

Town of East Montpelier Selectboard Meeting

Monday March 17, 2025

Present: Zoe Christiansen, Carl Etnier, Tom Brazier

Present via Zoom: Seth Gardner, Scott Hess

Also Present: Jen Devine, Town Administrator, Rosie Laquerre, Town Clerk, Michael Bender, Celina Barton, Ben McCall, David Delcore, Renee Carpenter, Eli Toohey (CVRPC)

The meeting was called to order at 6:32PM by Seth Gardner

Additions to the Agenda: Move Board Organization earlier; Approval of Fuel Tank Storage

Review of Minutes:

Approve Minutes of March 3, 2025: Informational Meeting: Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Ms. Christiansen. Results: 5-0 unanimous.

March 4, 2025: Town Meeting with amendments. Made: Mr. Brazier. Second: Mr. Etnier. Results 5-0 unanimous.

March 12, 2025 SB Special Meeting: Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Hess. Results: 5-0 unanimous.

Public Comment: Michael Bender aired his concerns about culvert cleaning. His culvert overflows, creating a washout in his upper driveway and a deep ditch over the lower driveway. This has been an issue for more than a year. Mr. Gardner will handle this concern.

Motion for Selectboard Organization:

Elect Chair: Mr. Hess nominated Seth Gardner. Mr. Brazier Seconded: Results: 4-0-1 with Mr. Gardner abstaining. The Chair was elected.

Elect Vice-Chair: Mr. Gardner nominated Mr. Hess. Second: Ms. Christiansen. Results 4-0-1 with Mr. Hess abstaining. The Vice-Chair was elected.

Approve Rules of Transaction: Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Brazier; Results 5-0 Unanimous.

Sign FY2025 Municipal Planning Grant Application and Authorize the Town Administrator to sign and submit the Municipal Planning Grant Application: Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Ms. Christiansen. Mr. McCall noted that the Planning Commission met and is in favor of proceeding with the application. CVRPC can assist with the RFP but is not able to act as the contractor. The Planning Commission does not see any conflict of interest. There are North Montpelier residents who have committed to contribute the 10% match that is required of the town. Ms. Barton responded to the questions the Selectboard had at the last meeting. **Results: 5-0 Unanimous.**

Motion to Approve Recreation Board Member Emilie Connor: Made Ms. Christiansen. Second: Mr. Brazier. Results: 5-0 approved unanimously.

Motion to Approve Liquor and Tobacco License and Authorize the Clerk to process the application. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Brazier. Mr. Etnier noted that he does not like that the Selectboard has any say in the sales of tobacco. **Results: 5-0 Unanimous**

Motion to Sign EMFD Interlocal Contract and to authorize the Selectboard Chair to sign: There was discussion regarding the date of the beginning of the term of the contract. **Made: Ms. Christiansen. Second: Mr. Etnier. Results: 5-0 Unanimous.**

Motion to Approve March Appointees as submitted by the town staff: Made: Mr. Etnier Seconded: Ms. Christiansen. There was discussion regarding terms of appointees. **Results: 5-0 Unanimous**

Discussion to Authorize Special Warrants: This will ensure bills are paid in a timely manner and avoid late fees and interest charges. The Clerk noted that this is covered by the Rules of Transaction.

Warrants - March 17, 2025, Expense Warrant: The warrants were approved and signed.

Treasurer Report: January numbers were provided in written report.

Fuel Tank Purchase and 20' storage container: A quote for fuel tank is \$7392.32. There was confusion regarding this topic. Mr. Gardner will discuss with the Road Foreman and bring it back to the group.

Town Administrator Report: Ms. Devine gave the Administrator Report and updates on the Town Garage Project. Some of the promised FEMA money has started to arrive. The Selectboard suggested a \$150,000 sell price for the Hudson House.

Adjourn Made: Christiansen Second Etnier. Results 5-0 Unanimous Adjourned at 7:44 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rosie Laquerre, Board Recorder