

Minutes of July 25, 2016 Regular Selectboard 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, Geneva Gaiko, Jose Lazo, Mary Floyd, Ele Griffin, Dietre Feeney, and Lisa Campbell for the "Herald of Randolph."

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

Public Comment or Inquiry

1. Mary Floyd asked that all electrical outlets at the Bandshell/Common be operational for the Forward Festival in October. Arlund will look into this.
2. Jose Lazo provided the Board with an update on Energy Committee activities. Lazo has met with Chris Sargent of Two Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Commission. He hopes that he will be able to present potential committee members at the Board's next meeting.

Reports, Motions, and Ordinances:

1. Gifford Medical Center's Last Mile Ride. Motion to support the Last Mile Ride and their route through Bethel was made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, and passed unanimously.
2. Approval of Mascoma Savings Bank Loan Documents for Highway Equipment Purchases. The Board approved seeking the note at their last meeting. Total amount is for \$125,000 to be used in conjunction with funds from the Highway Equipment Fund to purchase a new backhoe, which has been delivered, and a single axle International truck.
3. Discussion of Class 3 Town Highways. Discussion of unimproved sections of Class 3 Town Highways ensued. One such section is at the end of Wright Road, but there are other sections throughout Town, some of which the Agency of Transportation recognizes. Arlund provided the Board with the section of Vermont Statutes that pertains to the minimum standards for those highways. There are sections of three Class 3 Town Highways that are not maintained during winter months (Rindge/Woodland Road, Thayer Road, and Oxbow Road). Russell noted that the Town receives State funding to be used to maintain roads to Class 3 standards. The Board discussed whether to evaluate the roads individually or town wide. Factors to consider include whether the road leads to a dwelling, the need to create a turnaround, cost to maintain or upgrade versus reclassify, and whether the Town is out of compliance for certain sections of Class 3 Town Highways. Arlund advised the Board it is hoped the inventory and assessment of Class 3 Town Highways would be completed this summer using State grant funds. The result of this inventory will provide a capital plan with specific projects identified for erosion mitigation funding. Motion made to table the discussion until more information becomes available from the inventory and assessment was made by Moe Brigham, seconded by Lisa Hill, and passed unanimously.
4. Discussion re. Capital Improvement Planning. Russell advised that he has discussed the Town Office matrix with one former committee member, and is still working to track it down. Arlund provided the Board with a binder of the various aspects of the Capital Improvement Program that have been gathered so far. Sherman will post these to the Town website. Discussion ensued regarding whether there was a need for a committee to evaluate future Town Offices and Town Garage. Hill noted there may be other projects that will become a higher priority.
5. Town Manager's Report:
  - a. FEMA Alternate Projects Update. Arlund informed the Board that the Town has received the Section 1111 permit from the State for the intersection of Route 12 and Old Route 12 in Barnard. A punch list walk through is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26 with the architect and contractor for the bathhouse. Brigham volunteered to attend as a representative of the Board.
  - b. Constable's Report. The Board acknowledged the Constable's reports.
  - c. Status Update of Action Items.
    - i. Leak Detection Survey – scheduled to occur Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of the current week. Aaron Perez of Vermont Rural Water and Robert Hyde will also be in attendance. The Town has already corrected three major leaks that have been found. The asset management program, funded through a State grant, will begin in the fall.
    - ii. Roadside Mowing – Mowing is two thirds of the way complete, and East Bethel was covered this year.

- iii. Weekend Storms – Most debris has been cleaned up. Power has been restored to the water supply pump on Peavine Boulevard and the sewer pump station on River Street.
- iv. Selectboard Meetings – Meetings being held at the Town Hall will begin with the September 12 meeting. The Energy Committee presentation will be scheduled to occur at this meeting. Russell will contact the Town Meeting Committee regarding the upcoming budget season.
- v. Wastewater Asset Management Grant – Arlund is working with Tim Mills and Aldrich & Elliott to apply for this grant with the State, which is similar in nature to the one for the Water Department.
- vi. Town Hall Roof – Arlund has been in contact with Lisa Ryan of Vermont Historic Preservation who has advised that the roof is comprised of pressed tin which should be primed with acrylic, not oil paint.

Appointments: Members of the Recreation Committee re. Recreation Center Schedule and Update. Ele Griffin advised the Board that at their most recent meeting, the Recreation Committee discussed extending the pool season, and requested the Board's approval to remain open until August 19 this year. Dietre Feeney advised the Committee understood the budget was a concern, but that the staff does appear to be available. Sherman had provided the Board with a breakdown of cost for staying open an additional week, totaling approximately \$3,200. Sherman also advised that most staff is available, and there would be supervision of staffing through either the Director, Assistant Director, or Head Lifeguard. Pool operating hours would be 12 to 8 PM by that time. One factor for consideration was consideration of the Alternate Project and lingering projects that could be completed once the pool closed. That factor no longer applied based on new FEMA guidance received from Mary Andes of the State of Vermont. The Town will need to apply for a time extension to spend any excess funds that will remain at completion of the second Alternate Project (Old Route 12). Motion to extend the pool season to August 19, 2016 was made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Chris Jarvis, and passed unanimously.

Griffin then asked the Board for clarification on revaluation of the Master Plan and whether it was still feasible. Russell advised that he has received feedback from the public about concerns of encroaching developments, noting there seems to be less green space than anticipated in the area of the parking lot (former location of the tennis courts). Sherman advised that the required area for the fall zone for the swings is quite large. She will provide those dimensions to the Recreation Committee. Feeney requested signage be posted that says either "Swim At Your Own Risk" or "No Trespassing" for times when the pool is closed as it has been observed that people are going over the fence to use the pool. Sherman will provide for this.

#### Minutes and Communications:

1. Selectboard Minutes of July 11, 2016. Motion to approve the July 11, 2016 Selectboard minutes made by Lisa Hill, seconded by Moe Brigham, and unanimously carried.
2. Committee Minutes. The Board acknowledged receipt of the following minutes: (1) July 13, 2016, Recreation Committee meeting minutes; (2) July 5, 2016, Development Review Board meeting minutes; (3) July 13, 2016, Bethel/Royalton Solid Waste Management Board meeting minutes. It was noted Fred Duplessis of Sullivan, Powers, & Co. had attended this meeting and provided information regarding the audit and financial practices.
3. Other Communications. The Board acknowledged the White River Partnership's water quality report for July 13, 2016.

#### Any Other Business Necessary to Come Before the Board.

1. Lisa Hill questioned recent payments to EC Fiber for the downtown wireless zone, the invoices being addressed to the Bethel Business Association (BBA). Arlund advised the access point provides internet access for the Town Hall and, since the BBA has folded, he felt it important to continue that service. Hill reiterated prior Board comments of not wanting the Town to take on projects that were initiated by other groups. She asked to see if there were cheaper alternatives to providing internet access to the Town Hall. Sherman will look into this and lingering questions regarding what is on the landing page for the Wi-Fi Zone, the number of users, and agreements that were put in place at the initiation of the Wi-Fi Zone.
2. Mary Floyd requested permission from the Board for the Conservation Commission to begin their own website of activities. Chuck Davis has volunteered to spearhead this and would like the Town website to link to theirs. Russell advised that the site needs to be copasetic

with the Town's and the content be vetted and suitable for release. Jarvis suggested creating a page through the Town's website. Sherman will arrange for this.

3. Floyd inquired the Board as to the property owners for the field on Route 107, as it is growing invasives. This was the former site of the Town's biosolid fields, owned by U.S. Fish and Wildlife whom wished to see the site return to a natural state. The Town is unaware of any management plan for this area. Arlund will provide contact information to Floyd.

With no other matters to discuss, at 7:28 PM the motion to adjourn was made by Moe Brigham, seconded by Lisa Hill, and passed unanimously.

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Carl Russell

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Lisa Hill

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Vanessa Brown

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Chris Jarvis

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Moe Brigham