

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES

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Date: October 31, 2023  
Time: 10:00 AM  
Place: Via Zoom Meeting & Town Hall  
Egremont

Present at the meeting in person were Select Board Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie, arriving later were Susan Bachelder, Chuck Ogden, and Richard Allen, and Treasurer/Collector Sue Funk.

Present via zoom were Eileen Vining, Mary McGurn, Marj Wexler, Peg McDonough, Dan Blitzer.

The meeting was audio and video recorded.

MINUTES:

The minutes of October 17 meeting were accepted with minor edits.

NEW BUSINESS:

Three arborists have viewed the trees of concern to Susan Bachelder on the Village Green and have assured the Town that there is no damage and the trees will be protected while work in the area moves forward.

The Board voted unanimously to appoint Bonnie Bassis as Pound Keeper.

The Board discussed the recent vandalism at French Park that involved a car doing donuts in the large open parking area, near the bathrooms and near the Volleyball Court, as well as beer and liquor bottles strewn about. Then a few days later a commercial trash can showed up near the booth by the horse riding ring. The Board agreed to the placement of game camera's in strategic locations to monitor after hours activity.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board voted unanimously to confirm that the Bylaw Review Committee can be flexible in its plans to reformat the General Bylaws for voter approval at the Annual Town Meeting without repeated Select Board approval.

The Main Street reconstruction and water line replacement project has been a challenge with daily complaints covering many areas of concern. Throughout the process, the contractors and MassDOT personnel have been cooperative and willing to remedy any issues resulting from the construction. Susan Bachelder expressed her thanks to the crews for their attention to the trees and agreed that they have been cooperative.

There is concern over the configuration of the markings at the Creamery Road/Route 71 intersection, especially turning from Route 71 onto Creamery. The reconfiguration of the intersection was to aid trucks using the detour when Main Street was closed. The Board agreed that the stop on Creamery Road was an improvement but that the lines painted could be improved. The Police Chief and Road Superintendent are considering options.

Treasurer/Collector Sue Funk recommended, after speaking with Bond Counsel, that the two

loans for the Water Line Repair project and Mount Washington Road Engineering be rolled over as one year notes for another year in hopes that the interest rate will go down. The current interest rate is 4.4% and it is projected that the note will be about 5%. The Board voted unanimously to roll each loan over into another one year note.

The Board approved, and signed, a letter to Karen Schaefer of 190 Egremont Plain Road reinstating the Board's stance to enforce the Preservation Restriction on the property. The role of the Historical Commission in protection of historic properties and entering onto private property will be reviewed.

The Board discussed whether the Moderator should be called upon to dismiss the Egremont delegation to the 8-town Regional School District Planning Board. It was decided to not dismiss at this time.

Richard Allen asked the Board's approval to put up yellow fence top protector at the Pickle Ball Court at the expense of the French Park Fund. The Board unanimously approved the request.

#### GRANTS:

Grant Administrator Peg McDonough presented a draft of an application to the Mass Council on Aging Association for a transportation grant that will fill in the gap from February to June of 2024 for the Taxi/Limo grant. The grant deadline is November 9, 2023. The maximum grant award is \$25,000 though the application will be for about half. Peg is working with Transportation Administrator Melanie Vicneiri and will include Transportation Committee Chair George McGurn going forward. The Board voted unanimously to approve an application be filed and directed Peg McDonough to work with Melanie and George on an appropriate application. The current Taxi/Limo Grant is being expended quickly due to our lack of available drivers for the Town's van.

Peg McDonough continues to work with the Conservation Commission on gathering data for an Efficiency & Regionalization grant under the Community Compact for a shared Conservation Agent. The grant deadline is in January, 2024.

#### SELECT BOARD ITEMS:

The All-Boards meeting is November 7 at 5:30pm.

The next regular meeting of the Board is November 14 at 10:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11am

Mary Brazie,  
Office Administrator

minutes.24/oct31

*The recording of the minutes is posted on the Town's web page at [www.egremont-ma.gov](http://www.egremont-ma.gov) for 90 days. Any attachments noted are on file at Town Hall.*