



**Town of Savoy
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Savoy Select Board

Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2023

Select board members present: Marie Saucier, Gerry Bergeron, Justin Kazcowski

Members of the public present: Irene Young, Steph Harris, Dan Harris, Julie Pavia, Cosmo LaViola, Melanie Glynn

Recorder: Jennifer Falk

Call to order: 5:00 PM **Adjourned:** 6:52


Minutes:

- **Meeting minutes approved:** Minutes of November 28, 2023 approved by select board.
- **Woodland Partnership:** Cosmo LaViola presented reasons why Savoy would benefit and carry very little risk by joining.
 - The partnership already involves all nearby towns except Savoy and Colrain.
 - Suggested Savoy contact supporters and detractors in other towns to gain a broader perspective.
 - Gerry concerned about hidden agendas: e.g., people losing rights to their private land.
 - Melanie noted that at the previous meeting not a lot of information was available, and hence the topic was tabled. She suggested a meeting on Zoom as an initial meeting.
 - Cosmo addressed concerns with what information he had:
 - ◇ Has not received information regarding any taking of private land.
 - ◇ He has no information about hidden agendas.
 - ◇ He noted that the towns had been concern about the level of federal oversight.
 - ◇ Upon signing there is no obligation to do anything. However, if Savoy were to become involved in a project, then there would be a level of responsibility.
 - Melanie noted that Hawley had acquired an ATV through the partnership.
 - Private and state land would not be affected. Any involvement by a private citizen would be entirely voluntary. The partnership is concerning town land.
 - Cosmo mentioned one example of a project would be trail improvements. He thinks the partnership is worth pursuing because there is no obligation unless we commit to a project.

- Gerry would like to have a town meeting with people present who can answer questions and let the town decide. He suggested a town meeting at the Firehouse where questions can be asked and either the town or the select board votes on the matter.
- Florida and Buckland had pursued this in a similar manner, having a town vote.
- Melanie said she will find someone to contact us and bring testimony from supporters and detractors.
- **Plumbing in the town hall:** There is low water pressure and the toilet runs, which might be causing the low pressure. We need to gather three quotes.
- **Adams COA:** The contract is signed. We are waiting for the invoice.
- **ARPA:** Members and the public brought up suggestions for how to use ARPA funds.
 1. Marie: Town-wide assessment on ditches and culverts.
 - Gerry: Use funds to hire 3rd party who is committed to conservation to do the assessment. We should focus on vulnerable areas.
 - Dan: Culverts are most difficult. Clearing ditches is also important.
 2. The garage and school could use new generators.
 - If the school was designated as an emergency shelter, there might be other funds for a generator.
 - Melanie asked what type of fuel is delivered to the garage. Gerry: diesel.
 3. Fire department could use an ATV with emergency capabilities.
 - Gerry mentioned that this typed of ATV saves lives in winter.
 - Melanie mentioned that Hawley got an ATV through the woodlands project.
 4. Improve signage on 8A/ 116.
 5. Finish the town park.
- Time: Projects must be committed by 12/24, funds must be spent by the end of 2025.
- Steph mentioned that the generators and signage would be easy; the ditches and culverts would not be easy.
- Mel asked how many culverts we have.
- Marie: She is looking for assessments for the culverts.
 - Considerations: We have 18" culverts—probably needs to be widened to 36" because of environmental conditions.
 - After assessment we could qualify for Chapter 90 funds.
- Melanie proposed using the funds to get RFP/ assessments and prices for generators. *Town approves.* Gerry thought we should bid the assessments. Julie mentioned that ARPA takes care of that part.
- Cosmo asked what Chapter 90 was: State money
- Cosmo might know someone who can help us with generators.
- Gerry: We should get quotes for everything and then focus on most important.
- Marie will ask PJ to get a quote on an ATV.
- **Business license and fees:** tabled for moment. We don't have any history as to how to fees were set.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Brenda:** Would like the distribution of pay to return to the way it was before: Monthly and Quarterly payments are made within the target month, not after the pay period has finished. I.e., Quarterly payments will be distributed in December, not beginning of January. Jennifer said this was fine.
- **Proposal for partnership between Windsor and Savoy.**
 - Windsor will plow and sand 8A, 116, River Road, Griffin Hill.
 - After 26 trips, Savoy will "pay" with a truckload of sand.
- **Possibility Chesire will plow up to 8A.**
 - Gerry concerned about Chesire's timeliness.
- **MassDOT:** They are not offering help.
- **John Maher** asked if there was a staging area he could place materials. There was not a conclusive answer to this.
- **Plan for Zoning and Planning Boards:** Proposed monthly joint meeting. Tabled.
- **Pole documents:** Jennifer will ask Verizon to send out mail cards.



Gerry Bergeron (Chair)



Justin Kaczowski



Marie Saucier

1. The first part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 10/10/10. The letter discusses the author's interest in the journal and the topic of the proposed article.

2. The second part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 10/15/10. The editor responds to the author's letter and provides feedback on the proposed article.

3. The third part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 10/20/10. The author responds to the editor's feedback and provides a revised version of the proposed article.

4. The fourth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 10/25/10. The editor responds to the author's revised article and provides further feedback.

5. The fifth part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 10/30/10. The author responds to the editor's feedback and provides a final version of the proposed article.

6. The sixth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 11/5/10. The editor responds to the author's final article and provides a final decision on whether to accept the article for publication.

7. The seventh part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 11/10/10. The author responds to the editor's final decision and provides a final version of the proposed article.

8. The eighth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 11/15/10. The editor responds to the author's final article and provides a final decision on whether to accept the article for publication.

9. The ninth part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 11/20/10. The author responds to the editor's final decision and provides a final version of the proposed article.

10. The tenth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 11/25/10. The editor responds to the author's final article and provides a final decision on whether to accept the article for publication.

11. The eleventh part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 11/30/10. The author responds to the editor's final decision and provides a final version of the proposed article.

12. The twelfth part of the document is a letter from the editor to the author, dated 12/5/10. The editor responds to the author's final article and provides a final decision on whether to accept the article for publication.

13. The thirteenth part of the document is a letter from the author to the editor, dated 12/10/10. The author responds to the editor's final decision and provides a final version of the proposed article.