

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 20, 2018

Present: Michael Strait, James Cross, Jonathan O'Keefe, Luke O'Brien, Bill Hawkins, Ray Fontaine, Janet Osborne, Sharon Biron, Jocelyne Gervais, Mark Castonguay, JP Gervais, Doug Niles, Joel Cope, and Teresa DeBonville.

Chairperson, Michael Strait calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Update Agenda: The agenda was updated to include Luke O'Brien from Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation to discuss plans on the Bluff Mountain Trail.

Public Comment: Luke O'Brien informed the board that he has received the recreation trails grant, which will be matched in part by the \$4,000.00 we appropriate to Northwoods every year to do work on the Bluff Mountain Trail System. Northwoods will start work on this project on Monday, June 25, 2018. This project will eventually connect Gore Mountain Trail by Norton Pond with Bluff Mountain Trail. This project will be done in two stages; the first phase will go up over Middle mountain and the second will be to clear Bluff Mountain Ridge about 8 miles and will eventually go from Pine Brook all the way down to the village.

Luke also told the board there will be an additional 2 weeks of work done in the fall to put in bridges, signs and safety markings.

Luke also mentioned to the board that another project will be underway; as the new refuge manager wants to allocate funds for his crews to do the back side of the mountain to Lewis Pond.

Buildings and maintenance: Ray informed the board that the window trim on some of the windows in the town hall are rotting and leaking. The board will have Karl Chaffee from Kingdom Construction look at this when he comes up to work on the railroad depot.

Ray informed the board that the fire marshal looked at the old historical society space and informed him that some things needed to be fixed to be up to code. As soon as we receive the preliminary report with the exact problems we will start repairing them.

Joel informed the board that Underdog Ventures is interested in moving into the old historical society space. David Berge presented the board with some requests for the board to negotiate with him about, before renting the space. (See Attachment for the requests.)The board looked over the list of requests; and a motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe that the town would be willing to rent the space to Underdog Ventures at a rate of \$8.10 per square foot for a 5-year lease with a CPI increase annually; also the town would make the improvements to the floors and walls with the town being the ones to do the work and allowing Mr. Berge to pick the color of paint, to make sure that all necessary sockets are working and to remove the freestanding wooden units. No other request will be met from his list. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Ray Fontaine asked about changing the hours of the recycle center for the 4th of July celebrations on Saturday, July 7, 2018. The board said they wanted to keep the same hours as usual.

Ray mentioned to the board that there was an Ash tree by the tennis courts that should be dug up; because its roots are pushing up the surface of the courts. The board agreed that this should be done. Ray will do this in the fall.

Ray told the board that the pole at the tennis courts had been fixed.

Roads: Mark informed the board that he had been grading, putting down chloride, etc.

The board and Doug Niles from the Recreation Department wanted to publicly thank the road crew for all the help on the ball field and Head of the Pond Road.

Recreation Department: Doug showed the board pictures of the ballfield. Everyone agreed that it looked wonderful.

Doug told the board that the kids club was going well and wanted to thank Melinda Lamoureux and Sunrise Manor for supplying lunch for the kids.

Doug informed the board that Phil White had contacted him asking to hold the 4-mile swim on the pond on August 12, 2018. A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to allow Phil White to hold this event. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor.

Ambulance update: Joel updated the board on the ambulance with the following:

The town has received written notice from Lyndon Rescue cancelling our contract as of August 15, 2018. This leaves us with the task of coming up with a short term ambulance service as of then until we can have our own squad up and running. The town has been looking into contracting with the 45th parallel coming over here, leasing our ambulance and staffing for the short term. Joel informed the board that our "van" has been proven to be road worthy, Craig Goulet from Brighton Garage said that he would inspect it and we would need to get a heart monitor for it. Joel also went over numbers with the board and attendees on starting our own squad; these numbers included providing services to the surrounding towns, doing transfers and hiring staff on a per capita basis.

On these basis if the numbers are correct this will be cheaper for the town than contracting with Lyndon Rescue at \$187,000.00 and the price rising.

JP Gervais stated that he really liked the sound of this plan, and remarked that it will take time to set this all up. The board agreed that they knew that this would take a while before we had our own squad up and running. The biggest problem is staff and training.

Joel informed the board that the town clerk had received a petition to hold a meeting about paying Lyndon Rescue the \$187,000 which was voted on by the people of Brighton on March 5, 2018 for ambulance services generally, but not specifically Lyndon Rescue. When filing a petition, certain guidelines have to be met, one of which states that the street addresses of each signer has to be on the petition. This was not done, so the town clerk returned the petition stating this and said that the people had 48 hours to return this to the town clerk.

This timeline was not met and also the decision who the town contracts with is solely the decision of the select board and can't be over ruled by the voters, so this petition is not valid, and no other action will be taken on this.

Pay orders: The board reviewed and signed the pay orders for the general account and the road department account.

Approve minutes of the previous meeting: The board reviewed the minutes of the June 6, 2018 meeting. A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to approve the minutes as printed. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.