



## OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

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### **SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES**

**September 13, 2023**

Chairman Pitt called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Selectman Paight and Selectman Nelson were present. Also in attendance were Ellen Smith, Town Administrator, Roland Veaudry, and Dustin Franco.

Katy Easterly Martey and Rebecca Boisvert from the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) joined the meeting to discuss the Community Center Investment Program. The discussion started with Roland asking a few questions. Chairman Pitt then explained that the town has concerns over not being an award recipient. The pre-application technical assistance meeting was very positive and there was no indication that we were not within the program parameters. Equally as stunning was that we did not meet the definition of a community center.

The feedback given during the post-award technical assistance meeting suggested that there were some changes to the rules and definitions as they were presented in the program guide after applications were submitted.

After further discussion, it sounded like we did meet the definition of a community center, just not the CDFA's interpretation of the definition.

Katy explained that for round 2 we would need to show an operational plan with solid commitments from outside agencies and other evidence as to how it will be rolled out. Our community room would morph into a community center over time, how will that take place by the completion date of August 2025? How will changes in staffing handle programmatic changes? It is anticipated that the round 2 program guide will give evaluation/scoring information for benchmarks. Round 2 applications will open on October 20, 2023, with a due date of November 30, 2023, awards will be around the end of February 2024. For those applying for the 100% forgivable loan, the award decision could be made contingent on the town meeting vote.

Katy confirmed that our project is considered an existing facility and not a new facility. Existing facilities are a federal priority. As far as scoring, applications will probably need 180 points for an award.

CDFA is also going to be offering grant writing assistance which could include help in creating the operational plan. Katy and Rebecca left the meeting at 12:15 pm.

Ronald and Dustin left the meeting at 12:20 pm.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to approve the September 14, 2023, Direct Deposit Register in the amount of \$11,614.93, and the Accounts Payable Check Register in the amount of \$24,695.54. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Selectman Paight moved and Selectman Nelson seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 6, 2023, the vote to approve was unanimous.

Selectman Paight moved and Selectman Nelson seconded a motion to appoint Maria Chamberlain as a Supervisor of the Checklist until the 2024 Town Meeting, the vote to approve was unanimous. The Board signed a driveway permit for Map 07-002 and the gWorks Agreement.

TA Smith reported that the Town has been selected for funding (not a notice to proceed) for the full \$80,000 requested in the application for the 2024 Recreational Trails Program. Additional review is necessary, and contracts will need to be issued. The estimated time for funds to be available is June 2024.

Selectman Nelson moved and Chairman Pitt seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:10 pm, the vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Smith, Town Administrator