

Minutes of the East Montpelier Selectboard

March 28, 2022 Selectboard Meeting

This meeting was held in-person at the town office building with a remote participation option using the Zoom conferencing platform.

SB Attendance: Chair Seth Gardner, Jon Jewett, Amy Willis, Judith Dillon (remote) and Carl Etnier (remote); Town Administrator Bruce Johnson

In-Person Public Attendance: EM Clerk Rosie Laquerre

Remote Public Attendance: ORCA Media; David Delcore, Times Argus

Chair Gardner called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

Additions to Agenda:

- **Discussion on Renewable Energy Conversions of Municipal Buildings**

Public Comment: None

Board Work Session on Treasurer Position Transition **Potential Executive Session**

The board refined its list of interview questions and determined the lead questioner for each individual question.

Discussion on Renewable Energy Conversions of Municipal Buildings

Mr. Etnier related a conversation he had with State Senator Andy Perchlik regarding programs for shifting heating infrastructure away from fossil fuel use at town facilities. H.518, setting up the Municipal Energy Resilience Program, has now passed the House and is in Senate committee review. Mr. Etnier further noted that there is a potential anonymous donor willing to put up \$5,000 towards a fuel switching effort. Board members agreed that this topic is an important one to stay on top of as the bill moves forward.

Other Business

Town Administrator Report

- Update on Emergency Services Facility Use for Events:
 - The EMFD board has opened the ESF public room for town use with the following specifics:
 - Attendees must sign in and do a temperature check at the station in the entry room by the front door;
 - The meetings must be held using the same COVID-19 rules as the board/committee would use at the town office; and,

- The normal limited access element is in play – access restricted to entry room, bathroom off that room, and the meeting room.
- Meeting Schedule:
 - April 4, 2022 6:30 pm Selectboard regular meeting
 - April 5, 2022 6:00 pm Community Forum on Drugs & Alcohol
 - April 14, 2022 7:00 pm EMFD budget/service update at ESF
 - April 18, 2022 5:00 pm Resilient roads site visit - Jacobs/SF Roads
 - April 18, 2022 6:30 pm Selectboard regular meeting at ESF
 - May 2, 2022 6:30 pm Selectboard regular meeting

Treasurer Candidate Interviews **Probable Executive Session**

Board Work Session on Treasurer Position and Town Administrator Position Transitions **Potential Executive Session**

The board is interviewing candidates for the town treasurer position this evening. The board decided to enter executive session to deal with both agenda items listed above.

Motion: To go into executive session under 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(3) – the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting. Made by Mr. Jewett; second by Mr. Etnier. Passed unanimously.

The board entered executive session at 5:25 p.m. and exited at 7:22 p.m.

No action taken.

The board decided to continue the meeting to March 30, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. with the expectation that the board will re-enter executive session soon after resumption.

Motion: To continue the meeting to Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Made by Mr. Jewett; second by Ms. Willis. Passed unanimously.
Meeting recessed at 7:25 p.m.

Continued Meeting from March 28, 2022, resumed on March 30, 2022

SB Attendance: Chair Seth Gardner (remote), Jon Jewett, Amy Willis, Judith Dillon (remote) and Carl Etnier; Town Administrator Bruce Johnson

In-Person Public Attendance: None

Remote Public Attendance: EM Clerk Rosie Laquerre

Chair Gardner opened the continued meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The board resumed work on the following agenda item:

**Board Work Session on Treasurer Position and Town Administrator Position Transitions
Potential Executive Session**

The board is interviewing a candidate for the town administrator position this evening. Board members edited the draft job description for that position. The board then moved on to refining its list of interview questions for the town administrator position and determined the lead questioner for each individual question.

Motion: To go into executive session under 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(3) – the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting. Made by Mr. Etnier; second by Ms. Willis. Passed unanimously.

The board entered executive session at 6:54 p.m. and exited at 8:50 p.m.

No action taken.

Motion: To adjourn. Made by Ms. Willis; second by Ms. Dillon. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Johnson, Town Administrator

Approved: April 4, 2022 East Montpelier Selectboard meeting