

DRAFT - MINUTES
GUILFORD SELECTBOARD
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M.
GUILFORD TOWN OFFICE

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

Town Officials and Staff Present: Anne Rider (Chair), Sheila Morse, Dick Clark, Gabrielle Ciuffreda, Troy Revis, Jr. – Selectboard; Dan Zumbroski – Road Commissioner; Rebecca Stone – Town Administrator.

Others Present: Bill Murray, Shaun Murphy, Gordon Little, Dan Ingold, Steve Lembke, Barry Aleshnick; Cor Trowbridge, Wendy Mason, Ian Kiehle - BCTV

III. NEW ADDITIONS

None

IV. CHANGES TO AGENDA ORDER

None

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Troy made a motion to approve minutes of May 27, 2015 meeting as presented. Sheila seconded the motion. Unanimous. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

BCTV Strategic Planning – Cor Trowbridge, Executive Director: Cor explained that Brattleboro Community Television, as a public access television station, is requesting feedback from community leaders about BCTV's service, what they do well, and what more could they be doing. She also noted that BCTV is undergoing contract renewal with cable providers. A survey was circulated to attendees to obtain their feedback on BCTV services. A video presentation of the many programs captured by BCTV was shown. Some members of the audience asked about coverage of certain events and the Director noted that specifics of the event would be needed in order to determine coverage and any associated costs. Selectboard members thanked BCTV staff for their efforts. A reminder that completed surveys can be turned in to the Town Office or to BCTV.

The survey can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ComtyLeader>

Proposed Solar Projects

The Selectboard has received correspondence from companies proposing solar projects in the town of Guilford. These projects will go before the Vermont Public Service Board for approval in July. As part of the process the companies are requesting comments or questions and have offered to meet with town officials. The proposed projects are:

- Soveren, Inc. – Vermont Community Solar Project. Proposed location: 159 Kirchheimer Drive, Guilford. Seeking approval to build and operate a 500 kW solar electric generation facility
- GLC Powersmith Solar, LLC. Proposed location: 120 Tinker Hill Road, Guilford. Seeking approval to build and operate a 500kW photovoltaic group net-metering facility
- Soveren Solar. Proposed location: 708 Guilford Center Rd, Guilford. Seeking approval to build and operate a 150kw community solar system

Bill Murray, representative to Windham Regional Commission, attended a Project Review meeting of the WRC last week and provided a summary of the proposed solar projects that have been submitted to the town and to

WRC. WRC viewed the projects in relation to their regional impact and is in favor of the projects. Bill offered that the biggest implication is tax ramifications, noting the town may realize tax fees based on energy taxes and property values. Inquiries and comments from Selectboard members in relation to the Town Plan and time span of the usefulness of the solar panels were expressed. The Selectboard is in favor of meeting with company representatives. Town Administrator to schedule.

Guilford Fire Station Solar Panels – Dan Ingold: Dan informed the Selectboard that there is space available for the town to tie into the existing solar panel system on the Guilford Fire Station. He indicated the Fire Department is realizing savings of nearly \$200 a month. Discussed cost sharing and grants that may be available to allow other town departments to tie into the system. Dick made a motion to indicate to the Trustees of the Guilford Fire Department that the Selectboard is interested in having the Trustees pursue researching the costs to the town of utilizing solar panels for other town departments. Sheila seconded. Unanimous. Motion carried. Dan to follow up with the Trustees.

Certify FY16 Wage Adjustments: Anne indicated that wage adjustments need to be certified to the Town Treasurer on an annual basis. Sheila made a motion to approve a 3% wage adjustment, effective July 1, 2015. Troy seconded. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Town Plan Public Hearing Date: Anne announced that a Public Hearing date is set for June 22, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Office to review the Town Plan. Concerns raised at the last Selectboard meeting about language within the proposed Town Plan. Selectboard indicated they are responsible for town employees but not elected officials. Selectboard in favor of removing the evaluation mechanism language section in the proposed plan. It was noted that these are minor changes the Selectboard is making. The current Town Plan expires June 30, 2015. Sheila will follow up with Planning Commission and remove the section as discussed. Steve Lembke offered that there are mechanisms already in place through the election process in terms of governing elected officials.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Green River Covered Bridge Update: Anne announced that the categorical exclusion has been approved and that the 4(f) review was not necessary. Troy made a motion to send letters to area legislators who were instrumental in helping to secure funding. Dick seconded. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motor Vehicles on Melendy Hill Road Property: Barry Aleshnick indicated he feels he has met the safety and liability issues raised by a neighbor. He is in the process of removing vehicles and has put up privacy fences. Anne said that this is really an issue that needs to go through the Agency of Natural Resources as they have the oversight, not the Selectboard. The Selectboard responded to a letter of complaint initially. Sheila commented that the improvements Barry has made are good. Selectboard thanked Barry for taking the time to come in and addressing the concerns.

Bylaws, Ordinances & Policies: Selectboard will plan to review the Highway and Traffic ordinances at their July 27th meeting. Dan has reviewed the Highway and Traffic ordinances and indicated that some of the dangerous intersection signs need to be changed to warnings. Dan has maps that he will bring in next month. In an effort to update the Town website, the unsigned ordinances that are posted on the website will be provided to the Selectboard.

VIII. HIGHWAY

General Update: Dan provided a tour of town roads to the newest Selectboard members. Road crew is busy grading roads. Dan commented on how dry the roads continue to be despite recent rainfall. Culvert replacement will begin in various areas of town once school is out. Dan indicated a culvert on Weatherhead Hollow Road will be replaced which will require closing the road for a few hours. Dan will provide advance notice to the Selectboard when he determines the schedule.

IX. FINANCE

Payroll & Expense Warrants

Warrants:

○ PR 05/31/2015	\$ 4,653.43
○ PR 06/07/2015	<u>\$ 5,431.61</u>
Subtotal	\$10,085.04
○ Warrant #22	\$11,000.05
○ Warrant #22 DP	<u>\$ 57.00</u>
Total	\$21,142.09

Troy made a motion to approve warrants as presented. Sheila seconded. Unanimous. Motion carried.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

- Request for Information on Trash & Recycling: Selectboard has received several inquiries in the past few weeks about trash and recycling. Local haulers began notifying residents a few months ago about the changes effective July 1st. Town Administrator will post the recycling law updates on website.
- Cota & Cota, Inc. propane agreement: Selectboard discussed options and are in favor of seeking bids for all town buildings. Cota & Cota agreement not signed. Town Administrator to seek bids.
- Windham County Sheriff's Office – FY 16 Contract: New agreement shows an increase of \$608.00, a 15% increase from FY15. Sheriff Keith Clark has requested time to meet with Selectboard if they wish to discuss the increase. Town Administrator to schedule.
- Forestry and Natural Resource Atlas Training Session – June 10th at Guilford Town Office – hosted by Guilford's Planning and Conservation Commissions, begins at 7:00 p.m.
- Windham Regional Commission 50th Anniversary Celebration – June 23rd
- Windham Regional Commission Project Review Committee Meeting – June 2nd
- Windham Regional Commission Pre-Disaster and Flood Mitigation grant programs available
- Vermont Department of Taxes – Clean Water Surcharge on Property Transfers
- VT Commissioner of Health – Acknowledgement of appointment of Town Health Officer & Deputy Health Officer. Anne shared that Richard Davis and Joy Hayes are following up on issues.
- VLCT June Newsletter
- VLCT Legislative Wrap-Up
- VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation – List of Planned Stewardship Activities in Guilford
- Guilford Conservation Commission: Gabby reported that the Commission has applied for a state grant for Weeks Forest and received \$500 for development of trail system. Discussed mapping of natural resources. Selectboard in favor.
- RERP Grant: Town Treasurer clarified that the fund balance does not roll over and that the grant cannot be used for the training proposed by the Emergency Management Director based on state guidelines. Discussed other sources of funding through Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
- Green River Covered Bridge updates: Steve Lembke stated that having Gabby relay the information to the list serve has been a huge plus

Troy made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. Dick seconded. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Anne Rider, Chair

Sheila Morse

Richard Clark

Gabrielle Ciuffreda

Troy Revis, Jr.