



GEORGIA

VERMONT

Selectboard Regular Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023

Chris Letourneau Meeting Room and via Zoom

Minutes 6:00 p.m.

Zoom Details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6165843896?pwd=STduU2JzTmpiVmE1MXZSaWZWLzVadz09>

Meeting ID: 616 584 3896 | Passcode: 5243524

Dial by your Location: 1 929 205 6099 (New York)

1. CALL TO ORDER

- **Selectboard Present:** Devon Thomas Chair, Shannon Jenkins Vice-Chair, Jamie Comstock, Carl Rosenquist
- **Selectboard Zoom:** Nicholas Martin
- **Staff Present:** Dawn Penney, Doug Bergstrom, April Edwards
- **Staff Zoom:** Cheryl Letourneau
- **Public Present:** Terry Cleveland, Justin Holmes, Kirk Waite, Catherine Dimitruk, Marty Jansen, Heather Dunsmore, Heather Grimm, Fred Grimm
- **Public Zoom:** John Chagnon, Marc Price, Frank Gore, Kevin Camisa, Jana Thuesen, Kristina Senna

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CHAIR UPDATE

4. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- C. Rosenquist made a motion to have items F, G, and Q moved to the next meeting, J. Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Rosenquist made a motion to have items K and Safety (N) to the budget meeting, J. Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Rosenquist made a motion to add the Car Show and Zoning to this meeting, S. Jenkins seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Rosenquist made a motion to have A. Edwards give her report after the Warrants in the agenda, J. Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

5. SELECTBOARD MINUTES AND WARRANTS

34 A. Approval of Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes for 11.27.2023

- 35 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to accept the Minutes with corrections, J. Comstock seconded.
 36 ○ C. Rosenquist asked to have Line 74 change the letter items to reflect the changes made
 37 at the beginning of that meeting.
 38 ○ J. Comstock asked that line 12 have John Chagnon and Jana Thuesen names spelled
 39 correctly.
 40 ○ C. Rosenquist asked that Line 246 have a time added to it.
 41 ○ T. Cleveland said line 194 has Thomas spelled incorrectly and she would like to have her
 42 letter added to the minutes on line 183.
 43 • All in favor, motion carried.

44 B. Approval of Warrants #31 and #32

- 45 • S. Jenkins made a motion to accept Warrant #32 with corrections, J. Comstock seconded.
 46 ○ N. Martin questioned the Cargill purchases and the Power bill for the Library.
 47 • All in favor, motion carried. D. Penney clarified the motion was for corrections and none
 48 were stated. D. Thomas said it was corrections if needed and there were none.
 49 • N. Martin made a motion to accept Warrant #31 with corrections if needed, J. Comstock
 50 seconded.
 51 ○ S. Jenkins and N. Martin asked for more information about the Puppets.
 52 • All in favor, motion carried.

53 **6. PUBLIC COMMENT (For items not on agenda)**

54 All participants must clearly state their names. Appropriate actions will be considered once the
 55 Selectboard has reviewed the information provided and necessary subsequent research.

56 **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

57 **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

58 **9. BOARD BUSINESS (Public comment on agenda items limited to 5 minutes)**

59 Treasurer Report (moved due to motion from additions, deletions, or changes)

- 60 • A. Edwards reported she has received the audit and has sent a copy to the board. She is
 61 currently trying to implement the recommendations.
 62 • A. Edwards says that she has delt with the PayChex representative, the supervisor and now
 63 that person's supervisor and she is hopeful that things will get sorted out. She reported this
 64 has been an ongoing issue since July, and they have yet to offer a contract for moving
 65 forward.
 66 • N. Martin wanted to quickly move to everyone getting bi-weekly or weekly paychecks, D.
 67 Thomas agreed.
 68 • A. Edwards reported that she made all the transfers to the reserve funds that were asked.
 69 Everything went well except for the transfer for the highway department.

70 A. Catherine Dimitruk - overview/annual report NWRPC

- 71 • C. Dimitruk introduced herself to the board. She informed them of the work that NWRPC
 72 has done and what they are working on. She speaks of: the South Village, Stormwater,
 73 Master Plan, Exit 18, VTrans, Budgets, aids, bridges and grants. She informed that there is
 74 currently a seat available for a person to join the board. Discussion was had on Mill River
 75 Rd, Georgia Shore Rd and the two bridges located there.

- 76 B. Justin Holmes - Fairbanks Property
- 77 • J. Holmes explained that the map that was previously presented to the board is not the same
- 78 anymore. He presented the updated map with the wetlands outlined. He explained how it
- 79 would move forward from the respect of a developer and from the respect of the selectboard.
- 80 He made note of the changes.
- 81 • F. Grimm asked why this was not being presented to the Planning Commission. He was told
- 82 that it had been, the information is being moved forward to keep the selectboard up to date.
- 83 C. Bill Hinman Greenbacker – Action
- 84 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to have the chair sign the contract for 10 years and \$45,000
- 85 as advised by B. Hinman our Assessor, J. Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion
- 86 carried.
- 87 D. Selectboard meeting on 12/25 – Action
- 88 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to move the 12.25.2023 meeting to 12.27.2023 immediately
- 89 after the scheduled budget meeting (6:00 pm), S. Jenkins seconded. All in favor, motion
- 90 carried.
- 91 E. Furnace Contract – Action
- 92 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve 802 for the \$6,400 contract, J. Comstock seconded.
- 93 ○ N. Martin questioned the additional expenses for previous years.
- 94 • C. Rosenquist withdrew the motion.
- 95 F. ~~Animal Ordinance – Action~~ – Moved to Next Meeting
- 96 G. ~~Legal Trail #4 Fill~~ – Moved to Next Meeting
- 97 H. Zoning Fee Schedule – Action
- 98 • D. Bergstrom presented an updated request for changes in zoning fees. He noted that some
- 99 went up and some went down. He is trying to align with other towns and ensure the costs of
- 100 our meetings are covered.
- 101 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve the zoning fee changes; N. Martin seconded. All
- 102 in favor, motion carried.
- 103 I. DEI update
- 104 • D. Thomas informed the board that people have left the DEI committee. He said he
- 105 engaged in a conversation with J. Thuesen, and they thought it would be best to retire the
- 106 DEI Committee. D. Thomas said he wanted to speak with the school and see what they
- 107 have done to adopt a DEI statement. He planned on coming back in January with a
- 108 statement for the board to approve. J. Thuesen spoke of her conversation with B. Harnish
- 109 and what happened from town to town during their adoption process.
- 110 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve two statements to put on the ballot and have the
- 111 townspeople vote for the one they support. No one seconded, the motion failed on the floor.
- 112 Discussion was had on who would put together the statements and what they would say. N.
- 113 Martin wanted clarity on this.
- 114 • D. Thomas wants to vote on a statement in January. He said if the people do not like the
- 115 statement then they can vote them out next election.
- 116 • S. Jenkins made a motion to retire the DEI committee, J. Comstock seconded. C.
- 117 Rosenquist abstained, D. Thomas, S. Jenkins, J. Comstock and N. Martin vote yes, motion
- 118 carried.
- 119 • C. Rosenquist said, no one person on the board should be working alone.

- 120 • D. Thomas made a motion to create a committee of him and S. Jenkins to work on this, J.
121 Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- 122 • C. Rosenquist wanted to ensure that they will uphold the standards of open meeting law,
123 create agendas, warn meetings and take minutes. D. Thomas confirmed.
- 124 • C. Rosenquist said that four members of the DEI committee asked to have people come in
125 and speak with them and the board refused it. He believes this was a violation of their first
126 amendment rights.
- 127 J. Highway Truck Purchase – Action
- 128 • C. Letourneau presented the option of a 2016 truck for \$60,000-65,000 we can purchase
129 from Williston. This is another truck option from the 2017 for \$80,000-85,000 which
130 presented before. S. Jenkins asked if it is within his budget. C. Letourneau said it is and he
131 is currently underspent on some line items.
- 132 • S. Jenkins made a motion to approve the 2016 truck from Williston between \$60,000-
133 65,000, J. Comstock seconded.
- 134 • F. Grimm asked for clarity on the capital budget. N. Martin said it is underfunded.
- 135 • K. Waite said it is not good practice to spend money like this at the end of the year. He
136 questioned why they would spend this money as opposed to putting it back into the general
137 fund and relieving the pressure of the budget for next year. He pointed out that they would
138 be spending money that the voters did not approve of. This was not accounted for in last
139 year’s budget that was presented and voted on.
- 140 • C. Rosenquist asked how time sensitive this is, questioning if they could address it on
141 Wednesday at the budget meeting.
- 142 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to postpone the truck purchase to the budget meeting on
143 Wednesday, J. Comstock seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- 144 • It is noted that the previous motion made by S. Jenkins was not voted on.
- 145 K. ~~Computer Purchase Public Works—Action—~~ Moved to Next Budget Meeting
- 146 L. Transportation Grant – Signatures
- 147 • Signatures were needed, all signed.
- 148 M. Falls Trail South Gully Repair – Signatures
- 149 • D. Thomas signed for the Falls Trail repairs.
- 150 N. ~~Safety items purchase—Action—~~ Moved to Next Budget Meeting
- 151 O. Brookfield Service of Generator – Action
- 152 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve the contract by 802 Mechanical, J. Comstock
153 seconded.
- 154 • N. Martin asked if it is a requirement to do maintenance twice a year.
- 155 • C. Rosenquist modified the motion to say twice per year.
- 156 • All in favor, motion carried.
- 157 • C. Letourneau said the approval of this contract is happening later than anticipated and they
158 may no longer be able to take advantage of the \$50 discount.
- 159 P. Generator Purchase – Action

- 160 • C. Letourneau reported the \$6,000 generator from the previous meeting is no longer
- 161 available and is sold. There is now a \$4,000 generator available of the same quality also
- 162 being sold by Park Newton (townsperson).
- 163 • N. Martin recommended against the purchase of this generator. He said this was presented
- 164 to them as a handwritten note and that people should present things in a professional
- 165 manner. He asked for T. Cadieux to get the information on this and present it to them.

166 Q. ~~re-adoption of ordinances~~— Moved to Next Meeting

167 R. Old Derelict Car Show – Added during Additions, Deletions, or Changes to the Agenda

- 168 • C. Letourneau informed the board she received a letter of request to have the Old Derelict
- 169 Car Show for 2024 at the Georgia Beach again. She said that they are presenting Camp Ta-
- 170 Kum-Ta a check tomorrow for \$24,000 from the event and they would like to take that
- 171 opportunity to promote the date and location of the show for next year. They requested June
- 172 8 or June 15 as possible dates.
- 173 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to have the Old Derelict Car Show at the Georgia Beach in
- 174 2024 and waive the fee for them again, N. Martin seconded.
- 175 • S. Jenkins asked what Camp Ta-Cum-Ta is. She is told it is a camp to support children with
- 176 cancer.
- 177 • It is said to let the Car Show pick the date that works best for them, as there was nothing in
- 178 the schedule for the beach on either date.
- 179 • All in favor, motion carried.

180 10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TREASURER AND SELECTBOARD SUB COMMITTEES

181 REPORTS

182 A. Town Administrator - Action items

- 183 • C. Letourneau said she is starting to do the town report and has sent out an email to
- 184 everyone asking for their information. She had specified the font and size preferred. She
- 185 has requested information to her by January 12.
- 186 • Junk ordinance
 - 187 ○ No action was taken.
- 188 • Trail 4 ordinance
 - 189 ○ No action was taken.
- 190 • Traffic ordinance
 - 191 ○ No action was taken.

192 B. Treasurer – See notes from 9 Board Business

193 C. Buildings

- 194 • Nothing to report.

195 D. Budget and Finance

- 196 • Nothing to report.

197 E. Personnel

- 198 • C. Rosenquist said they are hoping to have the personnel policy completed earlier than the
- 199 budget meeting.

- 200 F. Public Works/Grounds/Recreation
 201 G. Committees at the direction of the chair

202 **11. OTHER**

203 **12. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

- 204 A. Next Regular Selectboard Meeting 12.27.2023 at 6:00 pm.

205 **13. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if needed, pursuant to 1 V.S.A sec 313)**

- 206 • At 7:57 C. Rosenquist made a motion to go into Executive Session because premature
 207 disclosure of the information may put the town or its people at a disadvantage, N. Martin
 208 seconds. All in favor, motion carried.
 209 • C. Rosenquist invited the board and C. Letourneau to the Executive Session to discuss
 210 Personnel matters.
 211 • C. Rosenquist invited the board, C. Letourneau and D. Bergstrom, to the Executive Session
 212 to speak on a Zoning Issue.
 213 • C. Rosenquist invited the board, C. Letourneau and K. Baker to the Executive Session to
 214 speak on Amcare Negotiations.

215 A. Personnel

216 B. Amcare Negotiations

217 C. Zoning – Added during Additions, Deletions, or Changes to the Agenda

- 218 • At 8:57 p.m. C. Rosenquist made a motion to exit the Executive Session, N. Martin
 219 seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
 220 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to authorize the purchase of \$3,500 for holiday cheer gifts for
 221 14 employees, S. Jenkins seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
 222 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to accept the 5-year Amcare proposal and to review the full
 223 Amcare contract for before signing it, S. Jenkins seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

224 **14. ADJOURN**

- 225 • At 8:59 p.m. C. Rosenquist made a motion to adjourn, N. Martin seconded. All in favor, motion
 226 carried.

227 **TABLED ITEMS:**

228

229 **Posted to the Town website, four designated places within the Town of Georgia (Town Clerk's**
 230 **Office, Georgia Public Library, Maplefields & Georgia Market), and e-mailed to the local media.**

231 **Signed: Cheryl Letourneau, Town Administrator**

232 **Phone: 802-524-3524 | Fax: 802-524-3543 | Website: townofgeorgia.com**