

**GRAND ISLE SELECTBOARD  
MINUTES  
Monday July 15, 2019  
Town Office Community Room  
9 Hyde Road, Grand Isle, VT**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** AnnaMarie DeMars opened the meeting at 6:59PM

**Board Members Present:** AnnaMarie DeMars - Chair, Eric Godin - Vice Chair, Jeff Parizo, Diane Cota and Rachael Griggs

**Community Members Present:** Dylan Degree-YOGI, Amy L. Thompson-Recreation Department, Maurice Lamothe-VT State Police, Colleen Bushway, Lucille Campbell, John LaBarge and Jim Hoag-Historical Society, Bill Baron-G.I. Tree Warden/GIVFD, Ron Bushway-Road Commissioner/Buildings Facility Manager and Denise Abbott Douglass-Community Member

**Amend Agenda For Matters Not Listed:** Bill Baron - Replacement Cedar Trees at the Fire Station

**I. GUESTS:**

**Lieutenant Maurice Lamothe – VT State Police:**

Lieutenant Lamothe said he is stopping by to answer any questions anyone might have and give a bridge update. Eric asked if the 25 miles per hour is still in place and if the work will continue after hours. Lieutenant Lamothe said the speed limit is still 25 mph and work hours are 7:00am to 7:00pm. Police coverage will be ongoing during the work hours.

Another topic was recruiting and we were told the tattoo policy has been changed, which will be helpful because a lot of recruits come from the military. After a further discussion Lieutenant Lamothe was thanked for stopping in.

**John LaBarge: Historical Society: Assessment of Preservation needs for the Hyde Log Cabin:**

John LaBarge said he has joined the Historical Society and is looking into some grants from the State including the Vermont Historic Preservation Trust to preserve Grand Isle's little gem, the Hyde Log Cabin. He said there are grants available and one in particular is a matching grant with the Preservation Trust to provide an assessment of what the needs of the buildings would be and what will be done first. The Historical Society would spend \$250 toward the match. Bill Baron mentioned there are ash trees at the site and a decision of what to do with them would need to be made. Removing some trees on the northbound side would be favorable. John is also checking with the State for a sign. After further discussion it was decided to go with the long-term assessment.

Diane Cota makes a motion to approve \$250 for the Historical Society for the long-term assessment. Jeff Parizo seconds the motion. No further discussion. AnnaMarie DeMars recuses herself, four in favor and the motion passes.

**Dylan Degree - YOGI and Amy L. Thompson – G.I. Recreation Department:  
Approve the MOU between YOGI and the Town of Grand Isle:**

Dylan and Amy were present to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding between YOGI and the Town of Grand Isle for use of the baseball field and Recreation Park on Donaldson Road. The draft MOU was discussed and a couple changes are to be made. Amy L. Thompson, Dylan Degree and AnnaMarie DeMars will sign the final draft. It was decided this MOU would be a living document to be reviewed when needed.

Jeff Parizo makes a motion to approve the MOU between YOGI and the Town of Grand Isle with changes. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

- **Bill Baron: Emerald Ash Borer:**
- Bill Barren reported the task force from Grand Isle County has held a few meetings
- Focus is on public presentations and inventorying public trees in all five communities
- Goal is to bring this information to the Selectboard as some decisions will need to be made on budgeting for tree removal and if any trees are to be saved
- A certain sized chipping is an approved way to dispose of the wood
- It's best to have a spot to stockpile the logs for at least two years. After two years the larva dies or has moved so the wood could then be used for firewood.
- One company has expressed interest in mulching the trees at no charge if they can keep the mulch
- Jeff asked what other states like Michigan did to dispose of the wood. Ron said a lot of lumberyards have taken the wood in winter and then kiln dried it.
- The big message is to have people not move ash wood in the Islands. Also it becomes very dangerous to cut an ash tree down after it has died.
- Trees can be treated by injections but it's very expensive. Also it takes up to ten years and several injections.

**Cedar Trees Replacement:** Bill Baron said after a very dry summer last year several cedar trees at the Fire Station have died. The Selectboard designated \$300 last December to replace the trees. To purchase larger, more established trees the cost will about double that amount. Gardner's Supply will give a 30% discount. Bill asked if the Town would be able to give more money for the trees. Jeff said a new shed for a fuel tank has been approved plus the ditch is to be stoned so we feel we can't give any more money. Rachael said the Auxiliary might be able to donate a little money.

**Denise Abbott Douglass: Trash:** Denise brought up the ongoing problem of trash being dumped at the State owned turnoff on Donaldson Road. Suggestions included asking the State to put up a sign that would read no dumping, installing a camera and moving the cement barriers closer to the road. Eric will talk to the local Game Warden.

**Cooling Center:** Denise said it's very timely because the temperature is going to be very high at the end of the week. AnnaMarie said the Sheriff let CIDER know about the cooling center. It was also suggested to have a sign in place to let people know where the cooling center is located. AnnaMarie will talk with the Sheriff about a sign.

07-15-19

**II. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: July 1, 2019:** Eric Godin motioned to approve the minutes of July 1, 2019. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Review and Approve Road and Bridge Standards:** Selectboard members answered the questions on the Road and Bridge Standards.

Jeff Parizo motions to approve the Road and Bridge Standards of 2020. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:** None to report

**V. Highway Department Update:** Ron Bushway reported:

- Roadside mowing is on going
- Transfer station has been super busy.
- Five inch stone is to be used in the ditch at the Fire Department

**Buildings Facilities Manager Update:**

- **AED Installations:** The AED's are at the fire station and need to be installed. Jeff has cleared a spot in the Town Office basement. The AED's are to be moved there and Ron said he would install them. AnnaMarie said the Sheriff offered to give a training session for anyone to attend.
- **Annex:** Elaine Chasse will be invited to the next meeting to discuss renovations.

**VI. REVIEW AND SIGN WARRANTS:** Jeff Parizo motions that AnnaMarie DeMars, Chair signs the warrants. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- **Contract Bids: Culvert Replacement on Moccasin Avenue:**

Eric Godin motions to go into executive session inviting our Road Commissioner, Ron Bushway to discuss contract bids for culvert replacement siting 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a) (2) that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion. Jeff Parizo recuses himself from the meeting and leaves the building. Four in favor and the motion passes.

Eric Godin states we are coming out of executive session at 8:44pm with a motion to approve Island Excavating as the contractor to replace the culvert on Moccasin Avenue. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

Eric Godin motions to have AnnaMarie DeMars sign the contract to have Island Excavating replace the culvert on Moccasin Avenue. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** Eric Godin motions to adjourn at 8:45pm. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rachael Griggs, Selectboard Clerk

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AnnaMarie DeMars, Selectboard Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_