Stowe paying half the county taxes. The Assistant Side Judges have requested to meet with the Trustees on 11/11/20, asking the Trustees to reconsider the disproportionate increase.

Mr. Safford also presented the Board with a request from Stowe Mystic Lodge requesting a five year extension to their Tax Exemption. 60% of the building, which is used for meetings, is eligible for tax exemptions, with a municipal tax exemption of \$719.29, and the Town would also have to reimburse the State education taxes of \$2,927.47. This will go to the Voters for Town Meeting Day for approval.

Finally, Mr. Safford presented a Motion to Amend Certificate of Public Good from Verizon Wireless requesting a minor change in the proposed antenna stealthing. Staff will not be making comment at this time.

Mr. Paul Sakash brought up concerns regarding cracks in concrete sidewalks, which Mr. Shepard indicated would be sealing in the spring, and street paving, which is a State contract and will be repainted in the spring, and erosion on Maple Street which Mr. Shepard said he would look into.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board went into Executive Session at 7:32pm to discuss personnel, contracts and legal.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:37pm.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donza, the Board approved the request of the Stowe Arts & Culture to increase their membership from seven to nine and appointed Mort Butler and Shawn Kerivan to fill the two one-year terms effective immediately.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 8:39pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday November 23, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: Lisa Hagerty, William Noyes, William Adams, Nick Donza, Morgan Nichols
There were 40 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Ms. Morgan Nichols, seconded by Mr. Willie Noyes, the Board approved the agenda, pulling item B3 from the consent agenda for discussion at a future meeting.

COVID-19 Update

Stowe Health Officer Chief Kyle Walker gave a COVID-19 update, stating that there are currently 3,714 cases in the State of Vermont, with 137 of those in Lamoille County. The number of deaths has gone up to 63. He noted that these numbers show a significant increase in cases in Vermont, and Governor Scott has issued new Executive Orders requiring quarantine for all non-essential travel to and from Vermont and limiting social gatherings to only those within your household. Town Manager Charles Safford noted that the Town has created a Winter Operations Plan for snow plowing coverage that minimized overlap of staff to reduce exposure, including the creation of two separate crews who will work every other week unless there is a snow storm that requires plowing. Other essential services, such as Water and Sewer are working to limit their exposure as well.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of 11/9/20
2. Errors & Omissions
3. PULLED
4. 11/30/20 Special Selectboard Meeting

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda Items 1,2 and 4.

Main Street Virtual Ribbon Cutting

The removal of the overhead utility poles last week marked the completion of the Main Street Overhead Utility Project, which was financed through a \$3.2 million dollar bond with the annual debt service paid with local option tax receipts. Chair Hagerty thanked the many people who came together to make this project possible, including Michael Diender who was an early proponent of the project, Town Manager Charles Safford, Public Works Director Harry Shepard and Assistant Engineer Chris Jolly, Contractor Dale E Percy, Inc, and subcontractors Gould Electric Corp., Stowe Electric Department and Stowe Cable, supporters of the project including Stowe Vibrancy and Friends of Stowe Village, former Selectboard Member Neil Van Dyke and the current Selectboard for their vision for this once in a lifetime project. A virtual ribbon cutting ceremony was shown to all participants.

LiveBarn Contract and Access Policy

Mr. Safford presented the Board with an agreement with LiveBarn to provide fully automated delivery of live and/or on demand video and audio streaming for remote viewing of hockey games held at the Stowe Arena. This is a five-year exclusive contract for unmanned video cameras for livestreaming.

Mr. Safford also presented a Stowe Arena Livestream Policy which provides guidance to Stowe Arena/Stowe Recreation Department staff when to utilize an administrative passcode or other measures to blackout or restrict video streaming. With this policy, “All Stowe High School and Stowe Youth Hockey games will be livestreamed and available to be viewed by anyone with a membership or subscription to the relevant streaming service... all other games, events and rentals will be subject to advance written request and permission by a representative of the organization/group or individual privately leasing the Stowe Arena ice surface to provide access to livestreaming.”

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Nick Donza, the board approved the LiveBarn Agreement and Stowe Arena Livestream Policy.

Cemetery Commission Update and Remembrance Program Appointments

Donna Adams, Chair of the Cemetery Commission, joined the meeting to provide an update on the work of the Stowe Cemetery Commission. She noted that it had been a slow year for workorders, but that stone restoration had been ongoing. Stones for future restoration have been flagged in Riverbank and West Branch cemeteries. She also noted that there have been issues obtaining corner stone posts from the suppliers, which has been a challenge for the commission. She also noted the retirement of staffer Barbara Allaire has resulted in the Town Clerks taking over much of the administrative aspects of running the cemeteries. Ms. Adams also spoke to the Cemetery Remembrance Program which oversees funds donated, sends thank you notes and promotes the program, as well as maintaining a remembrance book in the Akeley Memorial Building. Currently, the only remaining person appointed to manage the program is Barbara Allaire. Ms. Adams requested that the Selectboard appoint Skeeter Austin, Karin Gottlieb and Mary Skelton, along with Ms. Allaire, to be managers of the Remembrance Program. Ms. Allaire spoke to the importance of the fund and assuring that the donated money stays with the Cemeteries.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the appointment of Skeeter Austin, Karin Gottlieb, Mary Skelton and Barbara Allaire to manage the Remembrance Program.

Historic Preservation Commission Update

Sam Scofield, chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, joined the meeting to provide an update on the work of the commission. He noted that the Commission reviews all construction projects within in the historic district and provides guidance to assure that buildings fit with the historic nature of the community. The Commission has been working extensively on reviewing the existing Zoning Regulations to see where they may make recommended changes. One of the biggest challenges Mr. Schofield noted was related to new construction that falls outside of the historic district, and that is where he would like to see more changes in the zoning regulations. Historically the focus had been in the village area, but there ~~are~~is now more focus on historic buildings outside of the village center. He said providing more guidance in advance of people coming before the Commission would be helpful. It was noted that the Commission plays a vital role in keeping the historic nature of the town and are seen as experts who can give guidance to applicants, as well setting the tone for projects such as the Overhead Utility Relocation Project.

Annual Meeting Australian Ballot and Mailing Ballots

In recognition of the limitation on gathering sizes and the need to social distance, the Vermont Legislature passed a bill to enable local legislative bodies to move to the Australian ballot system rather than in-person annual meetings for the purposes of consideration of Town Meeting articles. Additionally, Mr. Safford asked the Selectboard if they would like to mail out ballots to all registered voters and send

Selectboard Meeting 10/13/20

them with self-addressed postage paid return envelopes, for a total cost of approximately \$4,000. The Selectboard members expressed disappointment at the loss of the Annual Meeting for 2021 but expressed hope that this will only be a one-time thing due to COVID and in 2022 Town Meeting can return. It was noted that it is important to encourage participation from the public in the annual Town budgeting process through Zoom meetings leading up to the Australian Ballot, as changes will not be able to be made once the ballots are printed. The Town will promote the dates of budget meetings in December and January. The Board also expressed interest in keeping the traditional town survey in place. It was also asked if the annual survey could be mailed out with the ballots, which Town Clerk Lisa Walker will look into.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the move to the Australian Ballot system for the 2021 Annual Meeting and instructed the Town Clerk to mail ballots to all registered Stowe voters with self-addressed postage paid return envelopes.

Manager's Report

Town Manager Charles Safford noted that following the Governor's Executive Order indicating that "Youth and adult recreational sports activities, not related to Vermont Principals Association sanctioned school sports, are suspended until further notice" the Stowe Arena has reduced its offerings to only those uses as allowed by the Governor, which does include high school hockey as well as personal lessons with physical distancing strictly adhered to and interaction between households eliminated. The Arena continues to allow rentals for individual and group instruction or private rental by an individual or people living within the same household provided that ACCD guidance is followed. Instructors will be charged the regular rates of \$205/hr for prime times and \$150/hr for non-prime times and individuals and groups living in the same household will be able to rent the Arena for the non-prime rate of \$150/hr.

Mr. Safford also provided an update on 1st quarter FY21 Local Option Tax Receipts, which came in at \$203,964. This represents a 34% loss from the previous year but is better than the 50% loss the Town anticipated. It was noted that this could include collection of prior periods of tax that were deferred.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 7:42pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday November 30, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: Lisa Hagerty, William Noyes, William Adams, Nick Donza, Morgan Nichols
There were 35 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Lamoille County CUD Broadband Feasibility Study

Lea Kilvadyova, of Lamoille Country Planning Commission and the Lamoille County FiberNet Communications Union District provided a presentation on the Lamoille County Broadband Feasibility Study. Assisting her with the presentation was Larry Lackey, Stowe Resident and member of the Lamoille FiberNet Technology Committee, and Timothy Humphrey, Lamoille FiberNet Governing Board and Executive Committee Member. The presentation covered the Feasibility Study, which included a survey of the public on the adequacy of the internet access services currently available to them and the level of interest in using internet services that could be provided over a new fiberoptic network, as well as the feasibility of building and operating a fiber-optic communications network throughout 8 of the 10 towns in Lamoille County. Ms. Kilvadyova reviewed what a Communications Union District (CUD) is and that there is no cost or liability to taxpayers, only on the ratepayers. She noted that funding comes from loans, grants, crowdfunding, or other funding sources not based on taxing authority. The Lamoille FiberNet CUD was formed in July of 2020 with 7 towns participating to date. Mr. Lackey spoke to the responses from the Stowe residents in the survey, noting that internet access was seen as a “Must Have” and that the overall satisfaction rating with internet services in Stowe was 59% either unsatisfied or very unsatisfied. He also noted that 688 stowe addresses are classified as unserved or underserved based on available internet speed and options. Mr. Humphrey provided an overview on the Feasibility Study findings, and proposed an operating model that includes a public-private partnership between the CUD, private investors and operators. The project would be funded through equity investors, debt financing and possible grants or subsidies. Currently the CUD estimates that the project will cost \$60M to reach the majority of the addresses. This did involve having to “trim” 1,200 address from the first wave due to remote or underground conduit locations. A business plan will be developed in the next phase which will refine the design and provide further financial modeling. The CUD is asking the Selectboard at their 12/14/20 meeting if they desire to make an application to join the CUD so they can develop the business plan accordingly.

Members of the Selectboard and public asked questions regarding the study, plan and funding options. One concern that was raised was that this plan would still not cover those in the hardest-to-reach areas due to the cost burden.

The Selectboard agreed to deliberate on the decision to join the Lamoille FiberNet CUD at their December 14th meeting.

Manager’s Report

Town Manager Charles Safford noted that following the Governor has encouraged the State to “Light Up Vermont” for the holidays due to the lack of other events and gatherings due to COVID-19. The Town currently has lit garland on the ornamental street lights. He said it has also been proposed to add lights to the street trees within the green belt on Main Street. Last year the trees were newly planted and were not decorated, but Tree Warden Charlie Lusk has indicated he did not see an issue with lighting the trees this year. It was also suggested that the small holiday trees that used to be on the utility poles on Main Street be placed in Moscow Village. The Selectboard indicated they were in support of both of those projects

Selectboard Meeting 11/30/20

using funding from the Contingency Fund. Mr. Safford said that the Town would move forward with plans.

On a motion by Mr. William Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss contracts at 8:28.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:52pm.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 8:52pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday December 14, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: Lisa Hagerty, William Noyes, William Adams, Nick Donza, Morgan Nichols
There were 39 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Ms. Morgan Nichols, seconded by Mr. Willie Noyes, the Board approved the agenda, pulling item C2, Menorah Request, from the agenda as the request has been rescinded by the organization who requested it.

COVID-19 Update

Stowe Health Officer Chief Kyle Walker gave a COVID-19 update, stating that there are currently 5,857 cases in the State of Vermont, with 204 of those in Lamoille County and 51 in Stowe. The number of deaths has gone up to 96. He noted that these numbers show that cases continue to increase in Vermont. He also noted that the Pfizer vaccine has received CDC approval and indicated that more information on who will have priority to receive the vaccine and where to find it, can be found online at the CDC website. He also noted that the Vermont Department of Health is continuing to keep up with contact tracing, and individuals may receive a text notifying them that they have been in contact with a COVID positive person. Finally, he noted there are a lot of questions about what it means to quarantine, and that people should look online at the Vermont Department of Health website for more information. Ms. Nichols noted that programs are available to cover employers allowing them to provide sick time for employees who need to quarantine due to exposure or sickness, with 100% wage replacement for up to two weeks.

Consent Agenda

1. Capital Project Closeouts (Lower Village Sidewalk)
2. 48 Pike Street Water/Sewer Allocation
3. 11/23/20 and 11/30/20 Minutes
4. Snowmobile ROW Use Agreement
5. Stowe Nordic Cooperative Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Nick Donza, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Broadband Discussions

Chair Hagerty opened the discussions noting that this was a complex challenge for all, and last meeting the Selectboard heard from the Lamoille FiberNet CUD Broadband Feasibility Study, and tonight would be further discussing Broadband concerns before deciding if the Town should apply to join the CUD. Rich Rothammer and Matthew Royers from Stowe Access/Stowe Cable were in attendance to discuss their concerns about the CUD report and their plans for expansion of services in the next several years. Mr. Rothammer, president of Stowe Cable, noted that they have been a local provider of cable TV and telecommunications for 36 years. They have focused on installing fiber internet connections to homes in Stowe, and currently have 204 addresses subscribed to their service, and are adding miles of fiber every year. Mr. Rothammer noted that in 2021 they plan to install 8 miles of new areal fiber in areas such as

Stagecoach Road, Upper Hollow, Stowe Pinnacle and Taber Hill. Matthew Rogers, CFO for Stowe Access, spoke to the companies' growth in the last 5 years as well as noting that concerns that the Tison Study, presented by Lamoille FiberNet at the last Selectboard meeting, had inconsistencies relating to the equity return rate being too low, the accelerated buildout over two years unachievable and the lack of operator fees in the study. He also expressed concern about the lack of incorporation of taxes and depreciation of the value of the network over time. Specifically, Mr. Royers said work can be very limited by the lack of skilled labor available in Vermont to actually get the wires installed, and that getting access to the poles to hang the wires can be burdensome and time consuming. He also noted that in order to make the study feasible, Tison had removed many of the "last mile" addresses from the program, and that those would continue to be unserved. Larry Lackey, Stowe's representative on the Lamoille Fibernet CUD, stated that feedback had been given to Tison to include those addresses back in when developing their business plan.

My. Rothammer and Mr. Royers spoke to Stowe Access's plans for expansion in the next three years. Barring any major hurdles, their plan is to add 276 unserved addresses in 2021, 102 in 2022 and 164 in 2023. By 2023, this will cover 90% of the unserved addresses, with the remaining addresses either unknown or not planned for expansion.

Chair Hagerty spoke to concerns about connection fees, which Mr. Rothammer stated could sometimes be waived, split with nearby homeowners or paid for by federal or state programs. He also noted they were working with the Stowe Schools to help provide free installation and upgrades to families who need access for remote school learning.

Mr. Robert Fish of the Vermont Public Service Department also spoke to the Tison Study, noting that the number of underserved address was based on data from July of 2019, which may explain some of the discrepancy due to addresses built out by Stowe Access since that time. He also noted that the funding is available to CUDs to help them with the infrastructure buildout and may be available in the future to private businesses such as Stowe Access. Mr. Fish felt that by having "a seat at the table" with the CUD it would allow Stowe to provide the best options to its residents without being tied to it forever. He also noted that if Stowe Access beat the CUD to buildout it wouldn't be a concern. It was also noted that Stowe could pull out of the CUD if they were not satisfied with the business plan presented.

It was also discussed that if the Selectboard desires to join Lamoille FiberNet CUD they will need to appoint a representative. Staff will advertise for this representative and will bring candidates to the Selectboard for consideration at their January 4, 2021 meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board approved the application to join the Lamoille Fibernet CUD. Willie Noyes voted against the motion.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board appointed Leo Clark to serve as the interim representative to the Lamoille Fibernet CUD and instructed staff to advertise for a permanent representative.

Black Lives Matter Street Banner Application

Town Manager Charles Safford presented a request from the Racial Equity Alliance of Lamoille County (REAL) to hang a "Black Lives Matter" banner over Mountain Road. They have also requested the fee be waived and the banner hung for an open-ended period of time. Mr. Safford noted that the current Town of Stowe Banner Policy states that banners should be hung for events, with a limit of two weeks. During the pandemic there has been less demand for event banners and the Selectboard has approved banners for non-events with the understanding that if demand were to arise for a special event they would be taken down.

Selectboard Meeting 11/30/20

Chair Hagerty noted she is a member of REAL but does not have any personal benefit from this request and did not feel she needed to recuse herself from the discussion or vote.

Hope Sullivan and Saudia Lamont of REAL gave some background on their organization and the reason for their request, stating that BIPOC people in our community feel threatened and suicidal and that this banner can help make them feel that the community supports them. The Board discussed if there should be any longer-term discussions related to the changing of the policy to allow -non-event banners, but felt that post-pandemic the demand for event banners will return. -. It was also noted that it would be hard to know when the banner should come down. Ms. Lamont noted that the banner would also be hung in other towns in the county and they did not plan to have it up indefinitely.

On a motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board approved the hanging of the Black Lives Matter banner as requested with the fee being waived with the understanding that it will be taken down when demand for special event banners resumes and with the understanding that the opportunity may not present itself for non-event free-speech banners post-pandemic.

Draft Annual Meeting Survey

Mr. Safford presented the Board with a rough draft of Annual Meeting Survey and discussed how this survey could be distributed since the Town is not able to hold an in-person meeting. Mr. Safford suggested using Survey Monkey and posting the survey on the Town website, FPF and other locations. It is not possible to mail the survey with official ballots and there was concern that doing two mailings (one for ballots and one for the survey) may confuse voters. The Board then discussed the desire to hold a Zoom-based meeting in which participants could discuss and vote via an online poll their thoughts on the survey on a non-binding advisory basis. -. - The Board instructed staff to look into how Annual Meeting or something similar could be held through an electronic meeting.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford asked the Selectboard to hold a special meeting on Monday January 4, 2021 to discuss new and increased Community Appropriation Requests as well as other business to come before the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Noyes, the Board moved to warn a special meeting for Monday January 4, 2021.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 9.04pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.

Stowe Selectboard, Liquor Commission & Water/Sewer Commission Meeting
Monday December 28, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present:

Selectboard Members: Lisa Hagerty, William Noyes, William Adams, Nick Donza, Morgan Nichols
There were 17 participants on Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Lisa Hagerty called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Approve the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Billy Adams, seconded by Ms. Morgan Nichols, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Update

Stowe Health Officer Chief Kyle Walker gave a COVID-19 update, stating that there are currently 7,124 cases in the State of Vermont, with 227 of those in Lamoille County and 57 in Stowe. The number of deaths has gone up to 129.

Chief Walker spoke to the recently released Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, and that many front-line workers have already received their first dose. This is encouraging progress, but noted it does not change the masking, social distancing and hand sanitizing efforts currently in place. It was noted that the Governor has loosened the restrictions on gatherings to allow for gatherings with one other trusted household. He also discussed the fact that Vermont, and Stowe particularly, depends on tourism for our economic stability and that while we can't enforce that every visitor has followed the quarantine requirements, we can do the best we can by setting a good example.

Consent Agenda

1. 12/14/20 Selectboard Minutes
2. Grand List Errors & Omissions
3. Pick Up Truck Bid Award

On a motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. William Noyes, the Board approved the Selectboard Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Proposed FY22 General Fund Operating Budget & Capital Plan

Town Manager Charles Safford presented the FY22 General Fund Operating Budget & Capital Plan as prepared by staff. He provided a general overview, stating that the CPI-U for October was 1.1%. Per the Union & Personnel rules, a minimum of 1.5% pay increase has been included in the FY22 budget. Town Assessor Tim Morrissey has estimated a Grand List growth of 1.5%, which provides \$146,862 in anticipated new tax revenue. The budget Mr. Safford proposed included a net budget increase of \$137,180 with a proposed level fund for the municipal tax rate, as the Selectboard had requested. Mr. Safford explained that the budget was created with the assumption that the Town would be coming out of the pandemic by July 1, 2021. It was noted that electric, fuel, health and dental insurance were all based on average usage and anticipated increases. Mr. Safford went through each department with expense and revenue changes, noting that most departments worked to keep level funding. He did note that the Buildings & Grounds Supervisor position that had been approved for FY21 was then removed to compensate for revenue losses when the COVID pandemic hit, and that position has not been included in this budget. He did include a new assistant engineer position for Public Works, with it budgeted for ¾ of the FY22 budget year. This position was -put on hold due to the pandemic in FY21.

The Board discussed the Equipment Fund, which included changes such as extending the estimated life of the Parks snow machine from 10 years to 15 years, adjusting the life for Fire Engines (pumpers) to 20 years per NFPA standards. Fire Chief Kyle Walker spoke to plans to re-size the fire department fleet, including replacing Fire Engine 1 pumper with a new pumper but also trading in the Rescue 1 truck at the same time and not replacing it going forward. It was also noted that the current aerial ladder truck is 29 years old, 4 years past its expected Lifecyle, and should be replaced in FY23 if we come out of the pandemic and Stowe's finances recover. This will likely require a bond vote as the estimated cost is \$1.1M and above the capacity of the Equipment Fund. It was noted with the five pieces of equipment scheduled to be replaced in FY22 (Fire Engine 1 Pumper, Highway Dump Truck, Parks Mower, Police Unmarked Cruiser and Police Patrol Truck) the equipment fund will run a deficit of \$129,600. In the Highway budget, it was noted that paving, including a full depth reclaim, is planned for Weeks Hill Road from Cape Cod Road to Alpine View Road, where the current pavement ends. If bid prices are favorable, the Town would look into extending the paving down to Mayo Farm Road. Mr. Larry Lackey asked about paving of Moscow Road, which Public Works Director Harry Shepard stated was on the radar - and if the State indicates that we may receive Class 2 paving money to pave Moscow Road then it could be substituted to take advantage of two for one grant money. It was asked if the Town planned or would consider an increase in the paving budget, which would require an increase in taxes. Other increases noted was \$35,000 for the Public Safety Building to update its server and software and annual server backup fees. Also staffing increases at the Stowe Arena during the summer season to meet demand, for an increase of \$30,000 in their budget. On the revenue side, the only major change noted was an increase in ANR PILOT payments for the Brownsville Forest, which is anticipated to raise \$13,462. The Board questioned the current Grand List estimates as well as the CLA and when they would be required to perform a complete re-appraisal. Mr. Safford indicated that he would have the Town Assessor attend the next meeting on 1/4/21 to discuss this further.

Annual Meeting Community Forum

At the December 14, 2020 Selectboard meeting the Board indicated they were interested in holding a community forum to engage the community on topics of interest. Mr. Safford suggested choosing 3-5 topics to be discussed. It was also noted that while Roberts Rules of Order would not be practical to use, some sets of guidelines and time limits would be good to have in place, and to have Selectboard Chair Lisa Hagerty moderate the meeting. A survey could also be done online. The Board listed tentative topics: sales tax, paving -, retail marijuana, and -and whether voters would be willing to pay increased taxes for improved services or if they were more interested in holding the line on property taxes.

Manager's Report

Mr. Safford reminded the Selectboard that there will be a special meeting on Monday January 4, 2021 to discuss new and increased Community Appropriation Requests as well as other business to come before the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Noyes, seconded by Mr. Adams, the Board went into Executive Session at 8:15pm to discuss contracts and personnel.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:49pm.

There being no further business, Chair Hagerty adjourned the meeting at 8.50pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Earle.