

Town of Sunderland Selectboard Meeting

Monday June 26, 2023 7:00 PM

104 Mountain View Road Sunderland, Vermont

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order-Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Board chair-Jon French
2. Introduction of Board Members and speakers- Board members present were Alex Bresnick, Richard "Dixie" Zens, Jon French-Chair, Andrew McKeever and Bruce Mattison. Others present, James Blanchard, Kevin Hewes-Sunderland ACO, April Hewes, Ralph Peets, Kathy Haskins, Nancy Godfrey, Wayne Godfrey-Sunderland 1st Constable, Dan Hollister-Whitingham ACO, Marc Johnston, Marie Finnegan-Whitingham, Charles Putnam-Whitingham, Glen Squires, Willis Conklin.
3. Approval of previous meetings minutes- Motion to accept the Minutes as written from the June 12, 2023 meeting made by Mr. Zens second by Mr. Mattison, unanimous vote motion carried.
4. Public Comment- Wayne Godfrey(Sunderland) took the floor to explain a couple different dog attack incidents, one resulting in severe injuries to his dog, the second resulted in his dog having to be put down. A Great Dane, named Lucy, owned by Charles Putnam of Whitingham, on at least two different occasions attacked small dogs owned by Mr. Godfrey while both parties were at the Godfrey residence. Discussions went back and forth with Mr. Godfrey wanting the great Dane, Lucy, euthanized. Mr. Putnam stated Mr. Godfrey had told him to let the dog out of his truck. Both sides presented arguments, with Mr. Putnam showing a letter from a vet stating dog can be cured of the issue it has with small dogs. Kevin Hewes, Sunderland Animal Control Officer had written up an incident report. Dan Hollister- Whitingham Animal Control Officer and spoke of several nuisance complaints on Mr. Putnam's dog. Board chair Mr. French could not understand why the owner, Mr. Putnam, would bring the dog back to Mr. Godfrey's after the first attacks. Motion for the Selectboard to enter Executive Session made by Mr. Zens seconded by Mr. Bresnick unanimous vote board entered executive session at 7:52 pm. Motion to

exit executive session and return to general session made by Mr. Zens, second by Mr. Bresnick board exited executive session at 8:08 pm. Motion that the Town of Sunderland issue an order to have the dog Lucy, owned by Mr. Charles Putnam, Euthanized made by Mr. Zens second by Mr. Bresnick. Unanimous vote motion carried. Order will be sent to owner.

5. Road Liaison Report- Having difficult time getting line painters. Will look into getting our own equipment next year. Bike Path- still waiting on State to sign paperwork.

- a.) Recent Bridge Damage update-Only had one response to fixing the bridge, Clyde Baker.

6. BCRC-SWIP

7. Old Business-

- a.) New Sheriffs contract- Budget is 49k. we can do 13 hrs/wk

8. New Business-

- a.) Executive Session to discuss hiring of new Road Crew member. Motion made by Mr. Mattison, second by Mr. Bresnick. Motion carried entered ES at 8:38 pm. Motion to exit executive session made by Mr. Zens, second by Mr. Bresnick back into regular session at 8:56 PM. Motion to hire Keegan Hawley to the Sunderland Road Crew made by Mr. Mattison, second by Mr. Bresnick, unanimous vote motion carried.

9. Review of Correspondence/Signing of Warrants-

10. Next Meeting TBD -July 18, 2023 and then August 21, 2023

11. Adjourn- Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Zens, second by Mr. Bresnick meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM