# Sandgate VT Select Board Meeting Minutes - January 3, 2022

**ATTENDANCE:** Karen Dzialo (via speakerphone), Mike Hill, Joe Nolan, Tom Santelli, Karen Tendrup. Also present: Citizen, Charlie Pike.

**CITIZEN CONCERNS:** Charlie Pike complained about the large pot holes and asked when the Road Dept. would get to them. He also asked when the grader would be brought to the Rupert Road. Mike explained that until everything dried out a bit, he will try dumping a load of gravel in the worst pot holes and that not much could be done with the grader until it dries out.

**GRANTS/FRAUD WARNING:** Karen Dzialo received an email regarding Fraud and FEMA Grants. Some VT towns have been approached by an individual promising to help with obtaining FEMA Grants. Sandgate is fortunate to have Jim Henderson to help with processing grants.

**ROAD REPORT:** Mike Hill spoke with the town lawyer regarding expenses incurred with the removal of the cars that were in Chunks Brook. The town inquired about putting a lien on the Grogan Property. The Board agreed that pursuing it would not be cost effective.

Mike will submit the Highway mileage form, no changes from last year.

#### **ORDERS WERE SIGNED**

**MINUTES REVIEWED:** Tom Santelli motioned to accept the minutes of the December 20 meeting as is, seconded by Joe Nolan. All in favor.

**DRY HYDRANT:** The Arlington Fire Company will test the hydrant sometime in the next two weeks. They will bill the Town for the test.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

With sorrow, the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, expresses condolences for the loss of long-time resident William Skidmore. A viewing will be held at the Hanson-Walbridge Funeral Home at 2:00 to 3:00 pm, with a Service to follow at 3:00 pm on January 6, 2022. There will be a gathering of family and friends at the Sandgate Town Hall following the service.

Karen Tendrup motioned to adjourn; Joe Nolan seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

#### THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE JANUARY 17, 2022

Respectfully submitted, Karen Działo

# Sandgate Vermont Select Board Meeting - January 17, 2022

#### CALL TO ORDER AT 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Karen Dzialo (via phone), Mike Hill, Joe Nolan, Tom Santelli, Karen Tendrup.

Also present: Sandy Reidy, Treasurer; Charlie Pike, citizen

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sandy Reidy presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. No issues.

**CITIZEN'S CONCERNS:** Charlie Pike complained to the Board that the Rupert Road from the black top on was falling apart, and that there were four cars in a ditch. Also Mr. Pike said that it took a long time for the Road crew to fix the problem. He also complained about the potholes.

Mike Hill reminded Charlie Pike that he could not properly fix the potholes until there was a break in the weather so that the potholes could be scraped down and gravel applied. Mike remarked that some travelers on Rupert Road do not realize that the speed limit is 25 mph and if they drive over 35 mph there is a likely danger that they will end up in a ditch.

Charlie Pike stated that the Town truck was seen out of the Town of Sandgate, including at Stewarts in Cambridge, and wanted to know why. Mike Hill responded that he went to meet with Tommie Wilson from Rupert on Town business. He stopped at Stewarts for a cup of coffee.

**ROAD REPORT:** Mike said that the 2016 Dump Truck will be checked out because a warning light was on.

Karen Dzialo reported that a Technical Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on Jan 19, 2022, that she will attend via zoom. Karen Tendrup will also attend via zoom.

**REVIEW JANUARY 3, 2022 MINUTES:** Minutes were read and a motion to accept was is made by Tom Santelli and seconded by Joe Nolan. All in favor.

### **ORDERS WERE SIGNED**

**OTHER BUSINESS:** The Board discussed whether a Select Board member is able to sign a document that has a disbursement for which they are a recipient. It was noted that since there were five board members and only three signatures needed, any individual that has a conflict can withdraw from signing.

Motion to adjourn made by Mike Hill and Joe Nolan seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** regular hours are resumed at the Town Hall.

#### **NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 7, 2022 AT 6:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Karen Dzialo

# SANDGATE VERMONT SELECT BOARD MEETING - FEBRUARY 7, 2022

#### CALL TO ORDER AT 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Karen Dzialo via phone, Mike Hill, Joe Nolan Tom Santelli, Karen Tendrup

Also present: Charlie Pike, citizen

**CITIZEN'S CONCERNS:** Charlie Pike expressed a concern about the potholes; the issue is on the agenda and it will be addressed later in the meeting.

**FEMA REPORT:** Mike explained that FEMA offered only \$5,000 for the repair of the Woodcock Bridge and no one would even look at it for that price. The Bridge will be monitored for any further erosion and the Town will set aside money for repairs. There was also a request for Essential Elements of Information for another project regarding debris removal that did not meet the cost necessary to qualify for any FEMA funding.

**POTHOLE REPORT:** The Town received a letter of concern from the Arlington Town Administrator regarding the pothole on West Sandgate Road. The Town responded and explained that the repair could not be made until Spring and the Town would continue to add gravel so that the School Bus and Fire Truck would not have any issues. TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee) Report

Automated Speed Enforcement was discussed at the recent TAC Meeting. A draft of the recommendation of TAC will be submitted at the next TAC meeting. Automated Speed Enforcement, which is cameras monitoring speeders and automatically giving tickets, will be part of a pilot project this coming Spring/Summer in Road Work areas and then later in School zones throughout Vermont. This will not directly affect the Town of Sandgate, since we do not have a school zone, and if any major road work is done, we can simply close the road.

**ROAD REPORT**: Mike reported that there are no issues and all equipment is working. Mike also reported that the Emergency Procurement Policy was found.

**TAX SALE UPDATE:** Eleanor LaCross met with Kevin O'Toole regarding the TAX Sale. There are three properties that will go up for sale.

**REVIEW JANUARY 17, 2022 MINUTES:** Motion to accept as is by Tom Santelli, seconded by Joe Nolan. All in favor.

#### **ORDERS WERE SIGNED**

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Karen Tendrup will look into having the Town purchase a generator that can be used at the Town Hall to provide a heated place for residents when there is an extended power outage.

Motion to adjourn made by Mike Hill and Joe Nolan seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

#### **NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 21, 2022 AT 6:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Karen Dzialo

# Sandgate Vermont Select Board Meeting — February 21, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Karen Dzialo via phone, Mike Hill, Joe Nolan, Tom Santelli. Absent: Karen Tendrup. Also present: Sandy Reidy, Treasurer; Citizen: Charlie Pike; Guests: Jenny Edwards and Steven Horsch.

**ARLINGTON AREA CHILD CARE:** Jenny Edwards and Steven Horsch presented to the Board a petition for funding for improvements at the Arlington Area Child Care facility, also known as Happy Days. The facility has been operating for over 30 years and serves Arlington, Sandgate, Sunderland and Bennington with birth to pre-K child care. They have upgraded classrooms and presently have 66 children enrolled. They are asking if the Town would consider a one-time investment. The Select Board asked if they would send a letter and documents detailing their request. Further discussion will follow. Note: The Town currently gives Arlington Area Child Care funding under Appropriations that is voted on at Town Meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sandy Reidy presented the Treasurer's Report for review. No issues.

**CITIZEN CONCERN:** Charlie Pike voiced his concern about the hole on West Sandgate Road. Discussion on using a cold patch on the hole.

**ROAD REPORT:** Ice on the base of driveways will be addressed by the Road Dept. Discussion on how this issue could be minimized in the future. The Board confirmed that it would be ok for Tom Santelli to take sand in lieu of money.

TAX SALE UPDATE: The Tax Sale has been scheduled for March 3, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

**FEBRUARY 7, 2022 MINUTES** were reviewed and accepted with the date changed for the next meeting. Tom Santelli motioned to accept the minutes with the change, Joe Nolan seconded. All in favor.

### **ORDERS WERE SIGNED**

**OTHER BUSINESS:** none

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Hill and seconded by Tom Santelli, All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE ON MARCH 7, 2022

**NOTE:** The Annual Town Meeting will be Monday evening February 28 at 7:00 p.m. Voting will begin the next day (Tuesday) at 10:00 a.m. and end at 7:00 p.m. The School Board Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Karen Dzialo

# Sandgate Vermont Selectboard Meeting- March 7, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 PM** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Karen Dzialo via phone, Mike Hill, Joe Nolan, Charlie Pike, Karen Tendrup, Sandy Reidy, Tom Santelli, Willy Mattison, Melissa Mattison, Bill Haggerty, James Peters, Jim Henderson, George Dyke, and Jean Eisenhart.

**ORGANIZATION OF THE SELECTBOARD AND APPOINTED OFFICERS:** Election Results of Board Members: 3-year term Joe Nolan and 1-year terms Karen Tendrup and Charlie Pike. New Offices were sworn in by Sandy Reidy.

**BOARD ORGANIZATION:** Charlie Pike motions that Joe Nolan be appointed Chair, Karen Tendrup seconded. All in favor. Karen Tendrup offered to help but not in the position of "co-chair". The position of Minute Taker was dissolved and a new position of Secretary to the Board formed. This position would assist the Chair and also takes minutes at any meetings. Karen Tendrup motioned to appoint Sandy Reidy as Secretary to the Board, Joe Nolan seconded. All in favor. Finances will be reworked for Sandy to be paid for her hours as Secretary to the Board.

Mike Hill submitted his resignation from the Select Board orally and in writing effective immediately.

The Select Board will post a notice within 10 days that there is a vacancy on the Board. Interested persons may contact the Board and the Board will then appoint an individual to the position in writing, until an election is held, either at a special meeting or the next annual town meeting.

Joe Nolan nominated Karen Tendrup for Health Officer and Carlie Pike seconded. All in favor.

The Selectboard will contact some of the previous appointed officers to see if they would like to remain in the appointed position. Further discussion and appointments will take place at the next meeting.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Melissa Mattison asks who the newly appointed Health officer is. Karen Tendrup replies that she is filling the position. Melissa and Willy Mattison are asking if the Health Officer can take the steps to condemn the Grogan residence as it is deemed by them a health hazard. Melissa mentions her concern regarding potential pollution of ground and well water due to the confined living conditions of the many animals at this residence, also concerning the rubbish left on the grounds. Joe Nolan states that the Health Officer and Selectboard will organize a site visit to ascertain the conditions of the property. Karen Tendrup as Health Officer states she will call the health department and find out the proper steps to take in that direction.

Jean Eisenhardt expressed a concern regarding the bottom of her driveway that is washed out. Mike Hill states that there is a fallen apple tree on her property across the brook which has diverted water and is creating the washout. Jean Eisenhart said it is not the first time that this has happened and she would like to see the problem fixed as soon as possible. Mike Hill will come with gravel and fix the wash out.

James Peters would like to know when the ditch running across the road on S.E Corners will be fixed. Mike states that there needs to be a catch basin installed there to remediate the drainage problem.

COMMENTS ON TOWN MEETING: The Board discussed the Town Meeting and the passing over of Article 3, which states: Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to spend budget surplus funds (if there are any) in the next fiscal year? Karen Tendrup mentions that the Article should have been discussed again before the Annual Town Meeting was adjourned. Bill Haggerty states that the Selectboard must call a special town meeting to discuss this matter and either pass or deny the article, as stated in the Robert's Rules. The new Chairman of the Board, Joe Nolan, and the Selectboard Secretary Sandy Reidy will look into the proper proceedings to call a special meeting for the discussion of Article 3.

Jean Eisenhart thanked Joe Nolan for being at the town meeting and answering a myriad of questions. Jim Henderson comments that there was much discussion of the town purchasing a generator and he would like the Selectmen to keep this in mind. It is possible to purchase one right away using the ARPA funds given to the

town. Karen Tendrup says the town's electrician needs to oversee the installment of a generator so everything is to code in the building. She will call him this week.

ROAD REPORT: Mike Hill mentions that we are coming into mud season and to take a look at the Treasurer's report when people start asking for stone and see how we're going to pay for it. Jim Henderson had a quick update for the FEMA road grants. The grant applied for debris removal on the Sandgate Rd. between Tudor Rd. and Matt Tudors residence has been denied due to not meeting the threshold on the expenses accumulated for that project. Tomorrow Jim Henderson and Mike Hill will be meeting with FEMA to discuss a grant called Completed Roads, which is a grant where the road crew has worked on the roads damaged during the storm and has them in the condition they were in before the storm. Another category of grants that are applied for is river banks. There are 5 river banks that need remediation and the permits have been issued. We are waiting for FEMA to come for a site visit and give an idea of the design they would approve. Jim Henderson reads a statement he will send to FEMA regarding the seasonal maintenance of Sandgate roads. Mike Hill asks that someone from the Board attend the FEMA meeting. Karen Tendrup will attend.

The Board reviews February, 21 2022 minutes. Minutes approved.

The Highway and Town Hall orders signed.

### NO OTHER BUSINESS.

Joe Nolan makes a motion to adjourn and Charlie Pike seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

## THE NEXT MEETING WIL BE HELD ON March 21, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - MARCH 21, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Charlie Pike, Joe Nolan and Karen Tendrup. **Also present:** Sandra Reidy, Melissa Mattison, Willy Mattison, Debra DeSacia, Tim Fagan, Vincent Lapenta, Sharon Lapenta, Ann Hamerle, Margaretta Pero, Richard Zoppel, Jeanne Zoppel, Kayla Zoppel, Jim Henderson, Jessica Hill, Mike Hill, John Grover, Jessica Pendleton, Ryan Perkins, James Peters, Ashley Coones and Rob Viglas.

REMAINDER OF BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Joe Nolan states that the last to be appointed is the Road Liaison. The Board has decided to appoint Charlie Pike. Melissa Mattison raises her hand and states that at the last meeting the Selectboard said they would contact all the other people to be appointed and Tom Santelli asked to be considered for the Liaison position. Joe answers that Tom was considered for the job but the Board decided to appoint Charlie. Willy Mattison asks if the Board had a special meeting to appoint Charlie. Joe answers they had an executive session last Monday night. Melissa Mattison asks when the meeting was posted. Joe Nolan states that Executive sessions do not have to be posted. Melissa Mattison states that according to the open meeting law you can not do that. Joe says that the Board will look into it. Sandra Reidy states that the Board was calling an Emergency Meeting under clear and imminent danger to the public.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Referring to the Road Erosion north of the covered bridge on Sandgate Rd. Willy says the problem has been there since last July and hasn't moved since. Joe Nolan says that according to Josh Carvajal, as soon as we can take action on it the better off the road will be. Joe goes on to say it was considered an emergency situation they found a contractor who will fix it the next day. Karen Tendrup states that Josh Carvajal works for the state and if he tells us a job needs to be done, it has to be done. Willy Mattison asks if Josh Carvajal came to the executive meeting. Karen answers no. Willy says to Karen is this Joe telling you. Karen says she was at the site visit with Josh, Joe and Charlie. Joe had called the Road Crew at 6:00 am to meet them at the site but they did not show. Willy Mattison states that they were out working on the Roads. Joe Nolan says that the job is fixed and there is no point in arguing about it. Melissa Mattison says she understands the Board was calling an emergency meeting but the rules state that some public notice of the meeting must be given as soon as possible before the meeting. Joe asks Willy and Melissa Mattison why they do not want to see the road get fixed. Willy answers that's not the point they don't want to throw money away. Mike says he heard the fix cost between \$5,000 and \$7,000 and states that Bill Barney just fixed twice that amount of road

for \$6,500. Mike asks why the Board didn't get any other quotes. Joe answers that the work had to be done immediately. Willy Mattison says to Joe he should not have been involved in hiring Nate (the contractor who was hired for the Road Erosion). Willy states that Joe works for him. Joe Nolan says he does not work for Nate. Willy Mattison tells Joe he is a liar. Karen Tendrup pounds her fist on the table and states that the meeting is not going to go like this, there can't be so much arguing back and forth. Debra DeSacia asks if the Town has to absorb the cost of the erosion fix and will not be reimbursed by FEMA? Joe says that job was done to FEMA specs and we should be reimbursed for the work done. Jim Henderson asks if we have the bill for the work and if he can get a copy for tomorrow's meeting with FEMA. Bill Doyle from FEMA is coming to meet with Jim Henderson and Mike Hill and they will submit to him the bill to be added to the temporary emergency grant. Jim adds that FEMA will most likely not be making site visits as they are moving to virtual visits and they will evaluate the costs based on measurements and photos that Jim and the Town submit to them. He goes on to say that what happened was not out of the ordinary and will most likely be reimbursed as a temporary fix, then FEMA will respond back and work on it for a permanent fix. Jim continues to say that the area was fixed during the Irene storm and Josh made note that the fix was only temporary and not the way he would recommend fixing it today. Mike Hill states that he will give all the grant info to Charlie Pike and he can attend the FEMA meetings now as the Road Liaison. Charlie Pike states that a Road Liaison is the go between for the Town's people and the Road Foreman. Jim Henderson asks if Mike will be at the meeting also. Mike answers most likely not, the road Liaison can take over that duty. Jim pleads with Mike to attend the FEMA meeting tomorrow because Charlie does not have the notes and has not been involved in the process. Joe Nolan says to Mike that it's in the best interest of the Town if he attends the morning meeting. The subject jumps back to the road erosion, with several comments expressed at the same time. Joe states that the work had to be done, the black top was going to cave into the river. Willy Mattison states that he knows the work needed to be done but he feels that the Board went about it the wrong way. Joe replies that he is sorry Willy feels that way, the work was done in a matter of urgency. Joe adds that if 2 trucks had met on the road and one had gotten too far over by the guard rail it could be a liability to the Town. Karen Tendrup asks Willy Mattison to explain why he thinks the Board went about the process the wrong way. Willy Mattison replies that there are other contractors in this town that were not considered. Karen Tendrup states that it is her understanding that Willy is upset because he was not picked for the job. Willy states that it is a lie. Karen Tendrup explains that it is just her understanding and she was not present for the conversation. Tim Fagan says that the "understanding" is hearsay. Willy states that Joe said at the conversation in question, that we need to get someone in here competent to do the job. Willy asked "So I am not Competent?" Joe states that he did not say competent, instead he had said, someone who is

capable to do the job. Karen Tendrup says, so this conversation did happen and it was not hearsay. Joe Nolan states that the Town of Sandgate elects Selectmen to make decisions for the Town and that is why the Board agreed that this problem had to be taken care of. Karen Tendrup asks if everyone can wait their turn to speak. Melissa Mattison says she thought that Joe Nolan was the Chair of the Board. Joe Nolan answers that he is the Chair and the Selectboard members can speak. Melissa states that the Chair of the Board needs to lead the meetings. Joe says he will lead the meeting. Joe Nolan calls on Jim Henderson. Jim states that it is his understanding that Josh Carvajal will be coming to town tomorrow and if anyone had a simple guestion to ask him, referring to the road damages, he would be able to answer them. Jim continues to say that Josh will be visiting the road erosion site but also a few other sites in town that need to be evaluated. Josh Carvajal will be here tomorrow at 10:00 if anyone would like to meet up and ask questions. John Grover states that the Town should have put the road erosion job up for bid as most towns do. Joe Nolan answers that as he stated earlier the job was an emergency situation and they felt there was no time to put out a notice for bid and it was agreed that the work had to be done A.S.A.P. Jim adds that the Town has a procurement policy that allows the Selectmen to make emergency purchases. He adds that this was the same policy used during the July storm for several areas. Jim continues saying that FEMA has this emergency policy and they have approved it. Jessica Hill states that during the July storm Woodcock Road was eroded down the bank and the problem was not fixed immediately, it was barricaded off into a 1 lane road. Joe states that it was likely not fixed immediately because it wasn't on the main road. Jessica adds that the Woodcock Road was fixed with FEMA money and didn't cost the tax payers money. Joe states that as said earlier, FEMA will most likely cover the cost. Jessica Hill says why take the chance using tax payer's money? Joe will take that in advisement. Joe Nolan calls on Ashley Coones. Ashley says that she is concerned about people where the roads are so bad that an emergency vehicle can't get through. She goes on to say that Rupert Road on the Rupert side is much better, just like the difference of West Sandgate Road from the Vermont line into New York. Ashley asks what can be done with the roads to make them passable to emergency vehicles. Joe answers that they will work with the highway department to try and improve these areas. Jessica Hill states that she lived on Rupert Road and every year it would break up and she could not get through with a 4-wheel drive truck. She adds that Charlie and Ed Pike were on the road crew then and she was told to park at the Zoppels and walk a mile to her house. She continues that she has yet to see any of these roads better since Mike Hill has been dealing with the roads. Jessica adds the roads were worse 10-15 years ago. Debra DeSacia asks how the Board chooses the contractor to hire for an emergency situation. She goes on to say that in her last town of residence, they used an approved list for emergency situations. She recommends that the Board come up with a voter approved list. Mike Hill states that there are a few contractors

right in town that should have a shot at the work. He continues to ask the Board why they didn't consider some of taxpayers for the job instead of hiring out of town. Joe Nolan asks if there are any other citizens concerns. Willy Mattison asks Joe why he didn't want to address the comment Mike made. Joe says to Mike, he thinks it is a good idea. Mike states that he considered the local contractors first when bidding jobs. Joe says the contractor they used is local, but not in town. He continues that the Board chose him because he was the most qualified for the job. Joe adds that if there is going to be an argument about every decision the Board makes, we will not get anywhere. Ashley Coones states that as a citizen she would like to see the petty fighting end. She adds that there must be a way for the community to get together and find a solution to make things better. Karen Dzialo says that the 2 comments of keeping the bids in town and having an approved emergency contractor list, are very good suggestions. Joe Nolan calls on Jessica Pendleton. Jessica states that the portion of the Sandgate dirt road, where the Crown Maple truck was stuck is impassable. Jessica continues that she had called the Board members and the Road Foremen but nothing was done all weekend. Jessica would like to know what the policy is for road problems on the weekend. Joe Nolan states that the policy has to change. He continues to say that the road crew was not working on Thursday or Friday. He adds that everyone knows what the weather was like on the weekend and we are all aware of the traffic in Beartown due to the Crown Maple trucks. Jessica asks if Crown Maple is going to continue putting money into our roads like they promised and how many times have they given money. Joe answers just once. Kayla Zoppel states that she works for Crown Maple and the trucks have to run during the season. Jessica Pendleton states that residents still have to get through. She continues saying that when we know the trucks are running, we know it was 70 degrees on Friday and we know its one way in one way out, what are we going to do about it? Joe states that the Town Administrator from Arlington has written a letter of concern regarding our roads and the safety of fire trucks and the school bus. Melissa Mattison asks if the Town Administrators letter was about 1 issue. Joe answers the issue was in the Notch. Melissa states that Joe voted not to have the Notch fixed. Joe says he chose not to put a \$6,500 blacktop band aid on top of the hole in the Notch. He would like to see the problem fixed permanently. Mike Hill states that the road erosion work finished recently is just a temporary fix. Joe states that the difference between the 2 sites is that the road could have fallen into the river, in comparison to the notch, you land in a hole. Jim states that the 2 projects are not comparable. The road erosion is a temporary fix but necessary, as for the Notch we do not know what is causing the sink hole. He continues to say that whatever is put on the hole in the notch will sink. Melissa Mattison brings it back to her point that the Arlington Town Manager should be told this. Karen Dzialo answers that a letter has been sent to the Town Manager stating that the problem in the Notch will have gravel touched up until the spring, when further work can begin with an engineer

present. Vincent Lapenta states that he lives on Pantaleon Road and the bank is washing out. Jim Henderson says that it is on his agenda to visit that site at tomorrow's meeting. Vincent Lapenta asks if he can get an update after the meeting. Jim says that he will knock on their door to give a report. Vincent also asks what class road the Pantaleon has been changed to. Mike Hill answers that it is a class 4 from the Lapenta's driveway and up. Vincent Lapenta asks if that means the homeowner beyond his driveway is now responsible for that portion of road. The answer is yes. Vincent mentions that there is a culvert in that section of road that completely clogged and causing problems elsewhere. Willy Mattison explains that it is flowing into the town portion of that road and either a water bar must be put in or the culvert cleaned and possibly replaced. Vincent explains that on the night of last July's storm the previously mentioned culvert and Dan O'Brien's culvert caused the bridge to wash out with significant damage. Willy continues to say that he believes the town is responsible for the maintenance of that culvert. Mike Hill adds the Town has a policy when a property owner receives a permit for an access the owner pays for the culvert and the Town maintains it. Willy Mattison states that Ed and Charlie Pike put the culvert in. Charlie Pike explains that the culvert was put in about 20 years ago. Vincent Lapenta would like to see the problem solved. Joe Nolan comments that the situation sounds like a no brainer, since it is affecting the town road, we should take the initiative to fix the problem. Willy Mattison asks if the Town wants to put a \$400 culvert in or a water bar. Joe Nolan says we will have to decide that, he would meet the road crew tomorrow at the site and make an assessment. Mike Hill states that there are more pressing issues than that. He continues that the West Road needs 2 culverts changed and a ditch immediately. Willy Mattison says it is a hazardous situation. Joe Nolan States that he and Charlie Pike were there about an hour ago. Mike Hill states that in the past he would decide how to fix a problem but he is not sure if he should go through the Board first or proceed with his own discretion. Joe says that it is a serious situation and Mike is capable enough to use the Town equipment and get the work done. Mike says he needs to hire an excavator to dig the ditch from one culvert to the other. Charlie asks if the West Road is deemed by Mike as a hazard, why they hadn't told anyone earlier? Mike answers that they did not know about it till today. Charlie asks if they check the roads every morning. Mike answers that they were working on the emergency in Beartown, bringing loads of gravel since around 5:30-6:00 this morning. Jessica Pendleton says that she did not see anyone there at 5:30 this morning but Willy was there at 7:15 when she was driving through. Willy states that he was on his second load of gravel. Joe Nolan states that regardless, the problem (referring to West Road) must be fixed tomorrow. He goes on to say that if the Road crew is not capable of fixing it with the Town's backhoe, Dave Pendleton's excavator can be rented. Willy Mattison asks if they will use his excavator any more. He goes on to say that he charges \$75/hr. for rent and it would be hard to find it for cheaper. Joe Nolan states that it was

agreed to keep the hired contractor in town and Dave Pendleton is a taxpayer and his excavator sits in eyesight of the problem. Willy asks if Dave will do the job for \$75/hr. Joe states that Pendleton quoted \$400. Willy says he can install a culvert in less than 2 hours. Jessica Pendleton states that Dave Pendleton had not seen the job yet, he was told 3 hours of work and that is where the quote came from. Mike Hill asks who told Dave 3 hours? Jessica answers Joe had told him. Mike says the job needs 2 culverts and a ditching. Mike asks Joe if they are quoting Dave for 1 culvert. Joe Nolan states that they had planned on the 1 culvert where they saw a washout and the culvert is completely clogged. Mike states that the culvert below is rotting and needs to be replaced also. Joe goes on to say that the reason that culvert is washed out is because there is an obstruction in the culvert and the culvert failed. Joe believes that is the lack of maintenance that had caused this problem. Willy states that he was there about 3 weeks ago with the backhoe and cleaned that culvert out. Willy reiterates that the culvert below is part of the problem. Jessica Pendleton asks a question that she would like to clear up, based upon hearsay, she continues to ask if Willy is paid by the hour by the Town while using his excavator. Willy answers that he rents the excavator and works the Town hours on it. Mike adds that they pay \$75/hr. for the excavator and \$25/hr. for Willy's time. Jessica asks if Willy has insurance for rental. Willy Mattison answers yes. Jessica states that Dave does not have to have that job. Willy states that he would like to know if the Selectmen are trying to phase him out of renting his equipment. Charlie states that they are not doing that, instead are curious how jobs were being bid out before he entered the Board. He goes on to ask how they bid out the job for Jean Eisenhart. Willy says that was grant money, the Town rented his excavator and the road crew did the work. Charlie asks if the Town could not have rented another excavator cheaper. Willy thinks he has the lowest prices around for rental and work done. Mike states that it is the Boards duty to take care of the funding and grant money from now on. Charlie says he understands that, his real concern is for issues like the \$13,000 dry hydrant and fix that is recorded in the book. Willy states that he put in a dry hydrant for \$2,200, but was not involved in the fix. Mike states that Charlie is talking about 2 different places, the fix was at Erthein's and the dry hydrant on Fred West's lawn. Charlie asks who was bid for the job. Willy states that they put a bid out for the dry hydrant with no response and Mike fixed the Erthein hydrant. Joe notes that that dry hydrant is not working again. Mike states that it has malfunctioned since that last rain storm. Charlie wants to know what the \$13,000 cost came from. Willy states that the cost was in the pipe and hydrant and other materials. Mike states that the Board will have to start figuring out how these projects are priced out. He continues using the example of the Better Back Roads Grant—if the Grant awards \$10,000, the Town needs to figure out how to meet that threshold and get as much work done for the money. Mike says to ask Suzy dePeyster for the list and costs of materials for the dry hydrants. Willy adds that the Town will be reimbursed grant money for

that. Tim Fagan asks why Charlie does not know. Charlie remarks that he has just joined the Board. Tim Fagan comments that Charlie should seek information before asking a question. Ann Hamerle would like to know when Rupert Road will get some attention. She adds that the conditions are really bad currently. Mike states that it's up to the Board, someone else can fix it. Ann Hamerle says that the road crew usually does a good job but they have not seen them in about 5 days. Jim Henderson asks why Mike said someone else can fix the Rupert Road. Margaretta Pero notes that the roads have been better since Mike Hill has been Road Foreman. She remarks that mud season is a big worry for her. She adds that she knows the cost will be significant for the fix as she had tried to gain attention to the problem 3 years ago. Mrs. Pero states that the road over the Rupert line is significantly better and she would hope that some time the Town could find funding for a fix. Mike states that citizens need to show up at a budget meeting, that would be the time to bring up these issues. The Selectboard can raise the amount on the budget and the voters can vote at the Town Meeting. Karen Dzialo states that over the last few years the Selectboard has worked on a plan that has rated and prioritized the problem areas in town. She adds that the Town will eventually get to all the problem spots working with the grant money that belongs with it. Jim Henderson remarks that what Karen is referring to is called the Road Erosion Inventory. Jim adds that unfortunately the list only refers to any road within 100 feet of the surface waters, this is a requirement of the Clean Water Act. He continues that towns must have these roadways up to the State's standards by a certain date. For the past 4 years the Town has put all the Grant and Aids and Better Back Roads money into hydrologically connected road segments. This includes ditches dug and culverts replaced. Jim adds that Rupert Road is not hydrologically connected, therefore can not be included in the grant and aids. Another grant would have to be obtained for Rupert Road. Ann Hamerle remarks if the 5 really bad spots on Rupert Road were addressed, it would make a big difference. Jim notes that a Better Back Roads grant project was done on the Rupert Road a few years ago but only where a stream existed. Margaretta Pero states that a small stream runs on the side of the road and there may be underground water sources causing the problem. Jim Henderson states that the State has a specific definition of a stream. Willy suggests that at certain times driving a dump truck in and out of the road for a fix can cause more damage to the road. Margaretta says that she understands and agrees. She adds that she does not want Mike to give up. A few in the crowd remark the same. Jessica Hill has a concern about the appointment of Charlie Pike as the Road Liaison. She believes that when Charlie was on the road crew nothing was done. She adds that she would like to know why Tom Santelli was not considered as Road Liaison. Joe Nolan states that Tom was considered, but not chosen. Jessica asks Joe if he lived here 20 years ago and saw the road conditions. She goes onto to say that she is disappointed with the decision and the roads are much better than when Charlie and Ed Pike were the road crew. Jessica

Pendleton remarks that she believes the roads change with the years, particularly how the spring thaw happens. Jessica Pendleton asks Mike if he had ignored her this weekend when she called him. He states he told her to call the Board because he is not sure where he stands currently. Jessica says she is disappointed because she thought she could depend on Mike. Mike says he was not going to run right out and fix the problem spot (south of Jessica Pendleton's property), especially since the Board went behind his back on the road erosion fix by the covered bridge. Joe states that he called Mike the morning of the road erosion meeting. Mike states that he met them when he received the message. Willy says that the Selectboard should have given more notice. Jessica Pendleton states that she has lived at her residence for 20 years and she had never been made to feel as she did this weekend. Jessica Hill says that's why we need to come to more meetings. Jessica Pendleton remarked that she notices there are a lot of bitter feelings between people right now and it is affecting the progress of work in our . She adds that there are a lot of people on both sides that have to calm down. Karen Tendrup comments that she also lives in Beartown, she had to walk to her job 3 days in a row. Mike states that Karen Tendrup lives 5 miles on dirt road and that should be expected in the spring. He adds that Karen should have a 4-wheel drive vehicle. Karen Tendrup remarks that Jessica Pendleton called her 3 times this weekend and she tried to do everything she could. She adds that if Mike wants to be the Road Foreman he need to do his job. Mike states that he does not want to be the Road Foreman. Karen asks that Mike notify the Board because it is not fair to the town to leave them hanging. Joe asks Mike Hill if he would like to stay on as Road Foreman. Mike answers that he does not have to answer to that at this moment. Jessica asks if the Board is authorized to call someone to put down some stone so that people in Beartown can get through. Joe states that the Board will have to find a new Road Foreman. He adds the comment, you can see what we are dealing with here. Jessica Hill states that she has seen Mike Hill walk out of family functions to make sure that the roads were safe for all the people, for years. Tim Fagan states that the Board owes Mike Hill an apology. Vincent Lapenta asks where does that leave us? He continues to say that this is crazy. Joe Nolan agrees. About 8 people start talking at the same time. The conversation becomes inaudible. Sandra Reidy interrupts to ask that everyone not speak at once so the minutes and recording can be understood. Joe Nolan calls Kayla Zoppel. Kayla states that the Selectboard had appointed Charlie as Road Liaison knowing that it would rub Mike Hill the wrong way. She goes on to say that everyone knows that Mike and Charlie do not get along. Joe states that he would like Mike Hill to remain as Road Foreman and would like to see Mike step it up and try a little harder. Kayla states that Mike Hill has always worked really hard. Joe says there have been quite a few complaints. Melissa Mattison states that in the Selectmen's minutes, all the way back to 2017, there were minimal complaints. She adds that most of the complaints as of recently have been Charlie Pike before he was elected to the Board. Charlie

comments he attended Selectmen's meetings as a Citizen who felt the roads needed improvement and were being neglected. Melissa Mattison asks Karen Tendrup as Health Officer if she has found out any information about her request for looking into the health hazards at the Grogan Property. Karen answers that she has to take a course of certification for Health Officer that she will be attending in the beginning of April. Tim Fagan states that if Karen Tendrup is not Health Officer currently, then who is? Sandra Reidy answers that it automatically defers to the Chair of the Board. Karen Tendrup states that she has been appointed and is acting as the Health Officer. She adds that she cannot just go to a residence without following the proper legal steps. Melissa comments they had been coming for years to complain about the conditions of the Grogan residence with no answers. Sandra Reidy stated that before Karen was appointed, the Health Officer for Sandgate was the same as Arlington. Joe Nolan asks if we could get Arlington's Health Officer's advice for this situation. Melissa Mattison states that, from her research, the Animal Control Officer must be involved also. She adds that they have a concern for animal welfare and loose animals. Karen Tendrup says that she is working on a solution. Jim states that last summer the State went to the residence to look and it does not meet the definition of a farm, so they do not have to abide by the State of Vermont's Best Agriculture Practices. He adds that the residence is really a hoarding situation and the State cannot do anything about it. Melissa states that when she spoke to the State, they said they cannot do anything because of the Right-to-Farm law. She adds that the Humane Society will not intervene, the State Troopers must call them. She continues that the State Troopers said the Humane Society must call them. Melissa says that Erin McDermott has gone over and rounded up the animals but they were out again the next day. Joe says the Board will figure out how we can legally take action. Karen Dzialo states that Jim Henderson has been a big asset to the Town and expressed her appreciation for his professionalism and hard work.

**LIEN ON GROGAN TAX SALE PROPERTY:** Joe states that the Board has agreed that the lien on the Grogan Property will not carry over to any other person who purchases the property.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE PC/ZBA:** Caroline Kimball has been appointed to the Board.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Board reads the report. There are no questions.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Joe Nolan states that the Town is still waiting on the dry hydrant test. The Firemen will come as soon as the weather permits. Jessica Pendleton asks if they would like to hire Dave Pendleton for the work on West Rd. Joe states that the Board will decide before the end of the night. Willy Mattison would like to know the phone number for Charlie Pike. Charlie states his cell number is 802-682-8721.

**ROAD REPORT:** No road report.

**REVIEW MARCH 7, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board approves the minutes.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Board signs the orders.

ADJOURN: Karen Dzialo makes a motion to adjourn. Karen Tendrup seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 4, 2022.

Painstakingly submitted by Sandra Reidy

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - APRIL 18, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Sandra Reidy, Treasurer; William Haggerty; Road Crew: Jay Wilson and Skipper Wilson.

ROAD REPORT: Jay and Skipper Wilson attended the meeting. They have turned in 2 weeks of detailed daily road work logs. Skipper states that The Town's 2003 dump truck needs work or replacing. He continues saying that he has been looking for a used truck and they would like to find one soon to be able to haul gravel and cut out the hauling cost The Town pays out. The board asks Jay and Skipper if they would like to stay on as the road workers on a constant basis. Skipper states that they would like to be hired, they will not always work Monday through Friday but will make sure all the work is done. Karen Tendrup makes a motion to hire Jay Wilson and Skipper Wilson following The Towns personnel policy. Joe Nolan seconds. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The board reviews the Treasurer's report. Nothing to add.

**CITIZENS CONCERNS:** Kathleen Carlisle stopped by The Town Hall to let the Selectboard know that the Road Crew has done a wonderful job on the Rupert Road.

OTHER BUSINESS: Karen Tendrup states that Green-up day is May 7. The coordinators this year are herself and Sandra Reidy. The Town needs to make sure we have a dump truck parked at The Town Hall on that Saturday. Karen Dzialo makes a motion to have Sandra Reidy call a locksmith to have the keys changed for The Town Garage. Karen Tendrup seconds. All in favor. Karen Tendrup asks Sandra Reidy to call Randy Novotny about having a generator hooked up at town hall. The money could come out of the ARPA monies. Sandra Reidy states that an audit on that money must be turned in by the end of April. She continues saying that there is a million dollar exemption that can be claimed, which allows The Town to spend the \$57,000 ARPA money on any town expenses. Joe Nolan states that he has been contacted by Peckham about the paving done last fall. The Town still owes them \$25,000 for that job. Dan Deerstein has told Joe that Peckham will eat half the cost, as the cost went over the estimated amount. The board agrees to pay \$12,623 for the remainder of the bill.

**REVIEW APRIL 4, 2022 MINUTES:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to approve the April 4, 2022 minutes. Charlie Pike Seconds. The board approves the minutes.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The board signs the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to adjourn. John Phelps seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MAY 2, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - APRIL 4, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:04** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Charlie Pike, Joe Nolan and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Sandra Reidy, Erin McDermott, Roy McDermott, Melissa Mattison, Willy Mattison, Debra DeSacia, Tim Fagan, Shelley Finn, Sheila Kearns, Ann Hamerle, Rob Viglas, John Phelps, James Peters, Jim Henderson, Peter Markalunas, Jeanne Zoppel, Richard Zoppel.

**EXECUTIVE MEETING**: Joe Nolan States that the Board would like to call an executive meeting to discuss the following topics: (1) To determine the appointment of the fifth board member. (2) To discuss the Rules and Procedure policy. (3) To determine a special meeting date to vote on the passed over Article 3 from the Town meeting. Joe Nolan makes a motion the Selectboard move to Executive Meeting. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor.

**DETERMINE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE 5**<sup>TH</sup> **SELECTBOARD MEMBER:** The Board returns. Karen Dzialo nominates John Phelps for Select Member until the next March Election. Karen Tendrup seconds. All in favor.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT POLICY:** Joe Nolan states that the policy they are about to sign is a model policy from VLCT. The policy is an outline of the rules and procedures for running town meetings. It will be posted online at the Town website, <a href="https://www.sandgatevermont.org">www.sandgatevermont.org</a>.

**DETERMINE A SPECIAL MEETING DATE:** Joe Nolan states the Board needs to decide on a date for a Special Meeting, to have public vote on Article 3. The date has been set for May 9, 2022.

RESOLVE ROAD LIAISON APPOINTMENT: The position of Road Liaison has been dissolved by the Board. Sheila Kearns mentions that in the past the Road Liaison phone number has been posted on the town site, for residents to call with road problems. She asks what the Board's substitute will be. Joe Nolan states that all the Selectboard phone numbers will be posted and the residents can call them. Sheila comments that the bulletin boards around town have a poster with the Road Liaison name and phone number. Joe Nolan states that they will have some poster made up to be hung on the bulletin boards.

SETTLE THE PAY RATE FOR THE PAY RATE FOR THE PROVISIONAL ROAD WORKERS: The Board decides the 2 road workers will get a pay rate starting at \$24.00 per hour. Deb DeSacia asks if that is the base salary for someone that would want to do the job permanently. Joe Nolan answers that the Board will decide the pay rate for any future employees based on their experience and capability. Deb DeSacia asks if the Board decided this for the current road employees. Joe states that both Road crew employees have experience and the rate is less that

our previous Road Foreman and part time worker. Jim Henderson asks when the Board will advertise the hiring position for the road workers. Sandra Reidy states that it has been advertised in the Bennington Banner and posted at Town Hall. The Board will post an opening for 1 full time and 1 part time position in a few more sites such as Front Porch Forum, Manchester Journal, and News Guide.

**ROAD REPORT:** Joe Nolan states the Road Crew have been working everyday to shape up the road for mud season.

OTHER BUSINESS: Jim Henderson states that he drove around with Skipper and Jay Wilson (our current road crew) and Richard Zoppel, and showed them all the FEMA sites. Jim continues to say he received a letter from Bill Doyle in regards to the emergency fix that was done 2 weeks ago just north of the covered bridge. The letter states that this particular fix can not be included in the temporary repairs project for the road erosion grant because there was existing erosion before the July storm event. Jim Henderson states that he will appeal this position at his next meeting. Jim comments that there is 6-month window from the day that the President declares international disaster, that the towns must file temporary repairs. This repair was completed a week before the deadline. Jim speaks about a culvert on Pantaleon Rd. that is just before the road turns from a Class 3 road to a Class 4. He continues on saying that this culvert is almost completely clogged up. Jim passes out a packet of pictures he has taken at problem spots along this road. Josh Carvajal has told Jim that the Town does not need a stream alteration permit to remove less than 10 cubic yards of debris at a time. Jim would like the Board to ask the road workers to maintain the culvert flow by periodically scooping out the culvert with the backhoe. Jim speaks referring to Tate Hill Road being classified from a Class 4 back to Class 3. He continues to say that it's not uncommon for towns to do this, especially if there are homes on that portion of road. Jim states that the procedure for reclassifying a road is to fill out the forms, put out a public notice to all the home owners and people who use the road, to call a public hearing and the road would have to meet the current road standards. Willy Mattison asks if the Board would like to bring this road back to a class 3 and if so, he does not agree with that. Jim goes through his packet of pictures and explains each problem area on this road. Jim states that regardless of the classification of the road, town roads must be maintained when unsafe or unpassable, against any liability. Jim explains that a Class 4 road does not have to meet the same standards as a Class 3, but a Class 4 with the municipal general permit must not have a gully on it. A gully by definition is an erosion that is 1 foot or deeper. He continues saying that the erosion taking place on Tate Hill Road will become a stream across the road. He finishes by saying that whether or not the town changes the classification of Tate Hill Road the town is looking at some significant expenses for the mandatory fixes. Willy Mattison asks how much it will cost the town to reclassify Tate Hill Rd. Joe Nolan replies that the Board will look into the costs. Karen Dzialo

states that it is in the contract with Constance West that the town maintain that section of Tate Hill Road.

**CITIZENS CONCERNS:** Richard Zoppel mentions the Grogan home on Chunks Brook. He states he was horrified by the conditions. Richard continues that the animals at this residence should be taken away, due to the in humane conditions. Melissa Mattison mentions that the pond on the Grogan residence has turned an acid green. She wants to know what the town can do. Jim Henderson states that the Conservation District had the Agricultural Agency look at the residence last year and they deemed it to not meet the standards of a running farm. Jim continues that the state said it was a hoarding situation and the Ag. Agency can not do anything to enforce change. Karen Dzialo states that there are laws in place to protect home owners, which makes it hard to legally change the situation. Melissa Mattison states that she has called a number of State Agencies. Erin McDermott states she is the town's Small Animal Control Officer and she has been to the residence. Erin continues that the dogs were chained up and had housing, food and water. Tim Fagan asks, what about the loose animals? Erin McDermott and Suzy dePeyster had rounded the animals up previously. Willy Mattison mentions that a large boar with tusks has been in his yard. Shelia Kearns mentions that there have been various instances in the news where a hoarding problem was eliminated. Erin McDermott states that the town and Selectboard need to come up with a system of fines to be enforced. She continues that she has had a hard time with some people in the past. Willy Mattison states that Erin is volunteering for the Animal Control position and there is no pay. He continues that the Town's Constable is paid \$100 every month and he had called the Constable, Rick Dahm, the other day and his call was never returned. Karen Tendrup states that she has is waiting to go through a Health Officer course and she will keep looking into how to correct the problem. Bill Haggerty states that the town had written a law for loose animals back when Steve Saltonstall was on the Board.

Deb DeSacia would like to know how the road erosion fix north of the covered bridge/Tutor Road was paid for. Joe Nolan states the town paid it out of the Construction Fund. Willy Mattison states that the town construction account only has so much money and other parts of the roads need to be addressed. Sandra Reidy states that there is money in the budget construction account and money in the reserve construction account.

Ann Hammerle thanks the Board for the work completed on the Rupert Road.

**REVIEW THE MARCH 21, 2022 MINUTES:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Board signs the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to adjourn. Karen Dzialo seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7:28.

## THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD APRIL 18, 2022 AT 6:00 IN THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully Submitted by Sandra Reidy

For a complete recording of this meeting contact the Town Clerk.

# **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - MAY 2, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps Charlie Pike, and Karen Tendrup. Also attending: Sandra Reidy, Kathy Wagner and Sheila Kearns.

**SHEILA KEARNS:** Sheila Kearns states that the Zoning Board is working on updating the town plan. There are a few questions that have come up and they would like to have the planning commissions input before finalizing the draft to be approved by the Selectboard. Sheila goes through a list of questions she has for the board concerning the Town Plan. Sheila will have the Zoning Board reformat some language in the plan. Sheila mentions that the Town's hazard mitigation plan is expired and the Planning Commission will be willing to have members participate in the updating of the hazard mitigation plan. She states the Selectboard needs to seek a planning grant for the hazard mitigation plan. Sheila will send a link to the Clerk's email.

**KATHY WAGNER:** Kathy Wagner asks the board if the road crew can replace a problem culvert at the Sandgate Cemetery across form the Methodist Church. Joe Nolan mentions that the Road Crew is replacing many road culverts and the crew could recycle one of the old culverts for the cemetery. The board will inform the road crew.

**ROAD REPORT:** The Road Foreman has turned in 2 weeks of daily road reports. Everyone comments about the improvements on the roads. Karen Tendrup states that there was an accident in Beartown on the weekend and because the roads are so improved the ambulance was able to get right to the accident. The Board will ask the hired road crew if they would like uniforms.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** The Board asks Sandra Reidy to put out a bid for painting the Town Hall. Joe states that the Special Meeting is set for May 9, 2022.

**REVIEW APRIL 18, 2022 MINUTES:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion to approve the April 18, 2022 minutes. Karen Tendrup seconds. The Board approves the minutes.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Board signs the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion to adjourn. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MAY 16, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

For a complete recording of this meeting contact the Town Clerk.

## SANDGATE SPECIAL MEETING

# May 9, 2022 at 6:00 in the Sandgate Town Hall

## **All voters of Sandgate Welcome**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chris Barlow, Sandra Reidy, Karen Tendrup, Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, Charlie Pike, John Phelps, Margaret Phelps, Marge Peff, Sheila Kearns, Dottie Sundquist, Suzanne dePeyster, Valerie dePeyster, Margaretta Pero, Rob Viglas, Jean Eisenhart.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Moderator Chris Barlow calls the meeting to order at 6:00.

Discuss and vote on Article 3: Article 3 states; Shall the town authorize the Selectboard to spend budget surplus funds if there are any in the next fiscal year. Suzanne dePeyster states that the money should be out into a "rainy day fund". She suggests amending the Article Marge Peff states that the surplus money needs to be separated into 2 funds, 1 for Highway and 1 for General Fund. Shelia asks if the Treasurer can make sure to account for any expenditures on the surplus money. Sandra Reidy answers that she could report monthly in the Treasurer's reports any expenditures with the Town's surplus money. Valerie dePeyster states that she was under the impression when this Article was voted on the ballot last year, that the Article would remain that way from year to year. Sandra Reidy answers that the wording in the article states "in the next fiscal year". Sheila Kearns suggests that the article can be voted down and then vote to amend the wording of the article. Suzanne dePeyster calls the question. Chris Barlow calls the vote. The nays have the vote. Article 3 is voted down. Suzanne dePeyster states that she would like to amend the article 3 to state that any surplus money will go into a "rainy day fund" in the next fiscal year and all future years. Suzanne dePeyster makes a motion to amend the article as stated. Valerie dePeyster seconds. Suzanne dePeyster calls the question. Chris Barlow calls a vote on the article as amended; Shall the town authorize the Selectboard to put surplus funds, if there are any, into a "rainy day fund in the next fiscal year and all future years. All in favor of amending the article as stated. Suzanne dePeyster makes a motion to vote the amended article. Sheila Kearns seconds. Chris Barlow calls the vote. All in favor.

**ADJOURN:** Sheila Kearns makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandra Reidy seconds. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:20.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - JUNE 6, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Jim Henderson, Connie Doyle, George Dyke, Suzy dePeyster and Sandra Reidy

GEORGE DYKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: George Dyke is concerned about some hanging limbs above power lines across the street from his residence. He has called the power company and they saw no reason to cut the trees down. Joe Nolan states that the trees are not in the Town's right of way. George Dyke is feels that the Town should be responsible for any damages and should contact the owner of this residence. Jim Henderson says if the Town cuts trees down for one resident, then the Town would have to cut them all. This matter is out of the Board's hands.

**NEW APPOINTMENT TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion to appoint Kathy Wagner to the Conservation Commission. Karen Tendrup seconds. All in favor.

**STATUS OF THE MISSING UNIFORMS, PAGERS AND RADIO:** Joe Nolan states that he has delivered the Town's Personnel Policy to Rick Dahm. Rick has not responded yet. Joe will contact Rick this week.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Suzy dePeyster asks if the Road Crew can cut the road sides before the poison parsnip goes to seed. The Board will ask the Road Crew. Charlie Pike states that the Dry Hydrant on Connie West's property has not been finished and the person hired to cut her lawn cannot mow there. He continues that we need some fill and top soil and the area needs to be leveled off. Suzy dePeyster states the grant money has not been received to finish the project. The Board will look into getting this matter fixed. Jim Henderson reports on FEMA visits. Jim states that he will be meeting FEMA tomorrow for site visits to all river embankments. There are 8 sites and he is confident they will find all sites need to be fixed. Jim adds that the Road Crew have a lot of work coming up as the Town has several roads that are incomplete or not up to the States current standards.

ROAD REPORT: The Road Foreman has turned in a 2-week log of the work done. Joe Nolan states that the road crew is currently lining ditches. Road Worker, Skipper Wilson calls while in session. He announces that he and Jay have found a 2014 Mack tandem truck with snow plow and new tires. The truck was owned by the Town of Derby and has 140,000 miles. The asking price is \$75,000. Joe asks the Treasurer, Sandra Reidy if the Town has the funds to swing purchasing this equipment. Sandy states that we have funds left and could draw from the Recovery fund. The Board decides to look into financing at least half of the cost, so as to not deplete all current funds. Karen Tendrup makes a motion to allow the Road Crew to go ahead with obtaining the truck. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor. The Treasurer will look into the rates for financing.

**REVIEW MAY 16, 2022 MINUTES:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to approve the May 16, 2022 minutes. Karen Dzialo seconds. The board approves the minutes.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The board signs the orders.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion that the 2 hours budgeted for the Road Foreman to attend meeting will be used to pay the Selectmen Secretary for attendance and minute taking. John Phelps seconds. All in favor. The Secretary, Sandra Reidy is keeping a record of time.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion to adjourn. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON JUNE 20, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - MAY 16, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:04 pm

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Jim Henderson and Sandra Reidy.

**DISCUSS THE HIRED ROAD CREW PAY RATE:** Joe Nolan states that the road crew should get the same payrate as the previous Road Foreman and Worker. He adds that any hours from the date when they were hired should be given. Joe Nolan makes a motion. Charlie pike seconds. All are in favor of the Road Crew receiving the previous rates of \$27.32 for the Road Foreman/full time and \$26.78 for the Road worker/part time and retroactive pay from the April 18<sup>th</sup> 2022 hire date.

**APPOINT A BOARD MEMBER TO A 3-TOWN ARPA PLANNING BOARD:** The Selectmen present all agree that this Board is not necessary to our town. The Selectmen decide to not join the proposed Board.

ROAD REPORT: The Road Crew turned in their daily log for the past week. Joe Nolan states that the Road Crew has fixed the guardrails on Rupert Road. Joe asked Jim Henderson if he would like to speak. Jim announced that we have all the FEMA permits we need to start the next phase of permanent fixes. He is waiting on the FEMA site visit to proceed with work. Josh Carvajal will visit riverside sites to make sure all repairs are up to Vermont standards. Jim stated that the Town received an equipment grant for a compact roller but the amount granted is not enough for that piece of equipment. He said a few other types of equipment apply. The Road Crew has asked for a plate compactor which is on that list and the cost is less. Jim will contact the Grant and Aids program manager about the change for which the grant is applied.

OTHER BUSINESS: The Selectmen have signed and readopted the Local Emergency Plan. The town has an outstanding bill of over \$1,000 for the previous Road Foreman uniforms that were not turned in and 1 hand-held radio is missing. Joe Nolan will call the Town Constable and ask him if he can retrieve these items. Sandra Reidy states that she failed to add the Treasurer's report on this agenda and she has brought copies of the report. The Selectmen read the report. Nothing more to add.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Joe Nolan mentions that George Dyke has called him and would like two pine trees cut down across the street from his home because they are hanging over power lines. These trees are not in the Town's right of way so the Board agrees they can not take any action in this matter. Clemma Dawson has also called Joe. She had caught the neighbor's dog on her property killing her chickens. Erin McDermott was contacted. Clemma Dawson would like to have an update on any action taken.

**REVIEW MAY 2, 2022 MINUTES:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to approve the May 2, 2022 minutes. Joe Nolan Seconds. The board approves the minutes.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The board signs the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to adjourn. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING IS JUNE 6, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - JUNE 20, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps. Also present: Tim Fagan, Deb DeSacia, Melissa Mattison, Linda Schmitt, Rick Dahm, and Arlington Fire Chief, Mike King.

**PAYMENT FOR TANDEM TRUCK:** The Board decides to have the Treasurer send \$1,000 deposit to hold the tandem truck until finances can be worked out to purchase.

**UPDATE ON MISSING UNIFORMS, PAGERS AND RADIO:** Rick Dahm arrives at the meeting. Rick states that he has gone to see the previous Road Foreman and has been given a pager. Tom Santelli has the radio and the other items should be in the filing cabinet at the garage. Mike Hill has said that he will not return the uniforms unless he is paid for the accrued leave hours he had earned. Rick Dahm had brought a printed copy of the town's personnel policy to Mike Hill. In this policy it states that any employee who does not give 2-weeks notice shall forfeit any leave time. Mike Hill said that he had not signed any contract, therefore it does not apply. Rick will visit Tom Santelli. Joe Nolan states that the entire board should be present to make any decisions on how to move forward. The Clerk/Treasurer has been asked to contact the labor board to ask what the best solution should be.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Melissa Mattison asked to have an update on the health hazard at the Grogan Property. Karen Tendrup is not present at this meeting. The Board cannot answer any questions at the present time. Karen Tendrup will be asked to have more information at the next meeting. Melissa Mattison asks that the Road Crews weekly report be posted online.

**ROAD REPORT:** 2 weeks of road work is posted following these minutes.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Treasurer, Sandy Reidy presents the Treasurers report. Nothing to add.

**REVIEW JUNE 6, 2022 MINUTES:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion to approve the June 6, 2022 minutes. John Phelps seconds. The Board approves the minutes.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The board signs the orders.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Mike King, the Arlington Fire Chief, reports on the hydrant test for the West Residence. Mike states that the test on this hydrant failed because they could not get enough pressure to facilitate their equipment. There is not enough pitch. The hydrant could be converted to a six-inch female adapter on the outside. Mike King adds that the hydrant is leaking down the hill and the fire truck had sunk. He continues to state that the Town could have saved a lot of money if they had asked the Fire Department what they had thought about this design. Joe Nolan asks if the hydrants are tested annually. Mike king states that to test the hydrants in town is above and beyond the yearly payment sent by the town. He continues that in order to test the hydrants it entails taking a couple days with a crew, flushing the systems and testing. He believes that there should be an extra charge for hydrant testing. Melissa Mattison states that the hydrant on Chunks Brook has been buried and out of order. Mike King replies that as long as there is water in the brook the Fire department can get it out with their water pump. The concerned parties will be notified to proceed with the fix of these hydrants.

**ADJOURN:** John Phelps makes a motion to adjourn. Karen Dzialo seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

# THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON TUESDAY JULY 5, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

A complete recording of these minutes is available upon request.

# Road Report: 05/30 - 06/09

Date	Town of Sandgate Work Accomplished
5/30	
	Monday Memorial Day
5/31	Met with Jin henderson to choose of location for this
	Tuesday
6/1	graded and Stone raked tate Hill road off of west
	sandgate road to turn around Wednesday
6/2	cleaned up bern along ditch on West road:
	cleaned ditches
	Thursday graded and stone raked west road
6/6	site visits with FEMA, VT trans, Josh Carvajal, and Jim Henderson for river bank reconstruction.
	Monday
6/7	day 2 of site visits with FEMA and Jim Henders
	on road resurfacing and ditching Tuesday ditching with excavator on Tudor Hill rd
6/8	ditching on tudor rd
	road side nowing from sandgate road dirt To Bear town
	Wednesday Construction
	ditching on Tudor rd with excavator and single axle
6/9	wain P.
	Thursday

# **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - JULY 5, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:05** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Tim Fagan, Deb DeSacia, Melissa Mattison, Linda Schmitt, Peter Markalunas, Suzy dePeyster and Sandy Reidy.

**UPDATE FROM RICK DAHM:** Rick Dahm was not present.

**UPDATE FROM HEALTH OFFICER:** Karen Tendrup will call the State about the rat infestation at the Grogan property and adjoining properties.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Melissa Mattison has several health concerns about the Grogan property on Chunks Brook and how it affects the surrounding houses. Melissa continues to say that her concern is for the confines that the animals live in, which flows into Chunks Brook and the filth from food being left out, which is attracting rats and bears to the adjoining residences. Joe Nolan states that this problem has gone on long enough and the Board will call the Town's lawyer to receive advice for any action's or fines they can enforce on this property. Melissa Mattison has asked that the animal control officer levy a fine for the Grogan's dogs who have not been licensed in Town. Erin McDermott, the animal control officer will be notified. Tim Fagan states that the animals at this residence are being fed bread and the garbage is blowing all over the neighborhood.

**ROAD REPORT:** As written on the Road Foreman's weekly report.

- 6/13: Cut willow limb on Sandgate Road and cleaned up ditch material on Tudor Road
- 6/14: Travelled to SLC and Pike pit to see inventory for riprap stone.
- 6/15: Put up new Walsh Road sign, took measurements for new 911 address on Weldon Road
- 6/16: Rented chipper from Brown's and chipped along Sandgate and Tudor Roads
- 6/27: Ditching on Tudor Road, excavating and removal with dump truck.
- 6/28: Ditching on Tudor Road, excavating and removal with dump truck.
- 6/29: Ditching on Tudor Road, excavating and removal with dump truck. Road side mowing on Sandgate Road blacktop areas and West Sandgate Road
- 6/30: Ditching on Tudor Road, excavating and removal with dump truck. Road side mowing on Rupert Road

**REVIEW JUNE 20, 2022 MINUTES:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion to approve the June 20, 2022 minutes. John Phelps seconds. The Board approves the minutes.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Board signs the orders.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Charlie Pike asks the Board what to do about the missing uniforms from the previous Road Foreman. Joe Nolan states that it would cost the Town more money to take action on this matter, the Town should pay the cost of the uniforms to the company. Karen Dzialo makes a motion to pay the uniform company. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor. The Board asks Sandy to send an invoice for a guardrail replacement to Hunter Excavating to pay for the damage they caused last winter. Melissa Mattison asks what the Board will do with the old dump truck once the Town receives the new Tandem Truck. Joe Nolan answers that the Town will put it on an auction site.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion to adjourn. John Phelps seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON TUESDAY JULY 18, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

A complete recording of these minutes is available upon request.

# **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - JULY 18, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

ATTENDANCE: Board Members: Joe Nolan and Charlie Pike.

Also present: Sheila Kearns, Richard Zoppel, Erin and Roy McDermott, Peter Markalunas, Linda

Schmitt, Tom Santelli and Minute Taker, Sandy Reidy

## NO QUORUM - PRESENT MEMBERS DISCUSS BUSINESS ONLY.

Sheila Kearns and Richard Zoppel to Discuss the Town Plan: Sheila Kearns states that the Planning/Zoning Board will be finalizing and voting on the Town Plan at their meeting on Wednesday July 20<sup>th</sup>, and then starting the official process of distributing and holding public meetings. The time line is to distribute the Town Plan by July 25<sup>th</sup> and publish a legal notice in a newspaper on August 9<sup>th</sup>, then the official public hearing will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August. After the official public hearing and any changes or amendments that the Planning Board makes will then be written in a report and submitted to the Selectboard. The Selectboard's requirement is between 30 and 120 days after the Plan has been submitted to them, they must hold a warned public hearing and have an opportunity to make any changes or amendments. Sheila Kearns reminds the Selectboard that they need to apply for a Hazard Mitigation grant, which is a year out of date.

## **REPORT FROM HEALTH OFFICER:** Health Officer not present.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Tom Santelli returned the Town's radio. Tom Santelli addressed the Board about working for the Town grading in October 2021. He says he had an agreement with the Board that those hours worked will be compensated to him for 10 loads of sand. Sandy Reidy, Clerk/Treasurer asks Tom if this has been documented or written in the minutes. Tom answers that it should be. Joe Nolan says that if proof is found of the agreement, then Tom is entitled to it. Tom Santelli also requests if he could still buy sand from the town as he has done in the past. He states that he only uses it in Sandgate for driveways he plows. Joe Nolan answers that the Board will discuss with the Road Foreman and the Board will decide if that is to continue. Tom states that there should be a receipt on file around October 2021. The Treasurer will look into this. Tom adds that he is willing and available to grade the roads, as he has experience. He states that 2 men cannot keep up with all these roads. The Board will take it into consideration.

**ROAD REPORT:** Joe Nolan states that the Highway Department received the plate compactor this week. This was from grant money awarded.

Tom Santelli mentions that it is time to service the Grader from the John Deere Dealership. He adds that the money back on a trade-in will be far more in the long run if serviced by the dealership.

Joe Nolan states that he has discussed with the Road Crew about a uniform allowance for clothes and boots. The Board will discuss at a later date.

As written on the Road Foreman's weekly report:

7/11- Ditching and tree removal on Tudor Road.

7/12- Ditching and tree removal on Tudor Road. Cut and removed several trees down in the roads from a storm.

7/13- Ditching and tree removal on Tudor Road.

7/14- Installed new fitting on Tate Hill Road dry hydrant. Drove to Browns in Londonderry to pick up plate compactor. Finished ditching on Tudor Road.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Sandy Reidy; Treasurer presents the report to the present Select Members. Treasurer Reports are available to anyone at the Clerk's Office.

**REVIEW JULY 7, 2022 MINUTES:** The present members reviewed the minutes. The remainder of the Board will be handed the minutes to be voted this week.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Board will get the remaining signatures of the Selectmen absent this week.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Erin McDermott; Animal Control officer states that she had visited the Grogan residence to require that his dogs be registered and their rabies certificates be turned into the town. Health Grogan has come in and registered his dogs at the Town Clerk's Office.

**ADJOURN:** Meeting ended at 6:32 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY AUGUST 1, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

A complete recording of these minutes is available upon request.

### **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - AUGUST 1, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, Karen Tendrup. Also attending: Vonda Grogan, Bruce Pickering, Elizabeth Daut, Linda Schmitt, Suzy dePeyster, Valerie dePeyster and Minute Taker, Sandy Reidy.

SUZY DEPEYSTER REQUESTS AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE DRY HYDRANT: The Selectboard agrees to have an executive session.

**SET DATE FOR BCA APPEAL:** The Selectmen must set a date for a BCA appeal in reference to one resident who is appealing the reappraisal value on their property. Joe Nolan motions to set the BCA meeting on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the Town Hall. Karen Tendrup seconded. All in favor.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Joe Nolan calls on Vonda Grogan to speak. Vonda Grogan is living with her brother, Heath Grogan, on Chunks Brook. She has been cleaning up the place and selling some of the animals. The Health Officer, Karen Tendrup, has made a couple visits to the Grogan residence and states that conditions are improving. She looked around and saw no evidence of rats. Karen Dzialo mentions that the neighbors are upset about the garbage being blown into their yards. Vonda Grogan replies that the bears are dragging garbage away at night and she has been taking several loads of garbage to the dump. Karen Dzialo asks if they can remove the junk cars, as this has been a concern in the past and use the money to get a dumpster. Vonda states that while her brother was registering his dogs at Town Hall 2 weeks ago, the residence was vandalized while he was gone. She claims that the lock was broken and several animals were let out of the fences. She states that upon Heath arriving home, he saw 3 of his animals hit dead in the road and several other animals were never found. Joe Nolan comments to Vonda that another major concern of the neighbors is the water quality. Vonda states that she is doing her best to clean up the place and remove more animals.

**SET THE TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023:** Treasurer Sandy Reidy presents the Selectmen with a tax calculation based from the education rates set by the state, the municipal budget and local agreement. The rates to be approved are:

HOMESTEAD TAX		
RATE		
Municipal	\$0.7329	
School	\$1.2597	
Local	<u>\$0.0027</u>	
Rate to Set	<u>\$1.9952</u>	
NON-RES		
TAX RATE		
Municipal	\$0.7329	
School	\$1.3366	
Local	<u>\$0.0027</u>	
Rate to set	<u>\$2.0721</u>	

Last year rates were \$2.272 for homestead and \$2.470 for Non-Residential.
Charlie Pike makes a motion to approve the tax rate. Karen Dzialo

seconds. All in favor.

#### **ROAD REPORT:**

7/18/22 - Cleaned up storm related trees and branches along Sandgate Rd.

7/19/22 - Picked up tandem dump truck from Washington County. Delivered 4 loads of riprap from SLC to Tudor Road for FEMA project. Roadside mowed Hamilton and Wilcox Hollow.

7/20/22 - Delivered 1 load of riprap to Tudor Rd. Dumped the stone into ditch on Tudor Road with backhoe. Roadside mowed Wuerslin Road and the dirt portion of Sandgate Rd.

7/21/22 - Delivered 5 loads of riprap to Tudor Rd. Moved more stone into ditches on Tudor Rd. Patched holes with cold patch on South East Corners Rd.

7/25/22 - Delivered 5 loads of stone from Wallingford to Tudor Rd. Mowed and used loader to move stone into ditches on Tudor Road. Mowed roadsides on Woodcock Rd.

7/26/22 - Delivered 5 loads of stone from Wallingford. Mowed roadsides on Southeast Corners Road.

7/27/22 - Delivered 4 loads of stone from Wallingford to Tudor Road. Mowed roadsides on Southeast Corners Road.

7/28/22 - Delivered 3 loads of stone from Wallingford to Tudor Road. Moved stone into ditches with the loader. Received used tandem truck from Sheldon Mack.

**REVIEW JULY 18, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. Karen Tendrup makes a motion to accept the minutes. Karen Dzialo seconds. The minutes are approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectmen sign the orders.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Joe Nolan mentions that the road crew should be given a uniform allowance. Joe states that we could have some t-shirts made with the Town's name, for the road workers. Sandy states that she knows a lady in town who prints custom vinyl t-shirts and she will ask prices. The Town has a line item in the budget to pay for uniforms. Nothing was decided or voted on this matter.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to adjourn. Charlie Pike seconds. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY AUGUST 15, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

#### **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - AUGUST 15, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Elizabeth Daut, Linda Schmitt, Suzy dePeyster, Lucas Pike and Minute Taker, Sandy Reidy.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: No citizen's concerns.

OTHER BUSINESS: Lucas Pike addresses the Board about work he had done for the Constance West property dry hydrant area, so he could continue to mow through that area. He provided a detailed materials and labor breakdown to the Selectboard, for work and materials costing \$7,700. Lucas dug a ditch on top of the existing pipe that runs from the pond along with fill and topsoil to smooth the area. Joe Nolan asks Lucas why he did not notify the Board or Suzy dePeyster before going beyond the work that was agreed upon by the Selectboard. Joe continues to say a job that big needs to be put out to bid. Lucas states that he initially thought that a few loads of topsoil would smooth out the mowed area, but the area was in worse condition than expected. Charlie Pike states that the Board was told a couple loads of topsoil would be the only charges added to the completion of the Dry Hydrant job. Joe Nolan adds that when the dry hydrant was put in, the lawn was left in a mess that could not be mowed, but the Board did not realize that the damage left was so extensive. Lucas Pike asks the Selectboard how much they thought the topsoil job was going to cost. Joe Nolan answers that they thought between \$750-\$1500 a load or so. Lucas Pike states that the job took 3 loads of topsoil and the area that had to be filled was 9,200 feet, which means less than a half an inch of material on the whole thing. Lucas asks the Board to come up with an estimate they can agree on for the topsoil and the work done and he will submit the rest of the bill to Constance West. Suzy dePeyster asks Lucas if he had told Constance West that the job would cost around \$7,000. Lucas answers that they did not talk numbers. Suzy goes on to say that she has thought running a York rake across the area to remove some stones would work well enough, as the area dug was not in her lawn. Lucas states that the entire ditch and pipe were run down the lawn. He continues that if the pipe had been buried 10 foot the other way it would be in a field area that is bush hogged, according to the site map. Joe Nolan states that the design for the dry hydrant was done by an engineer from the state. Suzy says that she was told it would be put on the edge of the field. She continues that the project cost \$13,000 and the invoice Lucas has submitted for smoothing the area is half the entire cost. Lucas states that he did not create the problem that was on the lawn, he just fixed it. He continues that it should be expected that the town returns the lawn to the way it was before the hydrant was put in. Joe Nolan states that the Board will need some time to decide how to handle this bill and come to an agreement in 2 weeks when all members are present. Suzy mentions that the dry hydrant must be tested again since the head has been replaced.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Sandy Reidy presents the Treasurer's Report to the Board.

**ROAD REPORT:** The road crew submitted 2 weeks of detailed daily work. The report is available at the Town Hall to any interested citizens.

**REVIEW AUGUST 1, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. Karen Tendrup makes a motion to accept the minutes. John Phelps seconds. The minutes are approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectboard signed the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to adjourn. Charlie Pike seconds. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6 AT 6:00 AT THE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

# SANDGATE VERMONT BCA APPEAL MEETING MINUTES

## 9/6/2022

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 pm

**ATTENDANCE**: Joseph Nolan, John Phelps, Charles Pike, Karen Tendrup, Nancy Tschorn, Julie Robertson, Valerie dePeyster, Shelley Finn, Jeanne Zoppel, Sandra Reidy, John DeCristofaro and Chris DeCristofaro.

Joseph Nolan Nominates Julie Robertson as the Chair of the BCA meeting.

Valerie dePeyster seconds. All in favor.

Valerie dePeyster recuses herself as a Justice of the Peace in place of her position as a Lister for this Appeal.

The Members of the BCA swear in and sign the Oath of the BCA.

The Listers, Valerie dePeyster, Shelley Finn and Jeanne Zoppel are sworn in.

Julie Robertson states that the Listers may state their evidence for this appeal.

Jeanne Zoppel states that this evidence is in reference to parcel number 353500-00L, owned by the DeCristofaro Family Trust, it is a 20.04 acre parcel with a 1,148 square foot, 1 story dwelling located at 307 Gilberts Rd. The house contains 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, screened in porch and 194 square foot deck. The condition and quality listed as fair average. Prior to the town reappraisal the property was valued at \$147,500. The landowners have grieved the re-evaluation amount of \$200,800. It is Important to note that the water has increased from \$4,000 to \$5,000 and the sewer from \$5,000 to 10,000 for all properties. Included in a packet that has been handed out is the previous and current lister card for this property and 2 adjacent property lister cards for a comparison of the grade.

Julie asks the Listers to explain the comparisons of these properties. Shelley Finn explains that one of the major changes for the property in question is the grade. The 2 comparison cards are to show the grade change is similar to the adjacent properties. Jeanne Zoppel states that a grade rated 1 is average and the lowest grade rating in this town is .45 is less than an acre on the side of a cliff.

Julie asks the Listers what has been changed after the reappraisal. The Listers state the grade increased, a bedroom has been removed. Shelley Finn adds a last statement which is the Lister's do not assign the values, they only put the data in, the values are set by the state.

Julie Robertson swears in John DeCristofaro and Christine DeCristofaro. John DeCristofaro states that he believes the reappraisal was not valued on an equal footing. He refers to the Sandgate grievance report. He states that in tax year 21/22 they were assessed at \$147,500 and in 22/23 they have been reappraised at \$209,000 which is a \$61,500 increase or 39%. John states that they have done only necessary fixes to the home and property with no capital improvements.

Julie Robertson states that the BCA can assign an inspection committee made up of at least 3 board members. The committee can inspect the property, present to the board what was found and the BCA can come up with a decision. The property owners will contact the Town Clerk to set up a time and date for this inspection.

The BCA will call a purge of the voter list on a later date.

Julie Robertson makes a motion to adjourn. Nancy Tschorn seconds. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 6, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:01** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Linda Schmitt, Shelia Kearns, Lucas Pike and Minute Taker, Sandy Reidy.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Karen Tendrup said she was asked by a citizen why the Town Hall does not have evening hours. Sandy Reidy states that on October 1<sup>st</sup>, the property tax due date, the town hall is open from 8am-1pm and 3-5 pm to receive tax payments. The Town Clerk would be willing to set up an evening appointment for a citizen with business that cannot be conducted during regular daytime hours. Charlie adds that the Town Hall is also open at 6:00 every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.

OTHER BUSINESS: Joe explains to Lucas Pike that the Board needs to make a decision on what the town will pay him for smoothing out of the yard at the West's dry hydrant site. Joe states that he believes that a lot of the work done by Lucas was miscommunicated and beyond the scope of work requested. He suggests that the town pay Lucas half of the highest amount to be paid before having to put a job out to bid, which is \$3,500. Three of the Selectmen are in agreement with one nay. There is much discussion back and forth on this matter. Lucas explains that his material costs were \$3,328. John Phelps suggests the town split the total cost of the invoice from Lucas. Charlie makes a motion to give Lucas \$3,824 for the cost of materials and work performed on the cleanup of the dry hydrant on Tate Hill Rd. Karen seconds. All in favor.

**ROAD REPORT:** The 2004 dump truck has sold for \$7,000, which the Treasurer has put into the Road Equipment Fund. The Road Crew continues to rent 1 tandem truck. The Road Crew submitted 2 weeks of detailed daily work. This is available to any interested citizens at Town Hall.

**REVIEW AUGUST 15, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. Charlie makes a motion to approve the minutes. Karen Tendrup seconds. Minutes approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectmen sign orders.

**ADJOURN:** Charlie Pike makes a motion to adjourn. Karen Tendrup seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 AT 6:00 AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 19, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:02** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, Karen Tendrup. Also present: Linda Schmitt and Minute Taker, Sandy Reidy.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: John Grover has a concern with the ditching occurring on Woodcock Rd. He has lost access to 2 places on his property. He would like to have his access fixed so they can drive through as they had done before. The highway crew will put gravel to level all the ditches to the road level. Joe Nolan will speak to the Highway crew and let them know that John Grover requests a culvert to his access.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Sandy Reidy states that the Selectmen need to add the pay for Lucas Pike that was agreed upon at the last meeting. Joe Nolan states that we need to call another BCA meeting for a purge of the voter list. The Clerk will call the BCA members and come up with a date to schedule the meeting.

**ROAD REPORT:** The road crew turned in 2 weeks of work performed which is available at Town Hall for any interested citizens.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Treasurer turns in the Treasurer's report.

**REVIEW SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. John Phelps makes a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie Pike seconds. Minutes approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectmen sign the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Charlie Pike makes a motion to adjourn. Karen Tendrup seconds. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY OCTOBER 3, 2022 AT 6:00 IN THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

#### **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - OCTOBER 3, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:04** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Linda Schmitt, Julie Robertson, Elizabeth Daut, Jean Eisenhart, Sheila Kearns, John Grover and Minute Taker, Sandy Reidy.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: Julie Robertson has a concern about the unsightliness of the old mailbox stand at the end of Southeast Corners Rd. She mentions that it has been there for at least 40 years. Julie would like to see it cleaned up. Julie also expressed her concern about the litter on the side of the roads in Town. She states that the Town should make a stronger statement that we do not tolerate littering. She suggests the Town have signs and enforce a fine. Jean Eisenhart asks why there are political signs on the historic schoolhouse lawn. She would like them to be removed. Joe Nolan and Charlie Pike will remove the signs following the meeting. John Grover would like to see his firewood access have a culvert put in ASAP. He has had to hold off on getting firewood because he cannot get past the ditching that the road crew is working on. John mentions that he has a 12" culvert the crew may use to put in for his access. John also needs access to his gravel pile. John mentions that the road crew knocked out a property marker and a fence post. He would appreciate if all was put back the way it was. Joe Nolan says he spoke with the Road crew today and they will be finished ditching on the Woodcock Road tomorrow. Joe continues that the crew needs to finish hauling and dumping the riprap then they will get several loads of smaller stone to fill the ditches to road level. The stone will allow for plenty of drainage and the access available to the property owner. Joe asks John if he could put a ribbon where he thinks the property marker was. John said he did not know where it was but he may be able to ask his surveyor. Joe will ask the road crew if they will clear up these concerns. John Grover asks if he would be able to see the FEMA specs for the road, as he feels the work done is a little excessive. Joe states that he will ask the road crew for the given specs.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Julie Robertson states that the BCA only has 2 days to meet for deliberation for the DeCristofaro tax appeal. The meeting has been set for 6:00 on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The BCA will purge the voter checklist at this meeting also. Sandy Reidy states that she has received a letter of resignation from Shelley Finn to be in effect immediately. Shelley is resigning from a Lister position. It is up to the Selectboard to appoint someone for this position. Sandy Reidy states that Shelley

recommends the Town hire an appraiser from the NEMRC program. Shelley believes that the Listing position is becoming more complicated with a lot of extra work being added. The Selectboard would like to know the cost of using a NEMRC consultor. The Treasurer will look into this.

**ROAD REPORT:** Josh Carvajal has been asked to visit riverside sites where the large boulders at the bottom of Tudor Hill Road will be placed. The boulders will be used to reinforce the riverbank. The road crew turned in 2 weeks of work reports which are available at the Town hall for any interested citizens.

PLANNING COMMISSION/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Shelia presents the board with the final corrected version of the Town Plan and the BCRC review of the Town Plan. She states that the Selectboard must review the plan and then hold a public hearing. Shelia also proved a municipal planning tool that the Selectboard must review and sign off on. Shelia states that the timeline for the Selectboard to hold a Town Plan review would be between November 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>. Shelia states that in the Plan highlighted red areas represent additions or changes in the wording.

**REVIEW SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. Karen Dzialo makes a motion to approve the minutes. Joe Nolan seconds. All in favor. Minutes approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The total cost of painting the Town hall and fire house was \$17,580.76. The Selectmen sign the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Karen Tendrup makes a motion to adjourn. John Phelps seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY OCTOBER 17, 2022 AT 6:00 IN THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - OCTOBER 17, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:03** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike & Karen Tendrup. Also present: Joe Gervais, Susan Gervais, Linda Schmitt and notetaker, Sandy Reidy.

**CITIZENS CONCERNS:** Joe Gervais introduces himself as a running candidate for Vermont State Representative for our district. He states that he would like to give a voice to Sandgate, Sunderland and Arlington.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Joe states that the Road Crew does not have uniforms through the town and he would like to allot money for work clothes. Sandy, Treasurer, states that there is \$2,000 in the budget for uniforms. Joe makes a motion that the road crew receive \$400 each in the fall and the spring towards work clothes. Charlie Pike seconds. All in favor. Sandy states that the Road Crew had worked on October 10, Columbus Day. They wanted to know if they can take a rain check and use the hours worked on the holiday for another time. Karen Tendrup makes a motion that the road crew receive 8 hours for the holiday to use on a later date. Karen Dzialo seconds. All in favor.

**ROAD REPORT:** Joe states that the road crew are finishing up the FEMA projects while the weather is good. They have been adding gravel to all the ditching on various roads. Woodard Construction is hauling some gravel to save some time. They will move onto grading the roads before heavy frost. The road crew turned in 2 weeks of work performed which is available at town hall for any interested citizens.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Treasurer turns in the Treasurer's report. Karen Dzialo asks if we still use the Records Restoration Fund. Sandy states the State of Vermont requires that we charge for vault research time and put that money in that fund for future use.

**REVIEW OCTOBER 3, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. John Phelps makes a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie Pike seconds. Minutes approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectmen read and sign the orders.

ADJOURN: Joe Nolan motions to adjourn. Karen seconds. Meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY NOV 7, 2022 AT 6:00 IN THE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

#### **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - NOVEMBER 7, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00** 

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps & Charlie Pike. Also present: Elizabeth Daut, Linda Schmitt and minute taker, Sandy Reidy.

ACCESS PERMIT APPLICATIONS: Two access permits for Thomas Santelli Junior on Campbell Road and Brian Sherras on Rupert Road are reviewed by the board. Joe Nolan states the road crew said the Sherras access will have a culvert installed by Thomas Wilson, with no concerns. The Board reviews and approves and signs the Sherras permit application. The Board recommends that the Santelli access have water bars installed. The 4 Selectmen present approve and sign the Santelli access permit.

**CITIZENS CONCERNS:** A letter from Jose Guerra and Trisha Knake stating that they would like to call a BCA abatement meeting was read. The board asks that the applicants come to the next Selectboard meeting to ask them to identify the statutory abatement category that the abatement request is being made under, as stated in statue 24 V.S.A. § IS35(a)(I)-(9). Sandy Reidy will make contact.

**ROAD REPORT:** The Road Crew continues to haul gravel. They will grade the whole town through this week. They have hired Richard Zoppel to leaf blow the road sides. There has been an extension given on the FEMA River Banks Project and the Road Crew is finishing work this week. The Road Forman turned in 2 weeks of detailed work completed.

**REVIEW OCTOBER 17, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. Karen Dzialo makes a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie Pike seconds. Minutes approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The yearly appropriations are paid on these orders. The Selectmen read and sign the orders.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** John Phelps mentions that the dry hydrant by South East Corners Road is missing the cover. The Board will look into this.

**ADJOURN:** Joe Nolan makes a motion to adjourn. Charlie Pike seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2022 AT 6:00 IN THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## **SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - NOVEMBER 21, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 pm

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, and John Phelps. Also present: Richard Zoppel, Sheila Kearns, Linda Schmitt and minute taker, Sandy Reidy.

**ABATEMENT HEARING APPLICANT:** The applicants could not be present.

**CITIZENS CONCERNS:** Richard Zoppel suggests that the Town consider hiring a police officer to regulate the speeding. He says the roads are in excellent shape, which consequently causes some to speed. The Board will look into this matter and decide on a later date.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Sheila Kearns would like to appoint a co-commissioner for BCRC. She is currently holding the position as BCRC Commissioner. Sheila states she would like to appoint Richard Zoppel, who has attended BCRC meetings. John Phelps makes a motion to appoint Richard Zoppel as BCRC Co-Commissioner. Karen Dzialo seconds. All in favor. Richard Zoppel, Planning/Zoning Board Chair and Sheila Kearns, Zoning Administrator would like to send out a letter to the new property owners covering the costs and requirements for permits. The Board sets a date for Town Plan public meeting. Joe Nolan makes a motion to hold a public meeting for Monday, December 19, 2022 at 6:00 in the Sandgate Town Hall. John Phelps seconds. All in favor. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss any changes and additions to the Town Plan and vote on a final copy. John Phelps suggests that the Selectmen should think about appointing an Alternate to the Selectmen. The Selectmen will bring this matter up at a meeting with all the members present.

**ROAD REPORT:** The Road Crew turned in 2 weeks of completed work for the Board to review.

**REVIEW NOV 7, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. Minutes are approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectmen sign the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Joe Nolan makes a motion to adjourn. John Phelps seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY DECEMBER 5, 2022 AT 6:00 IN THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES – DECEMBER 5, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: 6:02 pm

ATTENDANCE: Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps and Karen Tendrup. Also

present: Elizabet Daut, Jim Henderson, Linda Schmitt and minute taker, Sandy Reidy.

**CITIZENS CONCERNS:** No citizen concerns.

OTHER BUSINESS: No other business.

**ROAD REPORT:** Jim Henderson speaks to the Board about the Town's FEMA projects. The culvert on Lincoln Lane and Chunks Brook are the last 2 projects to be completed. He has reviewed and signed off on all the temporary, completed and road embarkment FEMA projects. Jim will have a conference call with FEMA. Jim will find out when the Town will receive the grant money for these projects. Jim mentions a Better Back Roads grant project on Rupert Road. The Town of Rupert has also been awarded this grant, so the entirety of Rupert Road will be stone line ditched. The Road Crew turned in 2 weeks of completed work for the Board to review.

**BUDGET:** Treasurer Sandy Reidy hands out a report containing the budgeted and actual amounts for last year and a current amount for this year's budget. The Selectboard will review the General Fund budget and discuss with the Road Foreman about the Highway budget. The Proposed budget will be decided at another meeting.

**REVIEW NOV 21, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. John Phelps makes a motion to approve the minutes. Karen Dzialo seconds. Minutes approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectmen sign the orders.

ADJOURN: Joe Nolan makes a motion to adjourn. John Phelps seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY DECEMBER 19, 2022 AT 6:00 AT THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.

## SANDGATE VERMONT TOWN PLAN REVIEW AND SELECTBOARD MINUTES – DECEMBER 19, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 pm

**ATTENDANCE:** Board Members: Karen Dzialo, Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike and Karen Tendrup. Also present: Sheila Kearns, Callie Fishburn, John Lemay, Cindy Lemay, Linda Schmidt and minute taker, Sandy Reidy.

**TOWN PLAN REVIEW:** Zoning Administrator, Sheila Kearns states that the Draft Town Plan has 2 main additions to note, one being the energy section, which has been written to be compliant with the State's current energy standards and goals. Callie Fishburn from BCRC has helped write the Plan for the Town. A section on zoning, developing land and preserving of Forest Land has been updated. Sheila states that the way our zones are laid out and having a 25 acre minimum for Forest Land Zoning, has helped the Town remain with large areas of preserved Forest. Callie Fishburn states that the energy addition to the plan has a lot of data that the State collects for projected energy usages and the requirement of listing preferred sites for renewable energy projects in the future. Callie continues that the Enhanced Energy Act has allowed towns to have more control over where these sites are located. Karen Dzialo asks if the State monitors the energy usage in the Town. Callie Fishburn replies that the State does not monitor the Town, the data is simply a guide for the Town to encourage better energy usage in the future. She continues that the data is a bench mark and the State does not currently have any expectations that the Town has to achieve. The final addition to the Town Plan has to do with establishing a Village Center. Callie Fishburn adds that having a Village Center designation makes the Town eligible for certain tax credits. Joe Nolan asks if anyone present has any more questions or comments. No more comments or questions at the meeting. Karen Tendrup makes a motion that the Town Plan be approved and adopted as written and revised. Karen Dzailo seconds. All in favor. The Town Plan is posted on the Town's website.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: No citizen's concerns.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Karen Dzialo makes a motion that the Town use the Recovery Fund to purchase a generator for Town hall and repair the vault's heat and humidity. Karen Tendrup seconds. All in favor.

**ROAD REPORT:** Joe Nolan states that the Road Crew is very busy. The Road Crew has turned in 2 weeks of work documented.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer, Sandy Reidy presents the Treasurer's Report to the Board. Nothing to add.

**REVIEW DECEMBER 5, 2022 MINUTES:** The Board reviews the minutes. John Phelps makes a motion to approve the minutes. Karen Dzialo seconds. Minutes approved.

**SIGN ORDERS:** The Selectmen sign the orders.

**ADJOURN:** Joe Nolan makes a motion to adjourn. John Phelps seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7: pm.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL ON MONDAY JANUARY 2, 2023 AT 6:00 PM IN THE SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy.