

SELECTBOARD TOWN OF BRADFORD

REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 10, 2015

6:30 p.m. at the Bradford Academy

In attendance

Board Members Present: Carole P. Taylor, Daniele A. Perry III, Randy L. Moore, Lisa D. Sharp

Others present: Robert Wing, Jeffrey Stiegler, Shirley Beresford, Nila Anaya, Harvey Dorr, Alex Nuti de Biasi, Tim Copeland, Kevin McCollister

Randy Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

Harvey Dorr brought several concerns to the Board. He noted that the Handicap plate at the corner of Main and Barton has not yet been replaced and has created a trip hazard. There are fallen or dead trees located in the town highway right of way--some on Fairground Rd. and Rodgers Hill that have fallen on to other trees or are dead and rotting. The no parking signs on Bank Street are facing the wrong direction, so people do not see them and are parking in no-parking zones. The sidewalk on corner of bank and Main is taken over by business signs and racks leaving only two feet of walking space in front of steps.

Town Clock Survey Results:

Lisa Sharp read the survey results, Appendix A. Randy Moore felt that being more conservative was a better choice since the results were tied for the ending time, and he suggested 10:00 p.m. for the last toll.

Dan Perry made a motion to set the first bell ring for 6:00 am and the last at 10:00 p.m. Carol Taylor voted no.

MOTION PASSED, 3-1.

Fire Department Purchase Order:

Ryan Terrill submitted a Purchase Review for batteries used in Air Packs and smoke detectors and for Survivor LED flashlights. The quote includes chargers which the fire Department already owns so the total will be less than extended sell price of \$663.96.

Dan Perry made a motion to authorize Ryan Terrill to purchase the batteries and rechargeable flashlights. MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY

Salt Quote-Highway:

The Town of Bradford received the 2015-2016 quotation for Bulk Ice Control Rock Salt from American Rock Salt for \$79.83 per ton. The total increase was only about 4% from last year.

Carol Taylor made a motion to approve the quote and authorize the Board Chair to sign.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

FairPoint Service Contract:

The Board reviewed the information provided by Regina Spillane from FairPoint Communication describing the differences between rates between Centrex Plus and EPAK. The Board decided to table this

discussion until the next meeting so that they can review usage volume and have a better idea of the cost for the 18 lines that these proposals cover. The Board would also like to know if shorter terms are offered besides a three-year term.

W. B. Mason Copier Contract:

The Town received a Full Service Maintenance Agreement from W.B. Mason for \$50.00 for the two printers in the town offices to include labor and travel except toner, Drums, Fusers, maintenance kits and parts.

Lisa Sharp made a motion to approve the Maintenance Agreement and authorize the Board Chair to sign.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Resignations:

Randy Moore read two letters of resignation.

John Hanzas regrettably submitted his resignation as Tree Warden and Carol Bean resigned from the Bradford Parks and Recreation Committee.

Carol Taylor made a motion to accept with regret and sincere thanks both John Hanzas's and Carol Bean's resignations.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Solar Project-Copelands

Tim Copeland provided color maps and discussed the proposed 500KW solar array in the Industrial Park. The site is on the field where perchloroethylene is being monitored by the EPA. The site would need to be designed in a way that would not interfere with those wells and would encroach on the state's regulatory 100 foot setback from state highways. He is also waiting for a response from the owner of a neighboring property. Tim and Kevin want to resubmit their request with an adjusted footage encroachment, and the Selectboard wishes to seek council as well on the terms of the agreement.

This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

Parks and Recreation:

Nila Anaya reported on several things going on. They are working on planning for next year and starting fall tennis. They met with Bob last Friday and have a proposed program---a four-week session, one day a week starting in January. He wants to concentrate on girls 18 and under, and adults one day a week, for a two-hour session at Oxbow. Nila is working with Hank Van Orman to find times that will meet their needs. It will cost \$100 a week, so it is agreed to have at least 10 people at \$20 per week per person; Nila is working on setting up a contract for this arrangement. The Committee supports the program. Randy Moore reminded her that all volunteers have to be vetted if not done so already.

Nila described a fundraising plan using donated wood from Copelands to be bagged and sold at Midnight Madness. The money would go toward bussing for a ski program offered by Northeast Slopes. Nila will double check that a capital fund has been set up for such funds.

Nila said that the Elizabeth Park parking lot lights, the flood light above the door, and internal shelter lights have been flicker or inoperable for some time and inquired into the process to begin repairs. Randy Moore said that anything under \$200 does not have to come before the Selectboard. It was recommended

that they hire an electrician to come out and look at the problem. Then and if anything requires substantial money to fix, the project would need to go out to bid.

Nila submitted her form for a background check after talking to the Bradford Teen Association and Bonna Wheeler; this way Nila can be there to lend an extra hand. Randy agreed that this is money well spent.

The Bradford Teen Association submitted a request for a Fall Paddle with Bonna. Nila added that at their last meeting, everyone agreed that they would like more clarification on where The Director of Recreation Programs falls in the hierarchy of the Town. Should Bonna Wheeler vet her ideas through the Parks and Rec Committee prior to them being presented to the Selectboard? Randy Moore agreed that the Selectboard should make this a discussion for an upcoming agenda. Lisa Sharp read the request which provided several possible dates, explained costs, transportation, and staffing. They also provided a sample permission slip. There is not enough time to do background checks for the earlier trip, and the Board agreed that there is no wish to pay for background checks for a one-time volunteer. So it would have to be a person who we have already done a background check on. The Board also requested additional information about the number of paddlers and volunteers and staff. Therefore, permission to hold the event on the earlier date of September was denied, and a decision on the October date was postponed until the additional information is received.

Lisa Sharp has agreed to be the Board liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

2016 Employee Health Insurance:

The Selectboard spent some time reviewing the blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont 2016 Plans and premiums and comparing the new plan's costs to last years'. The increase in premiums is 5% from last year. \$1132 is what the town allowed last year. A 5% increase this year would be \$1189.

Dan Perry made a motion to increase the Town of Bradford allowed to \$1,189.00, a five percent increase up from \$1132.49.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Last year employees were offered Gold, Platinum, Silver, and Bronze.

Dan Perry made a motion to offer the Gold, Platinum, Silver, and Bronze again this year.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Junk ordinance.

The Board reviewed a letter to Pacific Union Financial, LLC regarding the property at 9 South Pleasant Street to comply with the ordinance within 30 days from the date of the letter.

Carol Taylor made a motion to approve the letter and authorize the board members to sign.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Add a letter to the property owner on Cobblestone to next meeting's agenda.

Dangerous Building Ordinance/Safety Officer

Randy Moore recused himself from any decision on this matter, but asked that we contact the owner to find out what the plans are for this property before moving forward with anything.

Bradford Academy Use Applications:

Carole Taylor made a motion to approve the B. A. use applications and allow both the Democratic Caucus and the Regional Energy Plan to hold their events.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Orders:

There is a bill that is not in the orders because the Treasurer wanted to receive permission to pay for the cleaning of the swimming pool. The VLTC said a release should be obtained before any money is sent.

Dan Perry made a motion to approve the paying of the bill of \$409.99 at the time that the signed release is received.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

After hearing that there were no issues or questions concerning the orders, Dan Perry made a motion to approve the orders dated 09/09/15.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Other:

Bob wing said that now that the new restaurant sign is in compliance with the town ordinance, he can sign the application.

The Aubuchon Hardware sign went up only last year; they are not in compliance with the sign ordinance as theirs contains national brand name products on it. Bob Wing will give a notice to both the local store and the home office.

Nila Anaya asked for clarification on the Walter Lee Fund distribution which was contingent on the Town taking over the property. As a member of the Walter Lee Committee, Bob Wing explained that the decision was made because there is no sense spending the money if the Town is not going to take it over. He strongly urged the Board to ask the school to forgo the lease and just give the property to the Town. Nila Anaya will contact the school about the timing of the lease since the funds have to be spent by the end of December and therefore the bill must be to the Treasurer by mid-December.

There are three Town of Bradford employees with birthdays in September. The Selectboard signed cards for each of them.

Bob Wing said that the BCDC is in the process of getting permits to tear down the South End Market as proposed in their plan earlier this year.

Randy Moore had in his hands an Act 250 application to subdivide land into three lots. He will let Ted Unkles decide if the Town wants to be an interested party.

Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

/S/ Thomas E. Unkles, Chair

/S/ Randy L Moore, Vice Chair

/S/ Daniel A. Perry III

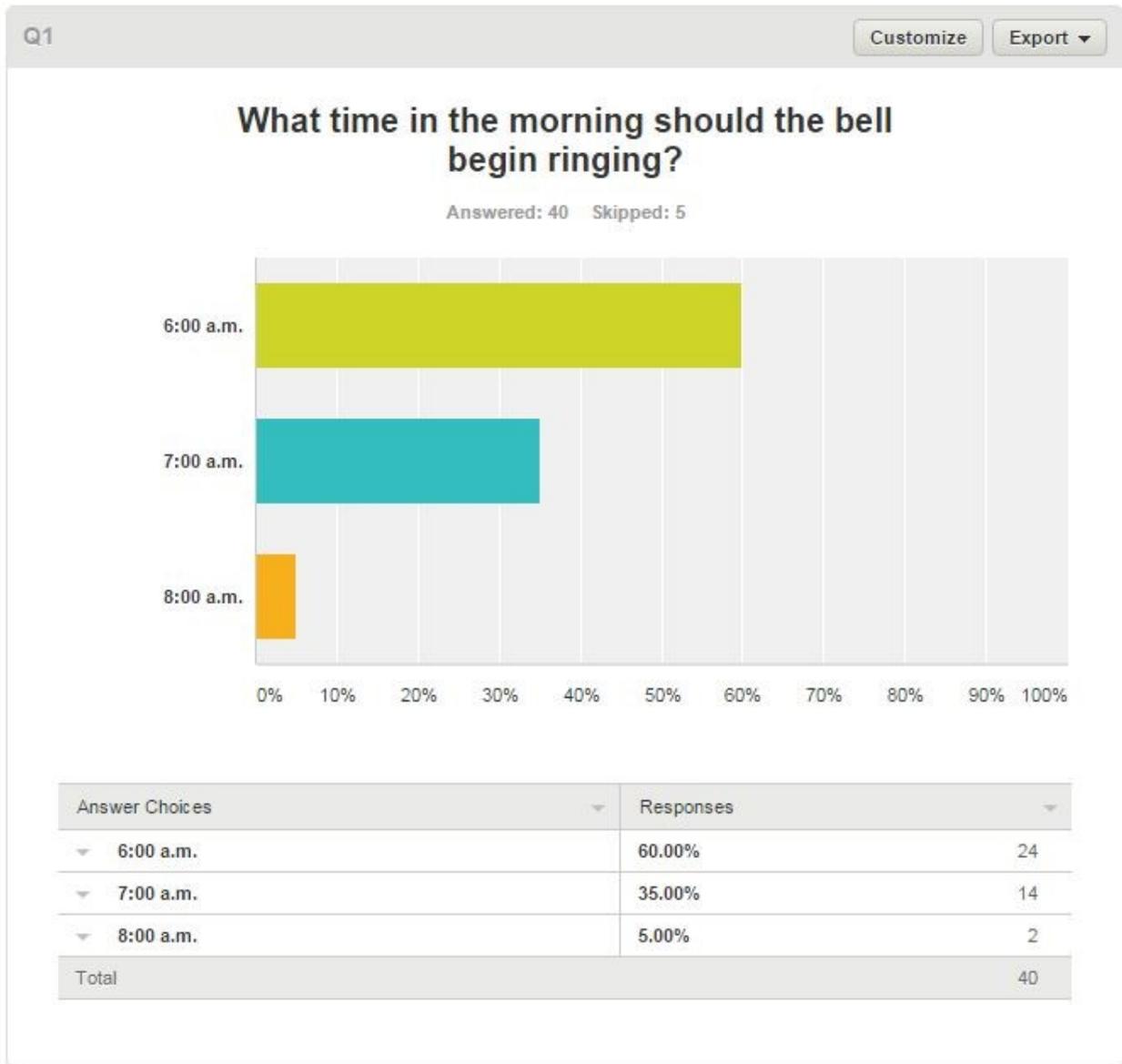
/S/ Carole P. Taylor

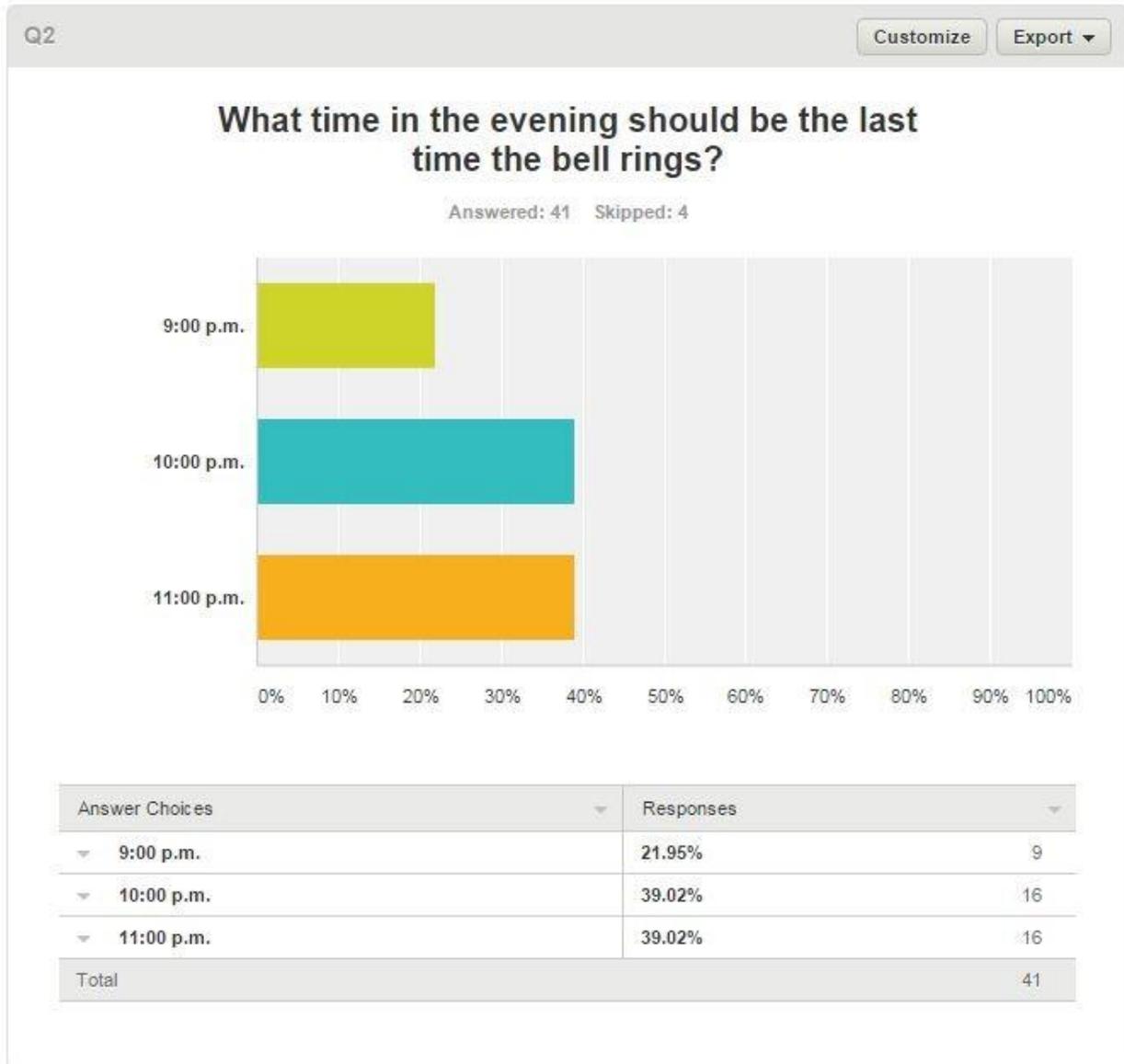
/S/ Lisa. D. Sharp

Appendix A

Bradford Town Clock Survey Results – September 9, 2015

We received 45 total responses from the survey, but not everyone answered every question.





Twenty three respondents added comments. The comments fell into several categories.

- Ten respondents stated that they think the bell should toll throughout the entire night. Several people who felt this way said that having the bell toll throughout the night is part of the character of the village.
- Nine respondents said they do not have a strong opinion on start and stop times, but it is very nice to hear the bell tolling again
- One respondent said that because the bell will disturb children’s sleep time, it should start at 9 am, and stop at 7 pm.
- Three respondents thanked Joe Button and Dan Perry for their excellent work on moving this project to completion.