

Windham VT Selectboard Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2020 Special Meeting

Present via Zoom web conference:

Maureen Bell, Selectwoman
Kord Scott, Selectman

Peter Chamberlain, Selectman
Joyce Cumming, Selectboard Clerk

Call to order

Maureen identified the meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Additions to Agenda/Announcements/Reminders

There were no additions, announcements or reminders.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Discuss Eliastams' amended fence plan as it relates to the dog hearing of May 26, 2020

On June 25th, Becky Eliastam emailed the Selectboard members and attached a revised proposal from Springfield Fence Co. dated June 24, 2020. In her email, Becky explained the changes to the fence plan to address the requirements outlined by the Selectboard in its June 22, 2020 letter.

Maureen opened discussion on the amended fence plan. The 6 ft. height was clearly addressed in the new proposal and Becky explained that the wire color was changed to galvanized since black (original color choice) is not available in the 6 ft. height. All agreed that the height requirement was met and there was no need for further discussion.

The next issue involved the bottom of the fence and the need to prevent the dog from digging under the fence line. Becky explained in her email that the new plan includes a bottom rail at the base of the fence to prevent digging under the fence. Becky also attached two photos of fences showing this configuration. This requirement is met in the amended fence plan.

Lastly, the issue of the locking gates was discussed. The proposal from Springfield Fence was amended to specify "all gates to be lockable" and Becky explained in her email that the new plan includes locking gates. She also noted a change in the amended plan to increase the width of one of the gates to a 10 ft. wide double gate in order to allow for lawnmower access. Brief discussion followed. Peter noted the need for the gates to be locked—not just closed—with a mechanical device to secure them. As long as the gates are kept locked, Peter felt this condition was met under the amended plan. Kord suggested including a stipulation in the Selectboard's response to specify that the gates must be locked at all times and reiterate the condition specified in the Hearing Decision that the dog be muzzled at all times outside the home including when in the fenced area.

Based on the above, the Selectboard agreed that the amended plan met the required conditions.

Motion: To approve the amended fence plan submitted by the Eliastams (based on Springfield Fence Company's proposal dated 6/24/20) with the conditions that the dog be muzzled at all times outside the home including the fenced-in area and the gates are to be kept locked at all times—moved by Kord—all in favor.

Kord agreed to draft a response to the Eliastams and run it by legal counsel in the morning, and send it to Joyce when ready.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the June 28th Special Selectboard Meeting at 3:12 p.m.—moved by Maureen—all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Cumming
Selectboard Clerk