

**GUILFORD SELECTBOARD - MEETING**  
**Monday, 25 July 2022, 6:30 pm, 236 School Road, Guilford, VT**

**MINUTES**

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Zon Eastes (Chair), Michael Becker, Rusty Marine, Verandah Porche, Richard Wizansky

**OFFICIALS/ STAFF PRESENT:** Sheila Morse (Asst. Town Administrator); Dan Zumbruski (Road Commissioner); Lisa Barry (Assessor Clerk),

**PRESENT in person:** Austin Rice (BCTV), Steve Lembke, Lee and Bob Mann (managers of Green River Bridge Inn)

**PRESENT via Zoom:** Don McLean, Laura Lawson Tucker, Sheila Adams, Lesley Malouin, Rick Zamore, Nancy Detra, Jason Herron, Anna Klein, Connie Burton, Jeff Lederer, Shaun and Karen Murphy

- I. Call to Order at 6:30 pm
- II. Recognition of Public (see above)
- III. Rules of Procedure - on the chat, and in the room
- IV. Changes to Agenda Order - review of fiscal year prior to setting the tax rate; communications prior to Executive Session; community comment delayed until Jeff Lederer is able to join.
- V. Welcoming of Public
  - a. Community Comment Period
    - i. Jeff Lederer, a part-time resident of Guilford, spoke about an area cultural event. Jeff is a musician who is hosting an event - the Little i music festival, on 8/5-7. It will take place over a few days in a few places: at Gallery Walk on 8/5 with a NyC salsa band, then at the bandwagon in Putney and, on Sunday, at the Stone Church, Next Stage Arts, and the Kopkind Colony in the evening. For more information: <https://www.littleimusic.com>
- VI. Approval of Minutes (5 minutes)
  - a. Regular Meeting - 11 July 2022
    - i. **ACTION** Richard moved to approve the minutes as written. Verandah seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. No one abstained. Motion carried.
- VII. Discussions
  - a. Highway - Dan 5 minutes
    - i. Work on stone-lined ditching and tree trimming projects continue, along with preparations for the forthcoming paving projects.
  - b. Report on Radar Speed Alert Signs - Sheila 5 minutes
    - i. The road crew installed speed warning signs on Rt 5 north and south-bound. Data recorded from the first month of operation show that:

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1. southbound, of a total of 33,286 vehicles, 49% passed the sign at a speed of 41-90 miles an hour, with the largest number of vehicles speeding in the 41-55 mph range.
2. northbound, of a total of 12,126 vehicles, 36% passed the sign at a speed of 41-90 miles an hour, with the largest number of vehicles speeding in the 41-55 mph range.
- ii. Staff are learning how to use and interpret the data provided by these signs and to assess their efficacy.
- c. Cemetery Commission 8 minutes
  - i. Nancy Detra reported on The Cemetery Commission's charge and on recent activities:
    1. There are ten town-owned cemeteries providing burial space for residents; the Commission ensures that all are well-maintained and safe and monitors the use of the Commission's funds.
    2. Current projects: each meeting is held at a different cemetery during which members tidy the grounds (mowing is handled by a contractor). At Maplehurst (the "still open" cemetery in town with sites available to be purchased) broken stone posts have been replaced and the posts are being linked by a chain on the Rt 5 side and on the south side. The Commission is documenting rules, procedures, and tasks to make the work of future commissioners easier. They are creating a flier explaining their role, how to purchase a plot, etc. Flags are put in place on Memorial Day.
    3. The Commission urges the public to look for forthcoming cemetery signage as some are in hidden-away spots. List of cemeteries: Maplehurst, Lee, Carpenter, Blanchard, Weatherhead Hollow (on Carriage Rd), Wilkins Hill, Stark, Billings, and Groll.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Traffic Safety in Algiers Village - Sheila **TABLED** 5 minutes

IX. New Business

- a. Review of Fiscal Year activities - Sheila 10 minutes
  - i. Sheila spoke about the just-closed Fiscal Year 2022, the current Fiscal Year 2023, and preparations for the next Fiscal Year 2024. Budgets for each fiscal year are drafted nine months before the start of the year, taking into account two prior years' performance and anticipating future trends. The Selectboard proposes budgets to present annually to residents to vote on at Town Meeting in March. It was noted that, while costs have increased over the past several years, the tax rate has remained nearly level. This means, in effect, that taxes have been reduced.
  - ii. Tammy asked that we record budget workshops. The Selectboard agreed to try to do so. 10 minutes
- b. Set tax rate for FY 2023; *taxes are due 10.15.22* 10 minutes
  - i. Kisa Barry, Assessor Clerk, explained the details that go into setting the tax rate each year.
  - ii. **ACTION:** Richard moved that we set the 2022 tax rate, covering the budget for FY2023, at \$2.4745 per \$1000 of assessed value (Homestead) and \$2.3132 per

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\$1000 of assessed value (non-Homestead). Rusty seconded. All were in favor.  
 None were opposed. No one abstained. Motion carried.

- c. Authorize the Guilford Center village designation renewal application 5 minutes TABLED (approved at prior meeting)
- d. Approve Liquor license Application for Green River Bridge Inn 5 minutes
  - i. **ACTION:** Richard moved and Michael seconded that the application for a liquor license for the Green River Bridge Inn be approved. All were in favor. None were opposed. No one abstained. Motion carried.

X. Finance  
 a. Warrants 5 minutes

Payroll - WE 07/17/22	\$7,067.04
Payroll – WE 07/24/22	\$5,869.68
Expense Warrant #2302	\$44,810.19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$57,746.91</b>

**ACTION:** Verandah moved to pay finance warrants as read. Richard seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. None abstained. Motion carried.

I. Other business - NONE

- XI. Executive Session to discuss personnel issue 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3)
  - a. **ACTION:** Zon moved to enter executive session per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3) to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee and invite Sheila Morse to participate. Richard seconded. All were in favor. No one abstained. Motion carried.
  - b. 7:35 pm Selectboard entered into Executive Session.
  - c. At 8:13 pm the Selectboard exited Executive Session, taking no action. (The Selectboard members note here that they made a procedural error in failing to move to exit Executive Session.)

- XII. Action Summary from Previous Meeting
  - a. examining Gazette’s access to town mailing list = pending issue

XIII. Actions Taken - approved minutes; set tax rate for FY 2023; approved liquor license, approved warrants

XIV. Actions to be Taken

- XV. Adjournment
  - ACTION** Richard moved to adjourn. Rusty seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. None abstained. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15

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Meeting video - <https://www.brattleborotv.org/guilford-selectboard/guilford-sb-mtg-72522>

Next Selectboard Meeting: August 8, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Zon Eastes, Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Becker \_\_\_\_\_

Rusty Marine \_\_\_\_\_

Verandah Porche \_\_\_\_\_

Richard Wizansky \_\_\_\_\_