

.Rockingham Selectboard - Organizational Meeting  
Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 7:30 pm in the 3rd Floor Conference Room

Present: Chair Rick Cowan, Vice-Chair Bonnie North, Peter Golec, Elijah Zimmer, and Newly elected John Dunbar, Selectboard; Scott Pickup, Municipal Manager; Gary Fox, Development Director;

Zoom:

Press: FACT TV, Alex Stradling, Brattleboro Reformer Susan Smallheer

Pickup called the Organizational Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

1. Organizational Meeting Agenda- John Dunbar and Bonnie North were sworn in for the 1 year, Rick Cowan for the 3 year term at the Masonic Temple prior to meeting.
  - A) Election of Officers
    1. Elect Chair-*North moved to appoint Peter Golec as Chair of the Select Board, Cowan seconded and motion carried. Golec declined the Chair position. North nominated Rick Cowan as Chair, Golec seconded, motion carried for Cowan as Chair.*
    2. Elect Vice-Chair- *Golec moved to appoint Elijah Zimmer as Vice-Chair of the Select Board, Cowan seconded. Zimmer declined. Cowan moved to appoint John Dunbar, Golec seconded. Dunbar declined. North was nominated as Vice-Chair, Zimmer seconded, motion carried for North as Vice-Chair.*
    3. Elect Clerk- *Golec moved to appoint Elijah Zimmer as Clerk, Cowan seconded, motion carried for Zimmer as Clerk.*
2. Appoint Selectboard Member to Review and Sign Warrants- *Zimmer moved to appoint Cowan as Select board member to review and sign warrants, North seconded, motion carried.*
3. Set Time & Place of Regular Board Meetings (1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 pm) and Sign Resolutions, summer once per month- Cowan read the resolution to hold regular meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the town hall except June-August which are once per month . All agendas for regular and special selectboard meetings will be posted and warned in the Rockingham town hall lobby, finance office, Town clerks office, and on the town website. This we resolve the second day of April, 2024. The Board moved to approve the resolution, Dunbar seconded and motion carried.

4. Adopt Policies and Procedures-

- A) Adopt Conflict of Interest Policy for Elected Officials-
- B) Adopt code of Ethics Policy
- C) Adopt Rules of Procedure
- D) Continue All other Policies and Procedures as Previously Adopted
- E) Golec moved to adopt COI, ethics, rules of procedure, and continue all policy and procedures as adopted, North seconded, motion carried.

Approve Minutes of March 19, 2024: *A moment was taken to read the minutes. Golec moved to approve minutes of 3/19/24, Zimmer seconded. Motion carried.* Golec mentioned the minutes should be marked as DRAFT and posted on website, because they are posted before they are approved.

Additions to the Agenda for Routine Administrative Matters and/or Pressing Matters that will require ratification at a future meeting: None

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda (3 minutes per person): None were given.

Manager's Report- Pickup congratulated returning and new Officers, and thanked FACT TV for the sound and Wild Goose Players for the lights. Cowan commented the plaque was nice that was presented to Susan Hammond, for her ten years of service.

Meeting of the Rockingham Board of Liquor Control- Cowan announced they were now in session. Applications

1. A) Application for First Class License  
B) Application for Third Class License  
C) Outside Consumption Permit (660 Rockingham St. Leslie's Tavern)
2. A) Application for First Class Club License  
B) Application for Third Class Club License (37 Rockingham St. Polish American Club)  
*Golec moved to approve the first and third class and outside consumption license for Leslie's Tavern, and a first class club and third class club license for the Polish American Club, North seconded and motion carried.*
3. Application for Use of Alcohol on Municipal Property- Pickup said this was a request to serve alcohol at the Opera House for the Fiddler on the Roof. *Golec moved to approve the license for Wild Goose Players at the Bellows Falls Opera House and authorized the chair to sign the application, North seconded and motion carried.*

4. Letter of Support for 2024 AOT Application for Vehicle Grant Program (SEVT)- Pickup said this was a request from The Moover, asking for a Letter of Support to be included with the grant application for vehicle electrification and alternative fuels. *North moved to authorize the chair to sign the letter of support, Dunbar seconded, motion carried.*
  
5. Support for FY24 Grant (CDSR) for the Rockingham Meeting House- Pickup said this was the same program as the Sesquicentennial Grant, and would fund the additional work on the RMH. Pickup said there was no match. *Golec moved they approve the application request for \$750,000, North seconded and motion carried.*
  
6. Support for CDSR Hotel Windham- Fox said the program is an 80/20 grant, and match is not paid by the Town. The funding would pay for the code improvements and this was a continued request to support redevelopment of the Hotel Windham property. Fox said the Town would receive the grant, with administrative funding for development office time. Fox said the goal for the building was housing and hotel. Current owners included Pat and Alan Fowler, Tony Elliot, Jay Eschelman, etc. of the Windham Development Group and they would be involved within the subcontract. *North moved to support the Town's application for the Congressionally Directed Spending Request (CDSR) for \$2M for the improvement of the Hotel Windham regional project, Dunbar seconded.* Fox reiterated that the Development group would provide the match. *Motion carried.*

Review & Approve Orders, Bills & Warrants- *Golec moved to review and approve orders, bills and warrants. North seconded. Motion carried.*

Review Agenda Items for next SB meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm

- Committee appointments
- Bid awards for Paving, Saxtons River sidewalk paving, Cemetery mowing
- FERC relicensing comment review for submission
- Consideration of special Town Meeting- Draft Warning

Review Agenda Items for Tri-Board Meeting- Tuesday, April 30, 2024

- Fire Feasibility Report- Triton
- Tax Sale
- VHB, VTrans presentation updates on Depot St Bridge Project
- Zimmer wanted to discuss pedestrian safety with the Triboard. Walk Bike Committee was discussing

Other Business- Golec said the detour would be in effect for 2 weeks on Route 121, and on Route 5/ Missing Link Road, the bridge south of North Shore, and Herrick's Cove will close for 6 weeks.

Executive Session- *None needed*

Adjourn- At 8:10 pm *North moved to adjourn at pm, seconded by Dunbar, motion carried.*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Recording Clerk Betsy M. Thurston \_\_\_\_\_  
Betsy Thurston, Recording Clerk