

**GUILFORD SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
January 11, 201, 6:30 PM, Guilford Town Office

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**Selectboard Members Present:** Gabby Ciuffreda, Dick Clark, Sheila Morse (Chair), Troy Revis, Jr., Anne Rider

**Officials/Staff Members Present:** Katie Buckley (Town Administrator), Dan Zumbroski (Highway Foreman/ Road Commissioner)

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Recognition of Public** - Dan Ingold, Ian Kiehle (BCTV), Steve Lembke, Don McLean, Verandah Porche, Alice Revis, Mike Tkaczyk (Guilford Pitstoppers), Kathy Wilde-Clark
- III. There was a brief presentation to recognize the return of Katie Buckley as Guilford's Town Administrator. Verandah Porche, Poet and contributor to Vermont's cultural life, wrote a moving poem to celebrate Katie coming back to work for Guilford.
- IV. **New Additions**
  - a. Dick Clarks asked to add:
    1. "Public Comment" to the agenda as a regular item.
    2. Revisit the Emergency Management Director (EMD) position
- V. **Changes to Agenda Order**
- VI. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. December 28, 2015 – **ACTION:** Anne moved to accept the minutes as written. Troy seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
- VII. **Old Business**
  - a. Belogour Campground – Stony Hill Road – Project Update – The Belogour's were not able to attend this meeting. They will appear at a future meeting.
  - b. Solar Projects Update – Dan Ingold – 5 megawatt at WSWMD update. There are three 500kW projects: Kircheimer Drive, Blanchard Hill and John Seitz Drive (the latter two Dan is involved in). There will likely be a small system installed at Franklin Farm. We probably won't be seeing any additional larger projects because Green Mountain Power (GMP) has reached its net-metering cap. All three will likely net +/- \$7,000 in tax revenue for the Town. The possibility of the Town adding on to the Fire Department's installation using grant money is no longer possible because of the GMP cap.
  - c. EMD Office – Sheila addressed Dick to tell him that the Board had just spent the last 1.5 hours prior to this meeting discussing the FY17 budget (Dick was not present for this meeting); that meeting was warned, this meeting is not with regard to the EMD office. Additionally it was agreed at the end of the budget discussion on 1/7/16 that Sheila would talk with Ron Lenker, EMD, about his budget for next year; she has not had the chance yet to do this and would like to give him the courtesy of not discussing the matter on the record until she has spoken with him. She asked for a

motion to table the matter until the next budget work session on 1/14/16. Anne expressed that it would also give Ron the opportunity to be present if he chose to be. Dick was under the impression that the Board would eliminate the appointed office of the EMD in FY17. This is NOT the case. Discussion to clear up Dick's misconceptions ensued. **ACTION:** Anne moved to table this item. Troy seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried. Gabby reminded that all of the budget meetings are public meetings and thus open to the public. No decisions are made during these meetings, only discussion. **Note:** The Selectboard intends to adopt FY17 budgets to propose to the voters on Town Meetings Day during their 1/25/16 regular meeting.

## VIII. New Business

- a. Snowmobile Travel on Town Highways – Guilford Pitstoppers, Mike Tkaczyk – The Guilford Pitstoppers are requesting that the Selectboard open the a portion of Stage Road between the addresses of 228-422 Stage Road (792 feet), interconnecting from trail to trail. Additionally, there is a request to open from 2336 Sweet Pond Road leading to Abijah Prince Road and down Abijah Prince Road (.2 miles on Sweet Pond Road, .7 on Abijah Prince Rd.). The reason for the request is that there was a trail closure that limits the continuity of the VAST Trail system in these areas. This is not an uncommon request; it happens in many towns throughout the state. Snowmobiles have to follow all the same laws as motor vehicles on Town highways. The Pitstoppers will do all the postings as required by the Town and the State. **ACTION:** Anne moved to authorize the request by the Guilford Pitstoppers to allow snowmobile travel on the sections of Town Highways presented by Mike Tkaczyk. Troy seconded. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried. Mike stated that the Club would fund the cost of the signs.
- b. Filing the Annual 411 – Approval for 30-day Extension – **ACTION:** Anne moved to approve the Listers' 30-day extension request as presented. Dick seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
- c. Sports & Recreation Committee – Petition and creation of new Town Committee – Wendy Stone and Eric Jones presented information in support of forming the Sports & Recreation Committee and their petition to be added to the Town Meeting warning. The Article that is proposed to be included on the Town Meeting warning reads: “Shall the town vote to appropriate a sum of \$4,000 to the Guilford Sports & Recreation Commission.” Again suggestions were made to the group to contact members of the Guilford Recreation Club, since they already exist for this purpose. Katie also recommended contacting Ryan Squires, a former Athletic Director for the Guilford Central School. A lengthy discussion followed. NO ACTION taken during this meeting.
- d. Town Report
  - i. Discuss ceasing town-wide mailing in 2017 – There was a discussion about whether or not it makes sense to stop mailing the Town Report to all voters. Vermont law does not require mailing reports unless the Town uses it to publish its Town Meeting warning instead of the newspaper. Printed copies will still be available to be mailed only to those who request this. Copies will also be available in the Town Office and other

locations, if people want to have a paper copy. The Town Report (a downloadable pdf) is posted on the homepage of the Town's website every year once it is ready and remains there until Town Meeting Day. After, is it moved to:

[http://www.guilfordvt.net/index.asp?SEC=CEB7015F-8563-424C-9FB3-ACC0C8E2FEAB&DE=31B008E3-14E4-462B-AFCB-BAECF33A8700&Type=B\\_BASIC](http://www.guilfordvt.net/index.asp?SEC=CEB7015F-8563-424C-9FB3-ACC0C8E2FEAB&DE=31B008E3-14E4-462B-AFCB-BAECF33A8700&Type=B_BASIC)

Guilford has published the warning in the Reformer every year since 2009. Ian Kiehle shared that Vernon just voted to not mail Town Reports any more. **ACTION:** Anne moved that as of 2017 (**next year NOT this year**) that the Town of Guilford ceases town-wide mailing of the Town Report. Gabby seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried. An Article will be included on the Town Meeting warning asking voters to support the Board's wishes. The Article will read "Shall the town provide notice of the availability of the annual report by publishing notice in the Brattleboro *Reformer* or other newspaper of general circulation in the town at least 30 days before the annual meeting in lieu of mailing or otherwise distributing the report to the voters of town pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1682?"

The Town Report will continue to be mailed to anyone who wants it upon request. An aggressive, yearlong, public awareness campaign will take place to support this action to notify all voters.

- ii. Discuss ways of publicizing this over the next year: use this year's Town Report, Town Meeting Day, Front Porch Forum, Gazette, inserts in Tax bills, etc.
- e. Policy creation – Submitting for Paid Time –NO ACTION. This item was tabled.
- f. Public Comment: Kathy Wilde-Clark challenged the Selectboard regarding the Town Administrator search process, decision to hire, terms and salary, as she had done in an earlier meeting. Selectboard members' responses regarding the legality and veracity of the claims echoed earlier responses.

## IX. Discussion/Updates

- a. Green River Covered Bridge Rehabilitation Project – The construction portion of the Green River Covered Bridge project went out to bid on January 6, 2016. It was sent directly to eight (8) contractors with experience in covered bridge projects; all are on VTrans' approved list of contractors. The Town also issued a request for proposals (RFP) for construction inspection services on January 11, 2016; this is a requirement of the Transportation Alternatives funding based on the contract amount (in excess of \$250,000). Both are due Monday, February 8, 2016 and are posted on the homepage of the Town's website ([www.guilfordvt.net](http://www.guilfordvt.net)), under "Announcements."

## X. Highway

- a. This has been a mild winter and we have not used much material.
- b. The new truck should be here soon.

**XI. Finance**

a. Warrants

Payroll – WE 1/3/2016	\$ 5,404.91
Payroll – WE 1/10/16	\$ 5,156.58
Expenses #1613	\$ 7,142.12
Expenses #13A	\$ 250.73
<u>Expenses #13DP</u>	<u>\$ 156.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 18,110.34

Gabby moved to pay the Payroll and Expense warrants as presented. Anne seconded. All were in favor. No abstentions. None opposed. Motion carried.

**XII. Communications**

- a. Letter, 12/22/2015 – State of VT Financial Operations – FEMA 4022-DR-VT - Payment of \$239.57 for outstanding large projects
- b. Cover letter & supporting docs, 12/23/2015 - Soveren Solar – 500kW net-metered solar facility 159 Kircheimer Drive, Guilford
- c. VLCT News January 2016
- d. Thank you card, 12/31/15 – BDCC, Laura Sibilia, Alex Beck, R.T. Hamilton Brown

**XIII. Executive Session - none**

**XIV. Adjournment** - Anne, moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. Dick seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

The next Guilford Selectboard Meeting will take place Monday, January 25, 2016, 6:30 PM at the Guilford Town Office. All meetings are open to the public – we welcome and encourage you to come!

	Sheila Morse, Chair
	Gabby Ciuffreda
	Richard J. Clark
	Troy Revis, Jr.
	Anne Rider