

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 5, 2017

Present: Doug Niles, James Cross, Jonathan O'Keefe, Jeff Noyes, Heather Robinson, Ed Barber, Billy Hawkins, Mark Castonguay, Joel Cope, and Teresa DeBonville.

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

**UPDATE AGENDA:** Joel informed the board that the following items, which include ATV Survey, Depot cable, and Unlicensed dogs were updates to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Heather Robinson from NRCD on the Wetlands Planting was present to discuss the bids that she had received for the wetlands planting. Heather informed the board that she had sent out 6 requests for bids, but had only received 2 back. Heather showed the board the two bids she had received, one from Landshapes and the other from International Landscapes. Both bids came in at a higher price than estimated, but Joel explained that the grant should cover all of the expenses for this, as the rest of the project has come in under budget. A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to accept International Landscapes bid pending negotiations on the upkeep portion of the bid and also the ability to utilize more of the grant money for the project. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Joel informed the board that Jason Booth from Aldrich and Elliott was unable to make the meeting, but told Joel that the reason for his visit was the Derby Street portion of the project. A&E needs to know if the town wants to bid this portion of the project out, or if we want to change the grant and contract to include this portion through Alliance. The other issue is that the town will have to get an easement from Gilman Housing in order to access the eroded area.

Heather Robinson also asked that the board sign the authorization for the hydro seeder. Doug Niles signed the document.

**ATV SURVEY:** The board looked over the draft of the ATV Survey that was brought before them. After reviewing the survey and removing two sentences the board agreed that this was ok. A mailing of the final draft of the survey will be mailed out by the town clerk with a return date of May 1, 2017.

**DEPOT CABLE:** Joel reviewed with the board a request from Community National Bank to allow Comcast to install an underground cable at the railroad depot for the purpose of high speed internet. If the board agrees to this, a building access agreement would need to be signed by the board. A motion was made by James Cross to authorize Doug Niles to sign the agreement with the stipulation that either Community National Bank, or Comcast cover the cost of the project. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**UNLICENSED DOGS:** The town clerk gave Jeff Noyes and the select board a list of un-licensed dogs.

**BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE:** The board discussed that the gym lights had all been changed and the basketball hoops had been fixed.

**ROADS:** Mark informed the board that the one ton truck had been brought to the garage for repair.

The board discussed having Ray's position be part of the road crew. A motion was made by Jonathan O'keefe to put Ray's position under the road crew. James Cross seconded the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**ATV ORDINANCE:** The board discussed holding off on adopting the ATV Ordinance for now, until the results of the survey have been found.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND MEMPHRAMAGOG TMDL:** Joel informed the board of an upcoming meeting scheduled for Monday, April 10, 2017 to discuss the wastewater treatment plant and how it will affect Lake Memphramagog . Joel informed the board that the sewer board will be attending this meeting, and if the select board wishes to go he will warn a meeting. The board asked Joel to warn this as a meeting, as they will try to attend.

**BETTER CONNECTIONS GRANT:** Joel gave the board a copy of the requests for proposals that he thought were of essence for this grant for the board to review. The board agreed that these were good ideas.

**APPOINT SEWER COMMISSIONER:** A motion was made by Doug Niles to appoint Roland Barney as sewer commissioner. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**INTERNAL CONTROLS CHECKLIST:** The town clerk went over an internal controls checklist with the select board which comes from the Secretary of State's office. The board reviewed and, a motion was made by James Cross to allow Doug Niles to sign the checklist. Jonathan O'keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**ADOPT HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:** Joel informed the board that our Hazard Mitigation Plan had been approved. A motion was made by Jonathan O'keefe to sign the Certificate of Adoption for the plan. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**PAY ORDERS:** The board reviewed the pay orders for the road crew and the general account.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** The board reviewed the minutes of the March 15, 2017 meeting. After reviewing the minutes concerning the Henshaw Road Project, the board received some new information about the project, and put it on hold. Joel had met with the new Conte ranger, Steve Agius, generally about the relationships between Brighton and the Conte Reserve, including details of the proposed road project. Joel said he had reviewed the proposed agreement and realized that we did not know that much about the section of road we would be responsible for, in terms of potential drainage issues, or whether log trucks would be using the road. Also, we would not necessarily be in charge of selecting the contractor who would do the improvements that the town would be responsible for maintaining. Mr. Agius agreed that there were valid questions, and pointed out that there was confusion in his agency as to the actual length of the project.

Joel told the board that Mr. Agius and he talked about the downtown revitalization effort currently underway, and Mr. Agius said he would like to be involved and thought that Conte and the town could benefit each other mutually. Mr. Agius wondered if nearly \$100,000 that was intended for the Henshaw Road project could be better used to assist the town on the Cross Street Road project, on the grounds that Island Pond was the last town near Conte that provided services, and that may make it eligible for the grant. The board agreed that this would be a great help if it could be worked out.

After this discussion, a motion was made by James Cross to accept the minutes as printed. Jonathan O'keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS:** At this time the board adjourned their regularly scheduled meeting and opened the Liquor control meeting for the purpose of signing renewal applications. A motion was made by Jonathan O'keefe to sign the renewal applications for Kingdom Market, American Legion Post #80, Dollar General, KT Ray's, Lakefront Express Mart and The Essex House Tavern. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried. The regularly scheduled meeting was brought back into session at 7:40 PM.

**OVERWEIGHT PERMITS:** A motion was made by James Cross to allow Doug Niles to sign the overweight permits. Jonathan O'keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Joel gave the board the request from The Vermont Council on Rural Development for a contribution. The board discussed that VCRD has helped the town in many areas and are willing to make a contribution to them. A motion was made by James Cross to contribute \$150.00 to The Vermont Council on Rural Development. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Joel gave the board a copy of the request from Kingdom Games to hold the Island Pond Swim on Sunday, August 13, 2017. A motion was made by Jonathan O'keefe to allow Kingdom Games to hold this event. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:50 PM.**