

## GUILFORD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 14, 2016, 6:30 pm 236 School Road, Guilford, VT

**Selectboard Members Present:** Gabrielle Ciuffreda, Dick Clark, Gordon Little, Sheila Morse (Chair), Troy Revis (co-chair; served as chair for this meeting)

**Officials/Staff Members Present** None

- I. Call to Order at 6:30 PM
- II. Recognition of Public—Ian Kiehle (BCTV), Lt. Timothy Oliver (VSP), Ralph Meima (GLC), Rob Hinrichs, Don Spencer (Ruck Up)
- III. Rules of Procedure
- IV. New Additions – Don Spencer, new business
- V. Changes to Agenda Order
- VI. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Special Meeting – October 24, 2016 **ACTION:** Dick moved to accept the minutes as written; Gordon seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
  - b. Regular Meeting - October 24, 2016 **ACTION:** Dick moved to accept the minutes as written; Gordon seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
  - c. Special Meeting – November 7, 2016 **ACTION:** Gabby moved to accept the minutes with the amendment explaining that she had abstained because she had not had the opportunity to meet Peder Rude. Sheila seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
- VII. New Business
  - a. Boot Drop – Doug Spencer of Ruck Up, Veteran’s Outreach Center. Doug expressed appreciation to the Town of Guilford for supporting the boot drop collection that helps fund the organization’s efforts to assist local veterans with support, counseling, and advocacy in the area. This year’s boot drop earned about \$1800, a significant amount given that the organization is non-profit. The Selectboard expressed appreciation to Don.
  - b. Law Enforcement Contract – Lt. Timothy Oliver, VSP – Sheila noted that in the past months the Selectboard changed its policing contract from the Windham County Sheriff Department to the Vermont State Police. In addition, the board heard concerns expressed about speeding on Guilford Center Road. Lt. Oliver advised the Board on VSP activities from July through October: Brattleboro and Rockingham offices have been consolidated into one barracks, in Westminster; our contract is in force; patrols have been assigned based on complaints about problem areas. There were no speeding tickets in August; there were 2 in September and 2 in October. Lt. Oliver did not have the July data with him. He said the VSP has “smart speed carts” which collect information that can be downloaded and used to deploy resources appropriately, and indicated that Guilford could be at the top of the list for using this sign. There was some discussion among the Board as to who had authorized secure placement of the sign on their property. Lt. Oliver mentioned that he is retiring in three months and will introduce his replacement in the next meeting or so. **ACTION:** The Selectboard will follow up with Oliver on deployment of smart speed signs and of trooper monitoring location and timing. Troy thanked Lt. Oliver for participating in the meeting.

- c. GLC Powersmith Margery C. Evans, Green Lantern Capital 252 kW solar project – Ralph Meima –
- i. Ralph re-introduced the second Evans farm project, explaining that it was being resuscitated after a long hiatus where the firm was focusing on other projects. Notice to abutters and potential interested parties was issued on 11.4.16, advising that a Certificate of Public Good will be filed with the Public Service Board on or about 12.19.16.
  - ii. This project will be a community solar array, as opposed to an investor array. Ralph stated that this is not their common business model although Soveren has been successful with it, as others have been around the area. GLC is planning to sell panels to individuals who will then benefit from 100% of the tax credits as well as the net metering opportunities. The cost per panel has not yet been determined, but it might be about \$4/watt, with one panel costing about \$1200. GLC will not build this array if the entire project is not subscribed in advance; Ralph feels there will be sufficient interest. This project is about 50% of the size of the Tinker Hill project (a \$2M project); this will be about a \$1M project with 972 panels.
  - iii. Dick asked about putting solar arrays on agricultural land; Ralph says that the arrays are put on land that landowners permit. Dick, along with other Board members, indicated that we are not opposed to solar projects per se, but that we are concerned about the impact now that we have some experience.
  - iv. The aesthetics of the project came under considerable questioning, given the Town's experience with two recently installed arrays. Despite project managers' assurances that there would be no adverse effects, residents have expressed a fair amount of concern about ruined views, raw-looking installations, and the general attractiveness of the Town. GLC is trying to figure out the aesthetics. Their project will be somewhat visible, but they plan to include an aesthetic study in their application to be able to provide more information at a later date. In answer to Rob Hinrich's question about placement, Ralph says there will be some cutting of white pines, and noted that GLC routinely put up rows of screening trees, bushes, etc. Rob stated that Sheila recapped his concerns well and asked that GLC be very careful about aesthetics of the array. Troy agreed.
  - v. Gordon and Sheila raised concerns about decommissioning, asking what happens with different panels being owned by individuals. Ralph stated that the panels are guaranteed for 25 years but could be used for +/- 10 years longer and that the array is owned by an LLC that is set up to make sure it's operating as intended, and to decommission per terms of contract.
  - vi. Ralph advised that the PSB is about to issue new rules that define net metering, impact CPG applications, define interested or substantial parties, etc., effective 1.1.2017. The GLC project predates the new rules and thus is not required to meet new rule requirements.
  - vii. Gabby indicated that the SB needs to treat all solar projects fairly.
  - viii. On behalf of the Planning Commission, Sheila invited Ralph to their next meeting, 11.21.16. Ralph is not available then, but would be happy to come to their December meeting.
- d. Radiological Emergency Preparedness Sub-grant – Sheila Morse described the grant opportunity afforded by the VT Department of Public Safety and the DEMHS. The goal is to transition to an all-hazard preparedness which will enhance the preparedness of the EPZ towns to deal with radiologic hazards. This is a reimbursement grant for up to \$15,000 per year for FY 2017, 2018, and 2019. The grant is due 11/18. She has worked with the GVFD on the grant proposal. Dick talked about the necessity of providing an ongoing stipend for an EMD.

**ACTION:** Dick moved to authorize Sheila to sign the grant application. Gabby seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

### VIII. Old Business

- a. Town Administrator – Sheila Morse -- Sheila reviewed the posting, recruitment, screening, and selection process. She thanked Gordon, Dick, and Anne Rider for serving on the search committee and discussed the mistake of the Board in making a non-binding vote at the Special Board Meeting on 11/7/2016. Dick Clark moved that we hire Peder Rude as Town Administrator, effective 11/15/2016. Gordon seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
- b. WSWMD FY18 Budget – Sheila Morse – Sheila reported on the budget votes at the WSWMD 11.10.16 Board of Supervisor meetings. Basically, the options presented in the letter to Selectboards in October (undated) were ignored and there was an about face: the Board voted 15 – 9 in favor of existing operations, with MRF, and a 20% surcharge to transfer station towns, an option that was presented for consideration at the meeting. The implication of this vote is that Guilford's assessment will increase to close to \$29,000. This vote is not the final budget. The Board of Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing 12/6/16 at Old Ferry Road at 5:00 pm. Troy suggested that we look at how to pull out of the district; all agreed. Gabby supported the study of assessing the impact of pulling out on the town's taxes.

### IX. Discussion/Updates

- a. New benches – Sheila Morse – Sheila thanked Doug Hunt for constructing two benches from old boards recovered from the GRCB. The benches are outside the entrance to the Town Office.
- b. 2017 VLCT Municipal Policy (as adopted by VLCT) – Dick reminded the Board about VLCT municipal policies adopted at the annual meeting. These policies guide the VLCT approach to the new legislature for the coming legislative year. The Guiding Principles can be found at: [http://www.vlct.org/assets/Advocacy/Legislative\\_Platform/2017-Municipal-Policy-final-web.pdf](http://www.vlct.org/assets/Advocacy/Legislative_Platform/2017-Municipal-Policy-final-web.pdf)  
Also, Dick mentioned that Jim Barlow is available to discuss Open Meeting law to a meeting of Guilford Commissions, elected officials, and others interested, if we convene a sufficiently large number of participants.
- c. Highway Ordinance – Gabby Ciuffreda, Dick Clark – the Board discussed the need to complete this project. Although it is not time-sensitive, completion will accomplish two goals: being responsive to resident concerns and facilitating enforcement of traffic violation tickets. Sheila is to provide Gabby with any materials on ordinances she can find on the Town server.
- d. Resolution for VCDP Grant Application Authority – Katie had asked that those board members who were at the 10/24/16 public hearing and agreed that the Town would serve as the applicant authority to sign the authorization.
- e. FY18 Budget Work Session Schedule  
November 28, 2016 – 5:30 – 6:30 PM  
December 12, 2016 – 5:00-6:30 PM  
January 9, 2017 – 5:00 to 6:30 PM  
January 23, 2017 – 5:00 to 6:30 PM

### X. Highway

- a. General Update NONE  
Guilford-Vernon Town Line, Lowry Road TH-36/TH-8 – Sheila Morse -- VTrans advised the town of its intent to reassign .18 mile from Vernon to Guilford, pending approval of the Board.

Gordon moved to reapprove the reassignment. Gabby seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

b. Excess Weight Permits - NONE

**XI. Finance**

a. Warrants

Payroll – WE 10/30/16	\$ 10,080.27
Payroll – WE 11/06/16	\$ 5,873.19
Payroll – WE 11/13/16	\$ 5,654.26
Expense Warrant #1709	\$ 23,535.65
Expense Warrant #DP09	\$ 98.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 45,241.87</b>

Gabby moved that we pay the above expenses. Sheila seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

**XII. Communications**

- a. AIDS Project of Southern Vermont – Thank you
- b. Notice of Intent to Close Guilford Country Estates MHP
- c. Wastewater Permits – WW-2-2270, WW-2-21052-2R

**XIII. Executive Session – Personnel Matter**

Sheila moved that the Board enter Executive Session at 7:56 PM. Dick seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

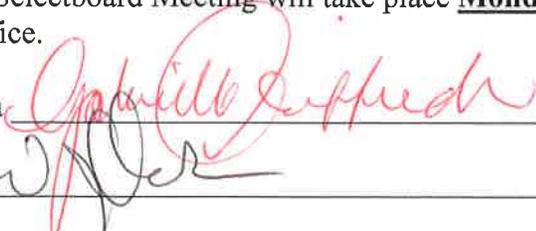
The members exited Executive Session at 8:13 PM.

Gabby moved that the Board acknowledge Jeremiah Sund’s excellent annual performance review; thank him for his hard work, dedication, and commitment to this Town; appreciate his professional growth and accomplishments in the 17 months since he was hired as Assessor Clerk; and to increase his compensation to \$20 per hour effective immediately. Gordon seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Gabby moved to adjourn the meeting. Gordon seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.

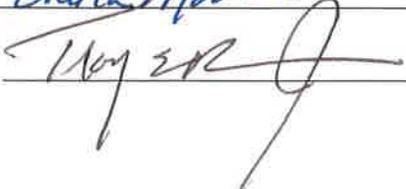
The next Guilford Selectboard Meeting will take place **Monday, November 28, 2016 at 6:30 PM** at the Guilford Town Office.

Gabrielle Ciuffreda  \_\_\_\_\_

Dick Clark  \_\_\_\_\_

Gordon Little \_\_\_\_\_

Sheila Morse (Chair)  \_\_\_\_\_

Troy Revis (Co-Chair)  \_\_\_\_\_