

**Dover Select Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Dover Town Office  
Tuesday, September 18, 2018**

---

*THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE DOVER SELECT BOARD*

Select Board Members Present: Victoria Capitani, Joe Mahon, Sarah Shippee

Select Board Members Absent: Josh Cohen, Dan Baliotti

Also, Present: Office Manager, Jeannette Eckert

Public: Steve Neratko, Randy Johnson, Royal Wilson, Janice Stuart, Darva Kinney, Andy McLean

**Regular Meeting Called to Order at 6:36pm by Vice Chair Victoria Capitani**

**I. Public Comments:**

Darva Kinney expressed thanks & appreciation to the Board for the response rec'd at the last meeting regarding her electricity on North Street: a decision to table the discussion and have neighbors/landowners talk it over allowed for more communication from all parties; the project is moving forward; Darva's grandmother Elva Turner's claim to fame was being the first woman SB member for Dover

**II. Economic Development: Steve Neratko**

**A. Update on the Planning Process**

- Work groups—had quite a bit of interest; heard from all the Board except Joe & Dan
  - All groups have several participants signed up
  - Hopefully will even hear back from some others
- Will go over the next steps at Friday's meeting
- Propose groups meeting once a month for 1 hour
- Joe selected Infrastructure & Public Safety work groups
  - Leaving Beautification and Marketing to Dan

~~B. Self-Guided Historical Trail~~ Jim Dassatti will defer to Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>

**C. Approve Funding for GPS Units for DART**

- Andy McLean has discussed this with Steve
- Need these units for Search & Rescue for West Dover
- Discussed with Trails Committee; perhaps with Public Safety group as well
- Winter is coming—want to have our trails system safe for use

Vicki Capitani agreed there is a need for this but believe funds should come out of the General Fund not ED funds

Andy McLean presented an overview of the group

- Offshoot of the West Dover Fire Dept.
- Coordinate with Rescue Inc and Southern VT Technical Rescue
- Reason for ED funding—Ken Black & now Steve have been very supportive of this project; trails group grew out of a meeting when the Forest Service ranger was here
- Rich Werner requested that a search & rescue unit be started in Dover in order to have the Fire Dept on board with this
- This group is in direct response to building the trail network and enhancing guest experiences; enjoying the woods
- Trails are Economic Development; group wouldn't exist unless these trails were being developed and there was a need for increased capacity to find people in the woods in Dover

**Dover Select Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Dover Town Office  
Tuesday, September 18, 2018**

- Units requested are specific for Search & Rescue; provide a degree of safety when out in the woods
- Two units were purchased through a grant from the Rotary Club
- Request is for \$7,307.76 for 12 new units—for a total of 14 units

Joe Mahon: Believe this should come from Economic Development funds, or it could come from Fire Dept budget; adding the trails is a feature to the Town; infrastructure purposes and having trails which is definitely Economic Development

Vicki Capitani: This is just like buying the machine to clear the Valley Trail; asset is in place, the rest falls on the Town; will we continue to buy these when they get outdated? This is public safety, emergency preparedness; doesn't belong in ED expenditure; when we own an asset then we need to take care of it

Joe: ED money: 1.7 million dollars in it; portion should be set aside; our taxes have gone up; this should come out of the 1% funds and provide a bit of savings to our taxpayers

Sarah Shippee: Understand where Joe is coming from but I am in line with what Vicki is saying; this is a hard asset, something that applies to the Town; investing in hard assets should be a clearly delineated part of the budget; for \$7000 I think it could come out of the general budget

Steve:

- Other needs for tools, tool chest to keep out on the trail; requests for those type of items will come before the Board as well
- Would be great to know whether these items are coming out of ED; there will be a need as the trails network grows

Royal Wilson inquires whether there is \$7000 in the General Fund right now

Vicki: Unsure, have not seen a financial report in a while; we do have other capital funds but would like to see these things planned for; next year put together a budget that the Board can see in advance and present at Town Meeting

Steve:

- \$40,000 was put into current budget for community projects--feel it fits into this category for infrastructure to further economic development in regard to trails in the area
- \$50,000 was budgeted for business advancement
- Knew this was a need at this time

Vicki: Tools are generally a one-time purchase; similar to signs, setting things up; This is a technology that may change/turnover frequently; this is public safety, these could be used for anything....a lost kid in the woods...

Royal: Not against this but I'm always looking at taking things from the wrong or right place; Does Mt Snow have this same type of technology for lost persons? Would agree to purchase with other funds  
Andy believes Mt Snow has their own GPS devices

Joe: I am all for voting yes on spending the money

Royal: If you vote on this tonight, is it done? Do you want to wait until more people are present?

Vicki: Can probably wait for two weeks; was not on my radar that this was coming in

Joe: As Steve said it is coming out of the community projects and it should come out of that fund

Sarah: This is search & rescue, this is a Town service too; they are not going to be only or exclusively used on those trails

On a motion by Joe Mahon, seconded by Victoria Capitani, the Board voted 1-2-0 to expend \$7,307.76 from ED funds. *Motion does not carry*

**Dover Select Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Dover Town Office  
Tuesday, September 18, 2018**

Andy: Understand the point, the only reason this group exists is because of ED; I don't want another meeting; the only reason I am doing this is because I want this project to happen; the only way the project will happen is if we are able to take care of these, that is why we brought it to you

Sarah: I feel the difference is that this is not an asset solely & exclusively for trail use in the town of Dover. I think these will have a broader use, broader application than just the trails; Woods are not just the trails

Andy: You will only use these in the woods; 99.9% will be used for people *recreating*

Joe: These would stay within the DART group, not at the Fire Dept.

Vicki: Need to maintain security of these very expensive devices; don't want these to walk away if someone leaves the group

Andy thanked the Board for considering the expense

Sarah: Don't see why you wouldn't get the money; right now, just quibbling over where it should come from

Other Business:

- WI FI is out by Eco-Tique—Steve will look into it
- Wilmington Select board— on its agenda for tonight *Regional Police Dept.* discussion; Vicki was approached by Tom Fitzgerald to see if the idea is even a possibility; perhaps entertain a joint meeting in future

**III. Consent Agenda:**

A. Approve Minutes of Sept 4, 2018

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Joe Mahon, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of Sept 4, 2018

B. Approve Warrants of Sept 8<sup>th</sup> for \$719,921.84

On a motion by Sarah Shippee, seconded by Joe Mahon, the Board unanimously approved the warrants of Sept 8, 2018

**IV. FYI:**

- A. Special Meeting, Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30am
- B. Invitation to SVHC/DVRAB Reception & Exhibit Opening, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 4-7pm
- C. ICS Training, Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, 9am to noon, Location TBD
- D. Fall Planning & Zoning Forum, Oct 17<sup>th</sup> in Fairlee, VT, 8:30-3:30—Tabi plans to attend

**V. Liaison Reports:**

- Sarah rec'd invitation to Fire Dept annual dinner on Oct 27th
- Steve shared that The Brattleboro Reformer did an article on the planning process/work groups which got picked up by The Associated Press & was seen across the country

**VI. Executive Session, as needed: none**

**VII. Adjournment at 7:10pm**

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Eckert

Public notices of these minutes have been posted at the following locations:  
Dover Town Clerk's Bulletin Board, Dover Town Meeting Bulletin Board, Dover School  
Dover Free Library, East Dover Post Office, Town of Dover Website: [www.doververmont.com](http://www.doververmont.com)