

TOWN OF ANDOVER
SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2024

Select Board Members Present: Chris Plumb, Richard Griswold, Robin Trask, Susan Leader & Melissa Gates-Perry

Select Board Members Absent: None

Public present: Wes Williams, Scott Kendall, Sarah Bennett of *Okemo Valley TV*, & Jeanette Haight, clerk.

1. Call Select Board meeting to order: Chris Plumb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Act on Agenda: Richard moved to amend the agenda to include the STR vote, the GMUSD, and the Town Treasurer position. Susan seconded. So moved.

3. Act on Minutes: Melissa moved to accept the minutes as written. Robin seconded. So moved.

4. Public Comment: None

5. New Business:

A. Organization of the Board – Robin nominated Chris Plumb to be Chair of the Board. Richard seconded. So moved. Robin nominated Richard Griswold to be Vice Chair of the Board. Susan seconded. So moved.

B. Annual Appointments – Chris moved to reappoint the candidates as listed on page 8 of the Town Report, with the exception of the Emergency Management Coordinator. Lucas Trask did not wish to continue in that role, so Gene Pategas was nominated. Richard seconded. So moved.

C. Lister Update – Jonathan Stevens was present to go over trainings he has participated in the past year, Lister work that is currently being done, upcoming deadlines, and confirmed that NEMRC still plans to begin their initial work on a reappraisal in July.

D. GMUSD – Wes Williams was present to express his concern with lack of opportunities at Green Mountain High School and ask about Andover having school choice. He expressed his desire for more options for his children and said he is working with Scott to figure out if Andover has options (other than being in the GMUSD). His specific request to the Board was that when he determines what information he and Scott may need, that the Board request it of the TRSU because they won't provide it to individuals. Scott said there will be a dual Board meeting on March 28th in Ludlow with State reps from all the towns and he encouraged everyone to attend. There is also a restructuring meeting on March 14th.

E. STR vote – with the article being defeated, Robin said she would like to take a "wait & see" approach. Richard said Andover shouldn't be compared to Londonderry as they are very different and didn't see Andover taking the same path as Londonderry. Chris said the State regulations should be looked over to see if there is anything the Town actually needs to do. Melissa said with the article defeated, she moved to wait and see what the State comes up with (in terms of any rules). Susan seconded. So moved.

F. Town Treasurer position – Robin said given the financial difficulties the Town has faced this year from flood repairs, she wondered if it is risky to have the Treasurer position continue to be elected (rather than appointed). Susan said she would want it to remain an elected position. Jeanette suggested it might be prudent to ask the voters to change it to a three-year position. Richard moved to take it to the voters at the very next public vote. Melissa seconded. So moved.

6. Highways / Garage:

A. Road Commissioner's report – Charlie has been looking at new trucks to replace the 10-wheeler. He thought he found one but it wasn't quite what the guys wanted so they are going to keep looking into a variety of brands. Chris said they should be able to get \$50-60K for a trade-in and that would be the first year's payment.

7. Old Business:

A. FEMA/financial update – Jeanette shared that \$55K has just been received from FEMA for Category B and Middletown Road flood repairs. She expects to have \$257K in the next couple of weeks for Weston Andover Road. There is enough money to completely pay taxes to the school district.

8. Financial Orders: Were signed.

9. Correspondence – a letter was received from the solid waste district asking the Board to appoint or re-appoint a representative. Joe Fromberger was reappointed as part of the "annual appointments" process under New Business.

10. Adjourn: Richard moved to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Melissa seconded. So moved.

Respectfully submitted, <hr/> Jeanette Haight, Clerk of the Board SBM 031124.min		Approved by: Chris Plumb, Chair <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> Andover Select Board
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