

Town of Danby
DRAFT Select Board Meeting Minutes
August 08, 2024
Town Office, Danby, VT 7:00pm
<https://www.danbyvt.org/government-information>
ZOOM MEETING ID: 834-6028-2318

Public Present – D. Stoddard, M. Bushee, T. Porter, K. Corey, K. Millard, D. Tifft, Z. Fuller, L. Dever, T. Katz, C. Moran, R. Aylward

Virtual Present – D. White, A. Smith, G. Derr, B. Thompson, S. White, Crumley, D.R. White, C. Hardaway, R. & V. Griffith, E. & A. Stoehr, M. Farrand, M. Lees

- **Call to order at 7:35pm**
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Roll Call**
 - **Abbott, Fuller, Haines, Bender – present**
 - **Powers - Absent**
- **Procedure for Remote Access Attendance Statement**
 - **Brad Bender**
- **Motion to set agenda**
 - **Remove no appeals pending**
 - **Motion by Haines, Seconded by Abbott**
 - **Motion passes unanimously**
- **Motion to adopt minutes of Select Board Meeting of July 11, and 18, 2024**
 - **Motion by Fuller, seconded by Haines**
 - **Motion passes unanimously**
- **Public Comment**
 - **Kim Corey**
 - **Reading letter about concerns**
 - **Stating it was not initially an issue**
 - **Stating current problems**
 - **Cannot enjoy the outdoors**
 - **Damage to property value**
 - **Clarification on Village Designation**
 - **No longer needs to be renewed**
 - **Statis is permanent**
 - **Shawn Towsley**
 - **Discussing the pine tree**
 - **Came a year ago asking about it being removed**
 - **Took legal council advice to not remove the tree**
 - **Received estimates to remove the tree**
 - **Comes across as it wasn't done because of the cost**
 - **Asking for one thing, as a taxpayer and volunteer in the town**
 - **It is a large tree and could take out multiple dwellings if it falls**
 - **Has a leaking hole in it that appeared 3 years ago**
 - **Liability the town has if the tree falls**
 - **None, would be the insurance companies**
 - **Concerns about setting a precedent cutting trees in the right of way**
 - **Budget is not available for it because of the size of trees**
 - **Willing to pay for a portion or all of having the tree removed with the town crew removing the tree once it is on the ground**
 - **Motion for the town of Danby Road Crew to remove the tree once it is taken down**
 - **Motion by Fuller Seconded by Abbott**

- Motion passes unanimously
 - Annette Smith
 - Remote access statement needs to be amended because of the new law
 - Asks the agenda item concerning the land designation be tabled
 - Lauren Dever
 - Having issues with hearing at home when listening remotely
 - Provide a space for audience to come to speak at or microphone options
 - Kim Corey
 - Asking for vote to be tabled regarding the land designation
 - Beth Thompson
 - Willing to reword the remote access and do research on other options for microphones
 - Responsibility as the select board to listen to the people
 - Agreeing with others to table that the community is heard
- Planning Commission Report
 - Drea Stoddard
 - Planning Commission is starting to review the town plan
 - Focus on land use and agriculture
 - Hillary Solomon will be attending next meeting
 - Next meeting October 3, 2024 6pm Town Office
- Treasurer's Report - Michelle Bushee
 - Tax rate is set and double checked
 - Municipal tax rate is 0.4407%
 - Local agreement rate is .0021%
 - Grand list increased
 - In favor of waving the penalty for late homestead filing
 - Motion to set tax rate 0.4407%
 - Motion by Haines Seconded by Fuller
 - Motion passes unanimously
 - Motion to wave penalty for late homestead act filing
 - Motion by Fuller Seconded by Abbott
 - Motion passes unanimously
 - Motion to set local agreement tax rate at .0021%
 - Motion by Haines Seconded by Abbott
 - motion passes unanimously
- Award Depot St. Drainage Project Contract
 - Contacted 5 different companies for estimates
 - Only received one
 - One didn't answer
 - Others declined
 - Is there a written proposal for exactly what is wanted
 - If the proposal isn't itemized there are concerns
 - Would like things to be in writing to make sure things are done as wanted
 - Want to make it is in writing what exactly needs to be done
 - Motion to table until the specs that are being asked for are in writing
 - Motion by Haines Seconded by Fuller
 - Motion passes unanimously
- Motion to adopt Resolution to Amend Land Use Districts 2020 Danby Town Plan
 - Motion by Haines Seconded by Abbott
 - Discussion
 - Where is current blasting and where will new blasting be

- The wall between Abbotts and Fullers pit will remain
- What is proposed timetable before any use takes place
 - Once permit is received use would begin
- Is there material close to that area that could be blasted to get a reading
- Blasting usually only happens one month out of the year
- Kim Corey
 - If there is a test run, but it is already approved it would be too late
- Blasting limits are within regulations
- Untouched land parcel
 - It is heavily forested
- There is no guarantee until it is permitted in Act 250
 - It could regulate the size of the blasting
 - Suggesting to table based on all the information given this evening
- Haines willing to rescind motion and make a new motion to table
 - Abbott is concerned by timeline from when this was first presented
 - Guidelines would be stipulated by Act 250
 - Concerned about restricting business verse peoples concern
 - If it is successful with act 250 they will move forward immediately
 - If it is not successful then within 15 years they would start trucking in more material
- Motion to table land designation change
 - Motion by Haines, Seconded by Bender
 - Abbott – no
 - Haines – yes
 - Bender – yes
 - Fuller - abstained
 - Motion carries
- Road Commissioner's Report: T. Fuller, Jr.
 - Grading
 - Culvert on Baker Brook
 - Ditching on Lilly Hill
 - Culvert on little village
 - Truck repairs
 - Road turn sign is falling into the swamp on south Main Street
 - Reset sign
- Old Business
 - none
- New Business
 - none
- Motion to adjourn 8:30pm by Haines, Seconded by Fuller
 - motion passes unanimously

Respectfully Submitted by:
 Drea Stoddard
 Minute Taker