

Minutes of the East Montpelier Selectboard

May 23, 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, Carl Etnier, Jon Jewett, Amy Willis (remote), Town Administrator Gina Jenkins

In-Person Public Attendance: Gilberto Diaz-Santos, ORCA Media; Tom Brazier; David Delcore, Times Argus

Remote Public Attendance: None

Vice Chair Etnier called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Chair Gardner arrived at 8:03 p.m. and took over chairing of the meeting.

Additions to Agenda: None

Public Comment: None

Minutes:

Discussion on Revised Quote for 2022 Dodge Ram

The board reviewed the revised quote for the 2022 Dodge Ram truck scheduled for delivery on June 4, 2022. The quote was an increase of \$3,595 (\$51,953 revised quote vs \$48,358 original quote). The board was not pleased with the price increase but recognized that it would be difficult or impossible to obtain a comparable vehicle at a lower price, even with the increase.

Motion: To approve the revised quote for the 2022 Dodge Ram and approve a special warrant to cut a check up to \$51,953 for the purchase. Made by Mr. Jewett; second by Ms. Willis. Passed unanimously.

Discussion on Auditor Email Regarding Confidentiality of Delinquent Tax Information

The board reviewed the email and documents provided by Deb Fillion, Chair EM Town Auditors, to cease posting the full delinquent tax list on the town website. The board agreed unanimously to stop posting the full list on the website with the list being provided to the board for review via email going forward. The board noted that the list is a matter of public record and will be provided if requested.

Warrants

➤ May 23, 2022 Regular Warrant for Approval

- Board members reviewed the warrant. The warranty was physically signed by 3 board members in attendance: Chair Gardner, Mr. Etnier, Mr. Jewett.

Personnel Matters

➤ Zoning Administrator Position

- The Planning Commission nominated a candidate for the Zoning Administrator position to the Selectboard for consideration.
- The board will interview the candidate at the regular Selectboard meeting on June 6, 2022.
 - Town Administrator Jenkins to email candidate resume and potential list of interview questions to the board for review.
 - The board will discuss interview questions, hours and pay for the position at an executive session to begin at 6:45pm with the interview to start at 7:15pm.

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 Mr. Jewett. Passed unanimously.

The board entered into executive session at 8:27 p.m. and exited at 8:33 p.m.

No action taken.

Discussion on Letter in Response to EMFD Election

Tom Brazier addressed the Selectboard regarding the agenda item for EMFD and provided historical perspective on previous EMFD elections.

The board discussed the upcoming EMFD board election and agreed to send a letter to EMFD Chief, Larry Brown.

- Town Administrator Jenkins shared draft language for the letter. The draft letter thanks Mr. Brown for addressing the Selectboard at the May 16, 2022 regular Selectboard meeting and encourages EMFD to ensure candidates for open position on the EMFD board are qualified and will maintain the quality of the EMFD board going forward.

Motion: To approve Chair Gardner to sign letter addressed to EMFD Chief Larry Brown as discussed. Made by Mr. Jewett; second by Mr. Etnier. Passed unanimously.

Motion: To adjourn. Made by Mr. Jewett; second by Ms. Willis. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Gina Jenkins, Town Administrator

Approved: June 6, 2022 East Montpelier Selectboard meeting