

Minutes of May 9, 2016 Regular Select Board Meeting.

Present: Board Members Carl Russell, Lisa Hill, Chris Jarvis, Vanessa Brown, and Moe Brigham. Others present: Town Manager Keith Arlund, Assistant Town Manager Abbie Sherman, Bethel Fire Chief David Aldrighetti, Geneva Gaiko, and Lisa Campbell for the "Herald of Randolph."

Chairperson Russell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of the Agenda: Russell asked to change the Work Period title to "Class 4 Roads" rather than "Ancient Roads." Russell also added to the agenda the setting of a date for review of a tax abatement request.

Public Comment or Inquiry: There was no public comment.

Reports, Motions, and Ordinances:

1. Vermont Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Memorandum of Understanding, Swift Water Rescue. Bethel Fire Chief David Aldrighetti advised the Board that the White River Valley Water Rescue Team has been asked to sign a mutual aid agreement with USAR. This is a statewide agreement, allowing for USAR to cover costs whenever the team is called out. The team is comprised of Bethel, Barnard, and South Royalton and presently has 28 members, with new members seeking certification. There are five full-time USAR teams statewide, but swift water rescue is an area that has been lacking. The White River Valley team helps to fill that void. Aldrighetti advised the Board that the departments have been working to build the team at no cost to the towns involved, using either grants or fundraising. The Board thanked Aldrighetti and the three fire departments involved for their efforts and approved the MOU. Aldrighetti also advised that he would still like to arrange a meeting with the fire department and the Board to discuss emergency operations. It is believed that the "Prepathon" in September will help facilitate this.
2. Request to Operate a Coin Drop from Sue Skaskiw of the Vermont Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society. Hill requested the coin drop be set up in front of the bandshell and not conflict with the date for the Forward Festival. Motion by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, to approve the coin drop. All were in favor.
3. Reappointment of Members to the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District. Matt Washburn and Ian Stewart have been serving as representative and alternate and are interested in continuing to serve. Motion by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, to appoint Matt Washburn as representative and Ian Stewart as alternate to the ECFiber Governing Board. All were in favor.
4. Tax Abatement Request: Board members had received a letter from Town Clerk Jean Burnham that Charles Davis is requesting an abatement of taxes. The majority of the Board is available to meet on Wednesday, May 25.
5. Town Manager's Report:
 - a. Pending Municipal Projects. Sherman updated this form to show the projects and grants currently pending. Russell asked Arlund for a more detailed list for the Town Crew. Arlund is working with the Foreman for a schedule.
 - b. Highway Equipment Replacement Purchases. Arlund presented the Board with the proposed cost to replace the 2010 International. The bid received from Clark's is the State bid price. Motion by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, to approve the purchase from Clark's. All were in favor.
 - c. FEMA Alternate Projects Update. An electrical and fire safety inspection has brought to light some pre-existing electrical bonding issues at the pool, including the fence and railing. Arlund is working with the electrician to address these as part of the current project. McKernon will be assigning more people to the building construction to ensure the project is completed in time for pool opening. DuBois & King is waiting for an approved State permit for the Old Route 12 intersection in order to proceed to put that project out to bid.
 - d. Bethel Pool Maintenance Items. Sherman has been in contact with Larry Pettit regarding the cracks that appeared in the pool last year. Pettit has recommended a fresh gel-coat to prevent the water from penetrating the fiberglass, which is in part the cause for the appearance of cracks. Sherman also advised the Board that Pettit has always advised the pool not be emptied as part of the summer preparation. Her research on the topic has substantiated the fact that an empty pool will cause cracking in the fiberglass. Ways to

treat the pool rather than empty it will be researched. The Board approved the use of the Recreation Facility Improvement Fund to support the gel coat of the pool fiberglass this spring.

- e. Constable's Report. The Board acknowledged receipt of the Constable's reports. Arlund advised that he has asked Constable Mark Belisle to monitor Peavine Park after complaints of damage to the park had been received. Arlund also requested Belisle to monitor and patrol North Main Street after receiving complaints of speeding vehicles. Hill requested violators be issued more than just a warning.
- f. Status Update of Action Items.
 - i. Christian Hill Truck Traffic. Arlund has researched various documents pertaining to the quarry operations but has only found those regarding use of a crusher. The possibility of installing road signage was discussed. It was noted this may require a change in the Traffic Ordinance.
 - ii. Cherry Hill Cemetery: Arlund has been monitoring the drainage swale during storm events and it appears to be diverting water away from the upper lots as was hoped. Complaints have been received regarding the ditch and access to those lots. A culvert could be installed to provide access. Arlund will continue to work with Cemetery Commissioner Cecil Washburn, the Town Crew, and the abutting property owner.

Work Period: Class 4 Roads

1. Criteria for Review of Class 4 Roads and Committee Charge. The matrix was updated per the Board's suggestions at a prior meeting. Discussion ensued regarding ensuring the committee met the requirements of the Open Meeting Law while also functioning appropriately to complete tasks.
2. Appointment of Members to Committee. Cold calls will be made to various community members. It was determined that 5 or 7 committee members would be needed.

Minutes and Communications:

1. Selectboard Minutes of April 25, 2016. Russell advised that he had not been clear at the prior meeting that the purpose for the first executive session was to broadly discuss legal issues pertaining to class 3 roads. Motion by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, to approve the April 25, 2016 Selectboard Minutes. All were in favor.
2. Committee Minutes. The Board acknowledged receipt of the following: (1) April 13, 2016 minutes of the Bethel/Royalton Solid Waste Management Board, it being noted that they are reviewing the interlocal agreement; (2) April 19, 2016 minutes of the Development Review Board; (3) April 20, 2016 minutes of the Planning Commission; and (4) April 25, 2016 minutes of the Town Meeting Committee.

Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board.

1. Arlund advised the Board that Tim Mills has been recommended for an award by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation.
2. Russell advised he would not be present for the May 23 meeting.
3. Hill recognized with appreciation Bob Taylor's efforts at the triangles in town and the flower garden at the Avon Drive retaining wall. Hill also thanked all who participated in Green Up Day activities.
4. Russell and Hill attended the viewing of a film on opiate addiction at the school the week before. Hill participated in the panel discussion after the film and also plans to attend a community meeting in Randolph organized by the Opiates Response Team.

At 7:14 PM, Lisa Hill made the motion to enter executive session, seconded by Moe Brigham, all were in favor. The Board returned to open meeting at 8:00 PM. At 8:01 PM, Lisa Hill made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Moe Brigham, all were in favor.

Carl Russell

Lisa Hill

Vanessa Brown

Chris Jarvis

Moe Brigham