

Town of Danville
Selectboard Minutes
Public Informational Pre-Town Meeting
February 21, 2023
Danville Town Hall (7:00 pm)

Board Members Present: Ken Linsley, Peter Griffin, Janice Ouellette, and Eric Bach

Board Members Using Microsoft Teams: Kellie Merrell

Others Present: Audrey DeProspero, Clayton Cargill, Melissa Conly, Molly Gleason, Tim Sanborn, Mark Tucker, Wendy Somers, Gary Fontaine, Barb Fontaine and Glenn Herrin

Meeting called to order by Chair Eric Bach at 7:32 pm.

1. Public Informational Pre-Town Meeting – TOWN

Budget

Gary Fontaine inquired if the Town was expanding the road crew.

Eric Bach noted yes.

Eric Bach discussed the Highway budget:

- 9% increase.
- Pay matrix developed for the Highway Crew. The hope is by doing such it will retain employees.
- They have budgeted for an additional person on the Highway Department which will allow employees to take vacation time during winter months. The additional person will give flexibility to the department as it will allow folks to take vacation time during the summer which is their busiest season. Being short staffed does not allow the department to run smoothly.

Barb Fontaine inquired if another truck would be needed for the additional man.

Eric Bach noted they could use other pieces of equipment. Everyone will have a piece of equipment to run.

Barb Fontaine inquired if it was cheaper for the Town to haul sand or to have it brought to us.

Eric Bach noted there was no significant savings by having someone else haul it. They have looked at this previously and found no real benefit.

- The Highway budget has the most changes.
- A pay matrix will be developed for the other employees of Town Hall. This will help the Town become a more competitive employer.
- Road crew longevity discussed.
- Highway budget for years 2023 and 2024 still have the \$94,000 payment for Peacham Road.
- Equipment trimmed back. The road side mower removed. Town use to partner with St. J but now will partner with Ryegate. Ryegate has closer road mileage to Danville.
- New purchase will be a roller which packs down the dirt on the roads to prevent washouts.

Gary Fontaine inquired if there was a new truck coming.

Eric Bach noted yes, they are just waiting on its arrival.

- Safety grants received for gate guards and back up camera on town trucks.

General Budget

Eric Bach noted there was not much difference.

Wendy Somers noted the General budget was down but the Highway budget was up however it is flat lined between the two.

Eric Bach noted fuel for the Highway Department had increased and the Fire Department was putting money into the Capitol Equipment fund but they were not getting a truck this year. The Fire Department is working on applying for grants for equipment.

Introduction of Candidates

Selectboard has three open seats: two 1-year terms and one 3-year term.

Ken Linsley is not running so his three-year seat is open.

Jan Ouellette is running again and for the three-year open seat.

Kellie Merrell is not running so there is a one-year seat open.

Glenn Herrin introduced himself and discussed his background: on the Planning Commission since 2016, Emergency Management Coordinator for Town, moved to Danville in 2015, grew up in Vermont all his life and is running for the one year seat.

Peter Griffin noted he has two more years left on his three-year term. Peter Griffin was on the Selectboard for a one-year term and then ran for the three-year term.

Eric Bach noted his term was not up.

2. Any Other Business that legally comes before the Board

3. Adjourn - Motion by Ken Linsley, 2nd by Peter Griffin to adjourn at 8:00 pm. All in favor.

Minutes taken by Audrey DeProspero submitted February 22, 2023 at 11:13 am.