

Minutes of May 11, 2015 Select Board Meeting

Present: Board members Bill Hall, Carl Russell and Lisa Hill. Others present: Town Manager Keith Arlund, Assistant Town Manager Abbie Sherman, Lisa Campbell, and Ele Griffin.

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Public Comment or Inquiry: There was no public comment.

Appointments: No appointments were scheduled.

Reports, Motions, and Ordinances:

1. Consideration of the Parks & Public Places Committee. Lisa Hill had requested this item be added to the agenda to determine the best placement for the Committee and whether or not the work the Committee had previously undertaken belonged with Bethel Revitalization Initiative (BRI). Bill Hall advised that he believed that Lisa Campbell is only seeking assistance from the BRI for specific projects, which Campbell confirmed. Discussion ensued regarding the overlap of interests between the Conservation Commission and the Parks & Public Places Committee. The Board will revisit the charge for each group at a future meeting. Campbell and the Board requested an ad be placed in the local paper seeking assistance from volunteers in maintaining the parks.
2. Review of Bethel Pool Group Rate Charge for ExCEL Program. Per the request of the Selectboard, the Recreation Committee reviewed the parameters of the Bethel pool group rate for the ExCEL program. Ele Griffin of the Recreation Committee advised the Board that, should the number of camp children be over 35, the pool staff will need to have an additional guard on duty. The Committee believes that a group rate of \$600 for no more than 45 ExCEL camp children will be sufficient. Motion to accept the Recreation Committee's proposed group rate was made by Carl Russell, seconded by Lisa Hill, and unanimously carried.
3. Amendment of Solar Energy Services Agreement with Novus Energy. The primary changes in the agreement with Novus Energy is a rate change from \$0.21 to \$0.19. Motion to accept the amendment was made by Carl Russell, seconded by Lisa Hill, and unanimously carried.
4. Town Manager's Report:
 - a. Update on Alternate Projects. The qualifications from engineering firms have been reviewed by three parties (Arlund, Sherman, and Lucien Hinkle), and a cost proposal has been requested from DuBois & King for two of the alternate projects. The Town has met with Vermont Integrated Architecture (VIA) regarding improvements to the Recreation Center. VIA proposed two alternatives for the pool bathhouse, and will be proceeding with the development of plans for alternative #1, which the Board reviewed.
 - b. Status Update of Action Items.
 - i. Arlund has received notice from two people interested in serving on the Bethel/Royalton Solid Waste Management Program Board: Jennifer Bartleman and Neal Fox. It was noted that Bartleman had been previously employed by the Town at the transfer station as a part-time employee. Motion to appoint Bartleman to the Solid Waste Board was made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Carl Russell, and unanimously carried. Arlund will advise Bartleman of her appointment to the Board.
 - ii. Tax sale letters have been sent out and Arlund has had contact from a number of delinquent property owners to make arrangements to clean up their accounts. Some have paid in full.

Minutes and Communications:

1. Selectboard Minutes of April 27, 2015. Minutes had not been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.
2. Committee Minutes. The Board acknowledged the following: (1) April 13, 2015 Bethel Community Forward Festival minutes; (2) April 14, 2015 Conservation Commission minutes, it being noted that Tom Warhol is now Chair of that Commission; (3) April 15, 2015 Bethel Planning Commission minutes; and (4) April 27, 2015 Town Meeting Committee minutes.

Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board.

1. Hall attended a recent Transportation Advisory Committee meeting where a presentation on seal-coating paved roads was made. This is typically done 3-5 years after paving and has the potential for reducing costs associated repaving highways. Hall would like this option considered for future years and included as part of the capital improvements plan.
2. Hill would like the Board to reach out to the Select Boards in Randolph and Royalton to expand awareness on the opiates issue.
3. Russell discussed the merit in roadside mowing occurring early in the season to help cut back on invasives.
4. Russell brought up the idea of instituting seasonal use on all class 4 roads to reduce erosion. Hall thinks the Board will need to look at each individual road and then incorporate the seasonal use into Town's road policy. Alrund will look into this.
5. Hill thanked all those who offered their time and assistance for Green Up Day.

At 6:45 PM, Lisa Hill made the motion to adjourn to Monday, May 18, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Bethel Town Offices, seconded by Carl Russell, and unanimously carried.

Bill Hall

Carl Russell

Lisa Hill