

SELECTBOARD MEETIN MINUTES
July19,2017

Present: Doug Niles, Jonathan O'Keefe, Joel Cope, Walter Driscoll, Bill Hawkins, Rick Hannux, Mike Strait, Barbara Nolan, Craig Nolan, Ray Royce, Reno Gervais, Mark Castonguay, Ray Fontaine

Doug Niles called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Update Agenda: There were no updates.

Public Comment: There were none.

Fire Service Contract for Unified Towns and Gores: Barbara Nolan apologized to the board for misunderstanding the offer that she thought was made by the fire department. She now understands that the selectboard authorizes the agreement, not the fire department. Some discussion took place and clarification was made regarding the contract. UTG's selectboard members were not all at the meeting, so she will take the contract back to them to review. She does not believe they will have a problem with it.

Roads: Mark Castonguay said the roads are in pretty good shape right now. He will be digging up culverts on Railroad St. and replacing them with new ones. Joel will send the property owners notice of this and Mark will stop into the residence before he does the job to be sure that they know what is going on. Jonathan asked Mark to fix the bump in the road on the back side of the lake. Right now there is a cone and a sign indicating that there is a bump. There is also a spot on Cottage Road that the selectboard asked Mark to fix.

Mark said that they need to figure out what roads to pave. He said Back Street and Curran Avenue are pretty bad. He would like the selectboard to take a ride with him and make a list of what roads will be a priority.

The Selectboard discussed Back Street and it is evident that RCP trucks have caused the damage on the road. The Selectboard wants RCP to pay to make this section a concrete pad, and requested that Joel contact RCP.

Joel got another notice from the state that there are more funds available for roads. He will be getting more information on this.

Mark asked about a clothing allowance for his crew. Michael Strait will look into the price of fluorescent T-shirts for the road crew, Ray Fontaine and Bill Hawkins. Jonathan suggested buying clothing in bulk at a discounted rate. Doug suggested a clothing expense allotment for our outside workers per year instead.

Jonathan thinks Ray Fontaine should have a town truck to use for work rather than his own. They will work this into next year's budget. For now, he can coordinate with the road crew for when he may need to use one of their trucks.

Mark said he thinks the water department should fix the old town garage that they use. There has been damage done to the building and gate from plowing. Doug said he will look into this.

Mark said the hydro seeder is working out. He has seeded some ditches and the seed is coming up good.

Buildings and Maintenance: Ray said he is starting some work on the Town building. Jonathan reminded Ray to go up Mountain Street to clear banks and branches where people walk. Ray said the door in the back entry of the building should be fixed before winter. The Community National Bank Doors need to be done again. They are done twice a year. Ray thinks that we need cameras behind the town garage. Jonathan made a motion to buy a game camera for \$150-\$200 and to authorize Mark Castonguay to go and purchase it. Doug seconds the motion. All in favor. They also think they should put a sign out saying "you are under surveillance".

Joel has drafted a contract between Town of Bighton and Landworks. He asked the board if he should run it by an attorney before having it signed. Jonathan made a motion to spend \$100 to have the attorney of Vermont League of Cities and Towns review the contract. If the attorney approves the contract, they can go ahead and sign it. Doug seconded the motion. All in favor.

Michael Strait said that he is lining up a photographer to do a brochure that our town will be in. He is applying for a grant to help cover the cost of this.

Pay Orders: Pay orders were reviewed and approved.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting (July 5, 2017): Previous minutes were reviewed. Jonathan made a motion to approve the minutes. Doug Niles seconded the motion. All in favor.

Other Business: Doug had some concerns about the wetlands that he thought was a rain garden. He didn't think it was supposed to have standing water which might draw bugs and bullfrogs. Joel communicated this concern to Heather Robinson who responded by letter to the Board. She explained the difference of the smaller rain garden and the large wetlands. The larger one is actually a Stormwater Retention Pond and is supposed to have standing water. She asked that the board give this system a chance.

There are beaver dams blocking the passing of kayakers and canoers on the Clyde River. Joel will be talking to someone about removing them.

Reno Gervais is will be checking into the cost of fencing around our flowers and the pavilion area.

Bill Hawkins said we need to make arrangements for another tire day. Jonathan made a motion to have it scheduled for the second weekend of September. Doug seconded the motion. All in favor. No businesses will be allowed to bring their tires. The cost will be three dollars per tire.

Ray Fontaine said that his helper, Jerimiah Deslandes, is working out very well. The state presently pays him. We may be able to keep him on after October.

Jonathan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Doug seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

