

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 16, 2014

Present: Melinda Gervais-Lamoureux, Mike Worth, James Cross, Mark Castonguay, Bill Hawkins, Joel Cope, and Teresa Potwin.

Chairperson, Melinda Gervais-Lamoureux called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

Update the agenda: Joel gave the board an update to the agenda, which included, the town hall feasibility grant, and a discussion of maps.

Public comment: None.

Read and approve minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of the December 2, 2014 meeting. A motion was made by James Cross to accept the minutes as printed. Mike Worth seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Buildings and maintenance: Joel updated the board on the progress of the VLCT PACIF survey. Ray has finished with the projects he needed to fix, and the water department has finished with theirs as well. The next substantial step that needs to be worked on is a written hazard communication plan. Joel explained to the board that in order to take advantage of the VLCT grants all "A" items needed to be dealt with, and the town has done this. Joel explained to the board that VLCT is very happy with the progress in which we have made.

Joel gave the board estimates from Round Hill Fence and Mountain View Security Systems, Inc. on the alarm system at the depot. The board will discuss this at the upcoming meetings, as this will be part of the 2015 budget.

Roads: Joel reviewed the driveway access policy with additions/recommendations made by Dave Antone for the Better Back Roads grants to be adopted. A motion was made by Mike Worth to adopt the driveway access policy, with the recommended additions and the removal of the line stating " A refundable fee may be charged to ensure compliance.", Seconded by James Cross, all in favor, so carried.

Joel gave the board a copy of the annual plowing letter to review. The board looked this over and agreed that it was fine to send out.

Joel will make calls to find out the cost of hiring an engineer to see if they are able to design a plan for drainage on Alder Street.

Personnel: The board reviewed employee time sheets.

Policy for appropriation requests: Joel had asked the board what they would like the policy for new appropriation requests to be. At this time, a new appropriations request needs to have a petition in order to be placed on the warning at town meeting. Joel informed the board that by law, the board could just say that they will place these on the warning without getting a

petition. The board decided to keep things the way that they are now, and wishes that any new appropriations request come with signed petitions.

Streetlight project: Joel informed the board that the depreciation cost of the streetlights that are in place now is based on a rate that is set based on all the streetlights operated by VEC throughout the entire state. The board has stated that they are still interested in replacing all the current streetlights with LED ones, but will discuss this more at the upcoming meetings, as the cost to pay for the depreciation of the current lights will need to be added to the upcoming 2015 budget.

Cemetery: Joel gave the board a letter that the town attorney has drafted up to send to Mr. Roth and Mr. Gerstel. The board reviewed the letter and agreed that it was fine to send out.

Train hotel update: Joel informed the board that Bill McMaster from the UVM extension has obtained software on what people spend on tourism and outdoor recreation, which would tie in with the train hotel. Mr. McMaster will demonstrate this software on Monday, December 22, 2014 at 10:00 AM.

Unlicensed dogs: No updates.

Budget: The board reviewed the budget numbers.

Pay orders: The board signed the general pay order and the road pay order.

Statewide property tax resolution: Tabled.

Other business: Joel informed the board that a feasibility grant was available for \$12,000.00 to finish the town hall project, with a 25% match due from us. The board will discuss this at upcoming meetings, as this will need to be put into the 2015 budget as well.

Joel informed the board of an upcoming shore land meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.