

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

Present: Doug Niles, James Cross, Jonathan O'Keefe, David Page, Mark Castonguay, Billy Hawkins, Reno Gervais, Peter Wallbridge, Beth Barnes, Ed Barber, Ray Fontaine, Bill Bailey, Joel Cope, and Teresa DeBonville.

Chairperson, Doug Niles called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Update Agenda: Act 250 paperless authorization was added to the agenda, as well as mass mailing request.

Public comment: None.

Set roads open to snowmobiles: David Page from the Brighton snowmobile club was present to request that the same roads as years past be open to snowmobiles. (See attached list.) Joel stated that Jeff Noyes requested that they all be signed. Mr. Page stated that Vermont law states that the roads are not opened unless signed, but also stated that the snowmobile club does make sure that all roads are "signed". A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to open all former roads as listed for snowmobile use. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

David Page also stated that the snowmobile club requests that they be able to reset some culverts that had been dug up on the old county road between Charleston and Newark a couple of years ago while there was logging being done on this stretch of road, and also be able to do some ditching on this road. Mr. Page informed the board that VAST had received a grant to cover the expense of this, and just needed the town's permission to do so. A motion was made by James Cross to allow the snowmobile club to replace the culverts in question and ditch in the area requested. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

ATV use/ordinance: Reno Gervais and Peter Wallbridge were present to discuss ATV use in Island Pond. Mr. Gervais came to the board for a request to open roads to ATV use. At this time parts of the Five Mile Square Road and the Ten Mile Square Road are open. The ATV club would like to expand this to all town roads. The select board members were all in favor of this, and will work on amending the current ordinance. Beth Barnes from North Country Hospital also mentioned to the board that she works with VASA and would be willing to set up a training class here for kids under 18, as law permits them to pass the safety course before riding. Mr. Gervais and Mr. Wallbridge also informed the board that VASA would do all the signage for the roads and would cover the cost for any additional signage needed.

NCH Community Outreach Specialist Beth Barnes: Beth Barnes was present to ask the board if they would be willing to put road markings on the route to the school for bike safety to create a safer infrastructure for children and community members on route to the school. The board

agreed that this would be okay with them. Beth Barnes has left the stencil here, and the road crew will look into marking the road.

Chamber of Commerce: Pavilion painting was tabled as no chamber member was present.

Buildings and maintenance: Doug informed Ray that the board would like him to pick up 1 or 2 gallons of flex seal to fix the leak in the basement apparently coming from the shed roof above.

Joel gave the board the bid for the gym floor that he received from the church group. A motion was made by Jonathan O'keefe to approve this bid. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Joel informed the board that he has talked with some appraisers, and the cost to get an appraisal on the Depot would cost around \$3000.00. The board agreed that at this time they did not want to pursue this, but talked about having a vote to see if the town's people would like to put the Depot up for sale.

Roads: Joel showed the board the score card from the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF). This report describes the percentage of money we would receive in the case of a disaster due to our ratings.

Mark informed the board that Jason Lefebvre was hired to do the Head of the Pond Culvert project.

Mark informed the board that he had to replace two tires on the backhoe.

Bridge naming request: Joel informed the board that he had received a call from the director of the transportation board requesting the use of space to hold a hearing to rename the overpass bridge the "Tyler Pepin Memorial Bridge." The board wanted it on record that although they do not support the re-naming of this bridge, they do support the family's endeavor and all agreed that if the majority of the townspeople wanted this that they would support it.

Personnel: Tabled.

Storm water project: The project has been re-bid as of September 6, 2016. This now includes the section of Derby Street that needs to be done.

Tax mapping proposal: Joel informed the board of a proposal from the state to do the tax mapping for towns. If added to this program, we would no longer have to pay NEMRC for their services for this. A motion was made by James Cross to add Brighton to list of towns interested in this proposal. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Approve previous minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of the August 3, 2016 meeting. A motion was made by James Cross to accept the minutes as printed. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other Business: Joel showed the board a letter from the Home and School Association stating that they would like to decline their appropriation for \$500.00 for the 2016 year as this

appropriation is used for swimming lessons for the children and they were not held this year. The Home and School Association would like to continue receiving this appropriation after this year, so we will put the \$500.00 into an account from the 2016 year, and use this for the 2017 year's appropriation.

Joel informed that the expansion of the historic district requires a consultant to be hired. The board will wait for more information on this before making a decision on whether or not they would like to proceed with this.

Joel informed the board of a letter received from the state of Vermont concerning the act 250 permits becoming paperless. Joel also informed the board that in order for the town clerk to have authorization to receive these paperless permits the board would need to authorize such a request. A motion was made by James Cross to authorize the town clerk to receive these paperless applications. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Joel asked the boards permission to do a mass mailing of the notifications of the community meeting on October 4, 2016 at a cost of around \$128.00. A motion was made by James Cross to allow the town to do this mass mailing. Jonathan O'keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Tax mapping proposal: