



GEORGIA VERMONT

Selectboard Regular Meeting

Monday, January 08, 2024

Chris Letourneau Meeting Room and via Zoom

Minutes

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, Carl Rosenquist, Nicholas Martin
- **Selectboard Absent:** Jamie Comstock
- **Staff Present:** Dawn Penney, April Edwards
- **Staff Present Zoom:** Cheryl Letourneau
- **Public Present:** Bette Dunsmore, Terry Cleveland, Marty Jansen, Carolyn Branagan, Heather Dunsmore, Ken Minck, Fred Grimm
- **Public Present Zoom:** Kristina Senna, Grady Ballard
- **6:01 p.m.** – D. Thomas calls the meeting to order.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CHAIR UPDATE

- D. Thomas says he and S. Jenkins are waiting to hear from the schoolboard about DEI. They will bring something back to the 01.22.2024 meeting.

4. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- There is a request from the Fire Department to add a hire. It will be added to the agenda as item E.
- There is a request for Fireproof Filing cabinet. It will be added to the agenda as item F.
- C. Rosenquist made a motion to add items E & F to the agenda, N. Martin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (For items not on agenda)

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

- 35 • C. Branagan came to speak saying the legislation is back in session and it runs through mid-
36 May. She wanted to board to feel free to contact her with any issues she could help with.

37 **6. SELECTBOARD MINUTES AND WARRANTS**

38 A. Approval of Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes for 12/27/2023

- 39 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve the 12.27.2023 minutes with corrections, N. Martin
40 seconded.
41 • Line 43, line 98-100 (a notation will be added to both those notes and this meeting's
42 notes), line 124 and line 153.
43 • T. Cleveland would like to have the discussion of gift cards added to the meeting minutes.
44 • All in favor, motion carried.

45 B. Approval of Warrants #35

- 46 • N. Martin made a motion to approve Warrant #35, S. Jenkins seconded. All in favor,
47 motion carried.
48 • N. Martin makes a motion to approve General Ledger Transaction #20230303 Payroll
49 Warrant, S. Jenkins seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

50 **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

51 **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

52 A. Re-adoption of Ordinances – Action

- 53 • C. Rosenquist asked C. Letourneau if she has heard anything from the public. C.
54 Letourneau said at the beginning of the meeting she had not heard anything.
55 • D. Thomas said he thinks they should not take the Animal Ordinance on.
56 • S. Jenkins said if they can do something, they should. D. Thomas said the state is
57 encouraging us to do nothing.
58 • C. Letourneau explained if the board adopts this ordinance, then they are liable, and will
59 have to enforce it to the letter.
60 • B. Dunsmore asked why they are even looking at this. S. Jenkins says it is because of the
61 cows on Plains Rd. She says people are looking for a solution. D. Thomas said it is
62 dangerous driving there.
63 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to exclude cows from the Animal Ordinance.
64 • C. Rosenquist withdrew his motion.
65 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to prepare the public for the elimination of the Stump Dump
66 Ordinance; S. Jenkins seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
67 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve the Motor Vehicle and Traffic Ordinances with
68 updated speeds, S. Jenkins seconded.
69 • K. Minck pointed out in Section 9 the words “legal trail” was deleted from the ordinance but
70 yet it is still there.
71 • F. Grimm asked about “Rock Maple Rd” and asked if it should say “Rock Island Rd”.
72 • N. Martin made a motion to amend the approval with the corrections of deleting “Legal
73 trails” and the proper replacement of “Rock Island Rd”, C. Rosenquist seconded. All in
74 favor, amendment carried.
75 • The vote was called for the original motion. All in favor, motion carried.
76 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve the Junk Ordinance; N. Martin seconded. All in
77 favor, motion carried.

- 78 • S. Jenkins made a motion to accept the Legal Trails Ordinance of trails 1, 3, 4, and 5, N.
79 Martin seconded. C. Rosenquist abstains, D. Thomas, S. Jenkins, N. Martin voted in favor,
80 motion carried.

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

82 A. Town meeting or Australian Ballot - Inform public of decision.

- 83 • D. Thomas asked if they wanted to follow COVID rules or not. It is decided they do not
84 want to follow COVID rules.

85 B. Town Report – update

- 86 • C. Letourneau says she is still missing many reports. D. Thomas said he has finished his
87 and had sent it to the board for review. N. Martin said he had finished his and had sent it to
88 the board for review.

89 C. Holidays - Action Approve Holiday schedule.

- 90 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to accept the holidays for 2024 to be like 2023, N. Martin
91 seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

92 D. Town Warning

- 93 • C. Letourneau clarified that she is looking for permission to send this to legal for review.
94 Permission was granted.

95 E. Fire Department Hire (Addition)

- 96 • N. Martin made a motion to approve Cameron LaFond as a firefighter; C. Rosenquist
97 seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

98 F. File Cabinet – possible purchase (Addition)

- 99 • C. Letourneau said we need more fireproof safes. There are currently 2 that are being sold,
100 one at \$450 which retails for \$5,000 and a second for \$350 that retails at \$1,500. She said
101 there is money left in impact fees.
102 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to approve the purchase of two filing cabinets; N. Martin
103 seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

104 **10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TREASURER AND SELECTBOARD SUB COMMITTEES’**
105 **REPORTS**

106 A. Town Administrator

107 B. Treasurer

108 C. Buildings

109 D. Budget and Finance

110 E. Personnel

- 111 • C. Rosenquist gave D. Penney a letter to type relative to the additional fill for trail #4.

112 F. Public Works/Grounds/Recreation

113 G. Committees at the direction of the chair

- 114 • K. Minck asked questions about how the new EMS person will be budgeted in the new year.

- 115 • F. Grimm said there was supposed to be a review of the position to see if it was a value
116 added to the community. He asked Keith Baker to come to speak. D. Thomas said they will
117 let him know about it so that he can be prepared.
- 118 • D. Thomas said he will be moving forward with DEI either with the schoolboard or with
119 VLCT.
- 120 • C. Letourneau wanted everyone to be aware that this will be the first year that the names of
121 births and deaths will not be included in the town report.

122 **11. OTHER**

123 **12. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

124 A. 01/10/2023 Budget Meeting

125 B. 01/22/2023 Regular Meeting

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

- 127 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to go into Executive Session where premature disclosure
128 could put the town at risk, N. Martin seconded. All in favor motion carried.
- 129 • C. Rosenquist made a motion to have the board and C. Letourneau enter into Executive
130 Session to review: Personnel matter, EMS contract, American Tower, and holiday pay
131 issues, N. Martin seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Later the selectboard elected to
132 have the Treasurer join them on the personnel issue.

133 A. Personnel - Holiday pay

134 B. EMS Contract

135 C. American Tower

136 D. Personnel Matter

- 137 • At **8:25 p.m.** - C. Rosenquist made a motion to exit Executive Session, N. Martin seconded.
138 All in favor, motion carried.
- 139 • It is noted there are no motions out of Executive Session.

140 **14. ADJOURN**

- 141 • At **8:25 p.m.** - C. Rosenquist made a motion to adjourn; N. Martin seconded. All in favor,
142 motion carried.

143 **TABLED ITEMS:**

144

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

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

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