

**Town of Charleston  
Selectboard Meeting 1/24/19**

MINUTES

Attending: Selectpersons Larry Young and Meghann Carter (by phone); Duane Moulton and Dan Whipple of Charleston Volunteer Fire Department; Town Clerk & Treasurer Teri Gray; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Larry Young. Motion by Ms. Carter to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2018 meeting as written, second by Mr. Young and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Moulton and Mr. Whipple explained that the Fire Department must replace a 1987 tanker truck and would like to ask the town to back the department in buying a new truck. They have \$73,000 in their equipment fund, but the entire cost is around \$170,000. In the past, the department has handled big purchases with a combination of fundraising, grants and financing. After keeping the budget level for many years out of concern for taxpayers, this is their first time asking for taxpayer help to purchase equipment. They suggest including a discussion item on the 2019 Town Meeting warning to gauge voter sentiment on how to support the fire department purchase. The all-volunteer work of the Department has become more involved and time-intensive—more medical calls, more training and more rescue capacity like snowmobile and high angle. More equipment is needed and there is less time to fundraise. With the recent addition to the firehouse, there is a good size community room and more space in the bays to adequately house all equipment. The building will serve the department and community for many years to come.

Motion by Larry Young to include the following article, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved: Will voters support an increased appropriation to the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department in future years to support purchase of a new tanker truck?

An application for a liquor license was received from Michael and Linda Bowen, owners of the West Charleston Corner Store. Motion by Mr. Young to approve, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved. Application will be completed by the Town Clerk and submitted to the State board.

After reviewing the updated 2019 proposed budget, Mr. Young moved to approve the budget as written, seconded by Ms. Carter. The proposed budget will go before voters at Town Meeting.

After reviewing a draft of the 2019 Town Meeting Warning, motion by Mr. Young to approve the warning, pending the addition of the fire Department discussion article and the final budget figures, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

Bills and Orders were approved for payment.

ROAD REPORT

After reviewing estimates, Mr. Young moved to hire Tardiff Plumbing & Heating to complete the chimney work in the town garage, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENT & INFORMATION

Feb 5<sup>th</sup>: NVDA Hearing on Charleston Town Plan, Newport NVDA Office

Feb 28<sup>th</sup>: Info Meeting on the Coventry Landfill, Charleston Town Clerk's Office, 6pm

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm. The next regular meeting is February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Approved this 14th day of February, 2019:

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Selectboard, Town of Charleston