

**BRIGHTON SELECTBOARD MINUTES  
MARCH 21, 2018**

**Present:** Mike Strait, Jim Cross, Jonathan O’Keefe, Bill Hawkins, Ray Fontaine, Jeff Noyes, Mark Castonguay, William Veve, Victor Veve, and Lisa Moore

**Update Agenda:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**William Veve/Solar Projects:** William Veve and Victor Veve spoke about two solar sites proposed for Brighton. Green Lantern Development, LLC, intends to develop a net-metered solar array on the Driscoll property located on each side of Meadow Street. They also intend to develop this property into a shared recreational public project. It already has ATV/Snowmobile trails on it, which they intend to continue to allow. He said that where they intended to put the site is a hillside with a 60% slope. This means that they would have to clear a massive amount of trees and move a lot of ground in order to meet the current rules for a preferred site status. They would like to avoid having to modify that hillside and instead move the site to better ground near the same area. They asked that the selectboard concur with the local Planning Commission and the Regional Planning Commission to designate this area as a preferred solar site. The company asked that the board sign their agreement if they found Green Lantern’s proposal to be agreeable, wished to work with them on the recreational plan and would designate this as a preferred solar site. Michael Strait said that he had done some research on their company on line and the reviews are not all positive. He said that rather than signing their proposed agreement, that he would like Joel Cope to draft our own letter that will ensure that the Town is only agreeing to specific requests and not to everything else that may occur down the road. Jim Cross made a motion for Joel Cope to draft a letter for the selectboard to sign concerning Green Lantern’s request to designate the area as a preferred solar site and work with them on a recreational plan. Jonathan O’keefe seconds the motion. All in favor.

The second solar project involves another company by the name of CRB Solar, LLC. It will occupy about 4 acres located at the Delabruere gravel pit by Rt105/Rt114. William Veve gave an overview of the project. They are simply asking the Town for a letter showing support of their project.

One of the benefits of these solar projects is that they will offer our municipality and school net meter credits.

**Buildings & Maintenance:** There are two bids on the R.R. Depot project. One is cheaper in labor and one is cheaper in material. The selectboard will further discuss this matter with Joel Cope.

The board reviewed a platform list inspection agreement. Jonathan O’Keefe made a motion to sign a three year term agreement with Vermont Elevator Inspection Service, Inc.. Jim Cross seconds. All in favor.

Ray has been painting the downstairs entry room to the Town Hall and said that we need to order new floor mats. He will talk with Joel to find out who he should call for these.

**Roads:** Mark Castonguay said that there is an issue with Goulet's plowing their snow into the street area where the road crew has just previously cleaned. He would like them to put it in a designated area and then when it gets to be a large amount he is willing to move it for them. Mark will be talking with them on this matter.

The Mill Street Project will be coming back in the near future. Jonathan said once the snow melts we will be able to see if the water gets directed to the right area. If not, the problem will have to be fixed.

There is a culvert near Ray Fontaine's house that floods. Jonathan O'Keefe and Mark Castonguay will check it out once the snow melts. It may just need to be flushed and cleaned out.

Bill Hawkins said that the snowmobiles are running over the area that we finally got grass to grow in by the Friday Night Live community area. He suggested that we rope it off. The Selectboard decided that they will have it roped off from April 1<sup>st</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup> and hydro seed the area again.

The board needed to commit to a date to get together for the VTrans Annual Highway Meeting. They agreed to have the meeting at 10:00 AM on April 20, 2018.

Mark Castonguay said that he got his 2.5% raise, but he still had not received his raise for supervising Ray Fontaine. Jonathan O'Keefe thought that this had been figured out at a prior meeting. Lisa Moore recalled that Joel Cope had told them that he needed actual numbers for this pay position. Jonathan O'Keefe & Mark Castonguay weren't sure if it was to be a 2% increase or \$1.00 or \$1.50 per hour more that Mark would receive. For payroll purposes, Lisa Moore asked if the pay increase for the Supervisor position would be only for the hours that Mark worked while supervising Ray or would the increase include hours worked as road foreman too. Jonathan clarified that it would be for all of Mark's work hours, not just the supervisor position. Michael Strait said that they will research the minutes from when Mark was offered this position and see what they say and remedy this situation at the next meeting. Michael Strait said that in the future he would never consider hiring a position this way, but this was a decision made previous to his position on the board.

There have been complaints of speeders on Railroad Street. Jeff Noyes says that he will spend some time sitting there.

Jeff Noyes has had to issue a few dog tickets. He did not have a monthly report for the board at this time but said that everything that he has been working on is moving forward. He had a little incident with the police car where he hit a slippery area, but no real damage was done. He was able to pop things back in place.

**Ambulance Update:** The board did not make an official decision at this time, but the Town is leaning toward contracting with Barton Ambulance Service for at least two years and then possibly starting our own service. Barton ambulance said that they would hire more people at a 40 hour pay week. Our current ambulance service workers will also be offered the 40 hour per week position. Luke Willard of Barton Ambulance Service has said that if we don't stay on with them that we may have to buy their communications tower. Michael Strait will tell Joel to follow up with Luke to go over what we want for staffing and when we want it. It was discussed that five days a week at 10 hours per day, not always Monday through Friday, would be good. Joel will find out with Luke what the cost will be.

**KAS Plan:** Tabled until next meeting

**Liquor License:** Jonathan O'Keefe made a motion to approve the Liquor Licenses. Jim Cross seconds. All in favor. The board signed Liquor Licenses.

**Other Business:** Doug Niles is open to suggestions for new recreational projects. No one had any new ideas at this time.

Bill Hawkins said that he has sent the boys from the community service program up to shovel the walk bridge three times now. The church group is paid to do this, but he said it had not been done.

Jim Cross made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jonathan seconds. All in favor.

**7:40 PM**