

JOHNSON SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017

Present:

Selectboard Members: Mike Dunham, Nat Kinney, Kyle Nuse, Eric Osgood

Others: Brian Story, Rosemary Audibert

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

1. Call to Order

Eric called the meeting to order at 8:04.

2. Review and Sign Municipal Volunteer Group Appointment Policy

The board reviewed the latest draft of the policy. Brian said he had fixed some grammar and added that email is an acceptable way to notify the board of an interest in a position.

Brian said Lois Frey suggested creating a document for new members of public groups with information about open meeting law, contact information, etc. She also wondered if we should include an “apply by” date when we post an opening. Eric said he doesn’t think that needs to be in the policy, but he does think we would want an “apply by” date when we post.

Brian said the current draft says the town will advertise open positions on Front Porch Forum, the town website and, when appropriate, in the News & Citizen. All three will be used for groups with statutory authority, i.e. the Planning Commission and the Library Board of Trustees.

Nat asked about the provision that the selectboard can remove a member from a board by unanimous consent. Would it take unanimous consent to remove someone from the Rec Committee? Brian said a group can set its own bylaws that specify how someone can be removed. But the Planning Commission doesn’t get to set its own bylaws because it is a state-defined group. The provision about removing members by unanimous consent of the selectboard is in state statute that applies to the Planning Commission. He made it apply to all the groups, mostly because it was convenient.

Eric said he would think that all boards and commissions that are selectboard-appointed would require the selectboard to remove someone. He doesn’t think the group itself can remove someone. They serve at the selectboard’s will. Brian said he thinks Eric is right. That would probably fall under the selectboard’s authority.

Nat suggested removing the provision about the selectboard removing group members by unanimous consent, since state statute covers that for the Planning Commission and other boards can have different bylaws regarding removal of members.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the Municipal Volunteer Group Appointment Policy as presented, minus the second-to-last sentence and with a date of April 24, 2017. The motion was passed.

3. Other Business

Brian said when the board first reviewed the bread oven proposal it said in the minutes that the Historical Society would write a letter of support – not that they would be asked to write a letter. He is sure the intent was to ask them, not to tell them that they must write a letter. Board members agreed; the intent was not to direct the Historical Society to write a letter of support.

4. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations for the Purchase of the Jewett Property

It was moved and seconded to go into executive session to discuss negotiations for the purchase of the Jewett property, the motion was passed and the board entered executive session at 8:15. The board came out of executive session at 8:32.

5. Executive Session to Discuss the Evaluation of Employee: Brian Story

It was moved and seconded to go into executive session to discuss evaluation of an employee, the motion was passed and the board entered executive session at 8:32. The board came out of executive session at 8:52.

Mike moved to remove Brian Story from his 6-month probationary period and increase his salary as per his contract, retroactive to March 1, 2017, Kyle seconded and the motion was passed.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53.

Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths