



Town of Huntington Selectboard Meeting

Monday, January 22, 2018

6:30 pm – Special Selectboard Meeting, Town Office (lower level)

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

<p>Agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public Comment ● Town Meeting Articles ● Committees & Correspondence: Energy Committee Appointments ● Other / New Business
<p>Selectboard Attendees Others Present Staff Present</p>	<p>Dori Barton (Chair), Andrew Hendrickson, Roman Livak, Dan Rissacher, Nancy Stoddard (Vice-Chair) Ruth Blodgett, Jim Christiansen, Ross Ogilvie, Heidi Racht Barbara Elliott (Town Administrator)</p>
<p>Call to Order</p>	<p>Dori Barton called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p><u>Conflict of Interest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jim Christiansen explained to the Selectboard that he was attending the meeting because he did not feel the unapproved minutes of the Selectboard's 1/15/2018 meeting sufficiently responded to his continued inquiries regarding conflict of interest. Those minutes indicated that the Selectboard reviewed and discussed Christiansen's email inquiries and confirmed that the Selectboard members do not believe there was a conflict of interest related to the Gillett Pond dam restoration application for Conservation Funds, and that no further action on the matter was warranted. ● Christiansen directed questions to the Chair regarding her involvement with wetlands delineation at Gillett Pond. Barton reiterated comments she made at previous Selectboard meetings that she has repeatedly volunteered wetlands delineation services for a number of projects in town, including Gillett Pond, and that she does not believe she has a conflict of interest regarding the Conservation Fund application for dam restoration. ● After continued questioning of Barton by Christiansen, Elliott reminded the Selectboard that according to previous consultation with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, the Selectboard is under no legal obligation to respond to these types of demands from members of the public. ● It was further noted that the Selectboard regards the question of conflict of interest as having been repeatedly and sufficiently answered by the Selectboard.
<p>Committees & Correspondence</p>	<p><u>Energy Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MOTION FOR APPOINTMENTS: Livak moved and Stoddard seconded

	meeting. Those 2 members may also participate in a conference call with the VLCT attorney regarding next steps.
<p>Other / New Business</p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to add citizen involvement to Strategic Planning agenda</i></p> <p>WARRANT SIGNATURES</p>	<p><u>Volunteerism on Town Boards & Committees</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livak noted that he has heard from some residents that they have a reluctance to volunteer on Town boards or committees because controversy over decisions made or positions taken while serving may have a negative impact on their business. This, and similar concerns, had been voiced to other Selectboard members. It was also noted that some people feel that their voices are not heard when they are serving on boards or committees. • Barton noted that, as individuals, Selectboard members can take advantage of listening opportunities when they are in the public without violating Open Meeting Laws. • The Selectboard decided to add the issue of citizen involvement in our Town to the agenda for the Spring Strategic Planning Session. <p><u>Energy Coordinator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ogilvie said he would like to have a dialogue about what the Selectboard's priorities are for the Energy Coordinator position. • Barton stated that the Selectboard is not invested in, nor did they initiate, having the Energy Coordinator position filled. She encourages the committee to discuss possible redundancy in having both an Energy Committee and an Energy Coordinator – and to determine whether or not there is a need for the position. It was agreed that the first step would be for HEC to discuss whether there is a need for the position and if so, what the role would be. After reviewing that with the Selectboard, if it is agreed that the position is needed, HEC would then discuss who should fill the position. • Barton also expressed excitement about the work the HEC is doing. <p><u>Warrants</u></p> <p>3 warrants were signed as presented.</p>
MOTION: ADJOURNMENT <i>(passed)</i>	<u>MOTION:</u> Livak moved and Hendrickson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Passed unanimously with 5 members present and voting.
	<p>01/22/18– Meeting date</p> <p>01/24/18 – Draft/unapproved minutes distributed and posted on website.</p> <p>02/05/18 – Final/approved minutes approved</p> <p>02/06/18 – Approved minutes to Town Clerk for recording & web posting</p>