

TOWN OF GLOVER
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 14, 2023 – Glover Town Hall

Present: Leanne Harple, Phil Young, Dave Simmons, Theresa Perron, Town Administrator, Job Breitmeyer, Glover Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Phil Brooks, Glover Volunteer Fire Department Treasurer and Cindy Epinette, Transcriber.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.
2. The Selectboard thanked Theresa for all the hard work she put into getting the town hall back up and available for use.
3. **Additions to the agenda:** Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) approval, BASSI Agreement, and Limelite invoice approval.
4. **Minutes: Dave made a motion, seconded by Phil, to approve the minutes dated November 9, 2023. The motion carried.**
5. **Road Update:** The one-ton truck is down, the wing is down on one of the big trucks, the weather has been demanding on the road crew with power lines and trees going down, and people going off the road. The road crew is doing a good job keeping the roads clear as much as possible. Also, sand is available for residents to sand their driveways.
6. **NEK Broadband Update:**
 - a. **Progress Report:** NEK Broadband submitted a progress report, including construction at the Glover Ambulance bay location. If all goes well, they anticipate beginning cable construction in early 2024.
 - b. **Utility Easement Deed:** The Board signed the agreement to begin construction work needed for the Optical Line Terminal (OLT) site.
7. **Fire Department Budget:** Job and Phil were present to discuss the 2024 proposed budget for the fire department. There have been many changes to the Glover Volunteer Fire Department this year. They would like to take back fiduciary responsibility for the fire department. They intend to submit financial reports for the annual reports. They suggested creating an agreement, similar to the one the Glover Ambulance and Orleans County Sheriff's Office have with the town, for fire suppression services. Along with fundraising, they intend to bill for services provided when applicable. They are proposing a 2024 fire department budget of \$52,850 from the town. This proposal includes increasing the reserve fund allocation to \$10,000 to purchase a tanker that all fire department personnel can drive. The proposed budget also includes repairs and maintenance of the vehicles, replacement of the repeater building on Borland road, replacement of air packs, contracting with Newport Police Department for dispatching services, etc.
8. **Town Administrator Update:**
 - a. **Sponsorship Update:** We've received notification from the State: the only property eligible for sponsorship would have been Dexter Mtn Holdings' property on the town green. The work has already been performed therefore the work is not eligible for reimbursement. The Board gave Theresa permission to discontinue pursuing the Sponsorship.
 - b. **Insurance at Glover Park and Conservation Easement:** The town is researching expanding the use of Glover Park to include a pickleball court and trail for autistic children. It was discovered that this property does not have any insurance to replace equipment, fencing or building damages. The property only has liability insurance.

The Board gave Theresa permission to investigate what replacement insurance would be.

c. **Town Hall Maintenance Update:**

- i. **FEMA** has requested the back wall and side wall have mitigation work done. Theresa received a quote from Limelite for \$16,000 to comply with this request.
- ii. **Roof Replacement:** Theresa has also received a quote to repair the roof over the entrance to the senior meals. The Board rejected the quote for the roof repair. The roof needs to be moved up so the one-ton plow truck can plow the driveway.
- iii. **Shoveling:** Dylan Bodette was hired to shovel the walkway and sidewalk at the town hall.
- iv. **Front Steps:** Theresa received a quote from Limelite to replace the steps in front of the town hall. The Board approved this quote for \$1,987.45.
- v. **Painting:** Theresa received a quote from Bonnie Ingalls to paint the inside of the town hall for \$17,640. Bonnie has provided a quote to paint the outside of the building as well for \$35,000. ARPA funds can be used to pay for this expense.

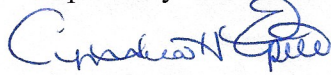
- d. **Maintenance Personnel:** There is a lot of work that needs to be done to maintain town property. Theresa estimates 5-10 hours a month and recommended hiring someone to do this work. She has contacted someone who might be interested. The Board agreed with her suggestion and encouraged her to inquire further.
- e. **VT Council on Rural Development:** The Planning Commission is working on the type of work VT Council on Rural Development is proposing. NEKO would like to work with the Planning Commission regarding providing senior citizens with transportation, activities, meals, etc.
- f. **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Theresa has hired Noah Bond as the Local Hazard Mitigation Coordinator. This work is covered under the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities 2021 Grant.

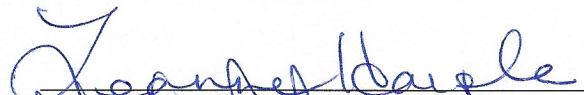
9. **Town Treasurer Update:**

- a. **Budget Schedule:** The Board has scheduled its first 2024 budget meeting for December 27, 2023 at 10am at the Town Clerk's office. The Equity Committee has requested a \$1,000 line item in the 2024 proposed budget. The Board invites the Equity Committee to the next Board meeting to share what they've been doing.
- b. **Fire Department request regarding O'Reilly Invoice:** The battery for the repeater on Borland road needed to be replaced. Phil Brooks requested the town pay for half the cost and the fire department pay for the remaining balance out of the fire department budget. The request was approved.
- c. **Appointment of Auditor:** Phil Young has recused himself from this discussion. Sylvia Cannizzaro has resigned as a town auditor. Andrea Carpentier has volunteered to replace Sylvia until the March 2024 election. **Dave made a motion, seconded by Leanne, to appoint Andrea Carpentier as an interim auditor. The motion carried.**
- d. **Gorman Group – Transfer of Equipment:** In 2012 the Town entered into a rental agreement with Gorman Group to lease a 1025 gallon skid mount dust control system. The lease agreement has expired and the town now owns the piece of equipment. The Board needed to accept and sign the transfer of equipment paperwork.
- e. **ARPA Financial Update:** Glover received ARPA funds of \$328,597.14 from the government in 2022. The Board has obligated \$311,401.22. The Board must obligate the remaining \$17,195.92 before December 31, 2024 and all funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.


- f. **TAN Approval:** Cindy sent a bid to four different banking institutions for the 2024 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). One bank declined to provide a bid. One bank did not respond at all. Community National Bank offered a non-arbitrage loan at 3.69% interest to borrow \$787,417 with a 4.12% investment interest rate or a line of credit at 5.12% interest expense. Passumpsic Bank offered a line of credit at 5.69% interest expense or a Time Note with 5.3% interest rate to borrow \$787,417 with a 5.05% investment interest rate. Cindy recommended accepting the non-arbitrage loan from Community National Bank. **Dave made a motion, seconded by Phil, to accept the Community National Bank proposal for the non-arbitrage loan. The motion carried.**
 - g. **BASSI Agreement:** The Agreement with Glover Senior Meals and Barton Area Senior Services, Inc (BASSI) expires this month. The Board has invited both organizations to the next Board meeting to discuss their plans.
 - h. **Limelite Invoice Approval:** We have received 3 invoices from Limelite for the work they have performed at the Town Hall. Two of those invoices will be reimbursed by FEMA and/or VLCT for repairs needed as a result of the July 2023 flood and mitigation to the town hall. The remaining invoice, work on the stairs connecting the two floors, was approved to be paid from the property reserve fund.
10. **Orleans County Sheriff's Report (October):** The October report was reviewed. It was noted that there was more activity in October. No action required.
 11. **Announcement: Orleans County Budget Meeting notice:** A meeting has been scheduled for January 16, 2024 to discuss the proposed 2024 County Budget. Please contact the Orleans County Clerk at sfc pion@gmail.com no later than January 15th at noon to request more information.
 12. **Sewer Maintenance Employee:** Allen Mathews has been monitoring the sewer system on a daily basis. He would like to retire from this task. Scott Pray has expressed an interest in this job, but is concerned about the daily commitment. Dave, Phil and Scott will go through some training and will coordinate their efforts so the daily monitoring can be completed. A \$25/hr rate of pay was suggested.
 13. **Open public comment period:**
 - a. **Doug Safford – VT Council on Rural Development:** Mr Safford did not attend the meeting.
 14. **Signing of Director's Orders:** The orders were signed.
 15. **Adjourn:** Leanne made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20m.

Respectfully Submitted

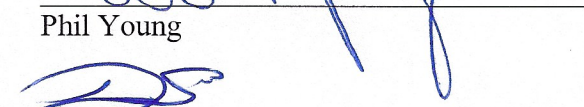

Cynthia Epinette
Transcriber



Leanne Harple, Chair



Phil Young



Dave Simmons