

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN SELECTBOARD
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 @ 7:00
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Peter Magnant, Yvon Dandurand, Andrew Godin, Wayne Laroche and Lisa Larivee-Town Clerk

Guests: Larry Myott, Peter Benevento, Howard Vansette, Susan Clark, Bryant Reynolds

Peter Magnant called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of allegiance was said.

Public Comments: none

LCCA: Peter Benevento and Larry Myott were welcomed to the meeting. Peter B had questions for the board regarding the maintenance of camp roads. In the past the roads were graded 2-3 times per season; this year only got graded once and some gravel was put down on Hammond Shore Rd but never graded out. Pete Magnant advised that past boards had allowed work to be done; the issue is that these are private roads and the town questioned whether the town should not be doing maintenance on them. With a request from Messier Road residents that live on a class 4 road for upgrades and maintenance and a policy that states the town does not maintain class 4 roads; the board made the decision to halt all work on private camp roads for this year. This may also be a liability for the town should something happen while working on these roads. Lisa inquired with VLCT and was told we have liability coverage but would depend on the claim if one were made. The board feels the land owners should have the responsibility to maintain the camp roads. The board is discussing bringing this issue up at town meeting. Maintenance costs will need to be budgeted as a separate item in the budget.

Peter B discussed the weed harvester and the operation of. LCCA would like to see a plan of the operation of and a schedule of areas to be harvested for the summer. LCCA would like to be more involved with the program and assist with hours of operation and the schedule of needs. Peter B inquired about the harvester grant that is due in the spring; the town will apply for again even though we did not receive funding in 2013.

Peter B brought up the issue of continued speeding on the north end of the lake. LCCA would like the board to investigate a speed limit change to 35 mph from Riley Rd to the Mill Pond Campground maybe on a seasonal basis. The board will have to speak with the state on this issue. Larry asked about installing "don't feed the ducks" signs on the beach as well. Peter and Larry thanked the board for everything the town does to support the LCCA. Members exited the meeting.

Highway Crew: Howard was present to give the board an update on work being done at the highway department. Towle Neighborhood Rd was graveled, graded and chloride; Riley Rd was cleaned up; moved tanks and dumpster; cleaned streets on Main St. Pete advised that when chloride is being applied that caution signs and cones be put on the blacktop ends for safety advisories. Howard was asked to attend all selectboard regular meetings to give the board monthly updates.

Town Hall Committee: Sue Clark and Bryant Reynolds were present to discuss with the board the Cultural Facilities Grant for the needs of the town hall. The grant is a 50% town match of which 50% can be in-kind. Areas of concern are:

- Drainage on the north and east of the building to rid of moisture in the basement and seal foundation cracks.
- Electrical work on stage and the main area needs to be upgraded.
- Widen the stairs to the back stage from the entry way.
- Storage below stage left for tables and chairs (\$3,000 quote)
- Curtains on windows for acoustics and smoke/fire detectors.
- Roof repair is also needed on the small addition which would not be covered under this grant.

Sue and Bryant are looking for input and approval of a grant amount and they will get quotes on priority projects as directed by the board. Sue and Bryant thanked and exited the meeting.

The board discussed the needs and agreed to apply for a \$20,000 grant of which \$5,000 will need to be budgeted for 2014; priority on the drainage and electrical upgrades. Lisa will speak with Eric Gerrard about roof leak repair.

Minutes: August 13 regular, September 3 special with highway crew. Discussion had, no changes made. Yvon/Pete made a motion to accept as written. All members voted in favor, motion passed.

Review and sign bills: Board members reviewed and signed bills.

Town Clerk Concerns:

- **Private Road naming:** Sara Rainville, 911 Coordinator, has requested the naming of a private road/drive by Moses and Veronica Powers from 1883 Moses Line Rd. They have requested "Mockingbird Way" as their drive/road name. Pete/Wayne made a motion to approve the private road name as requested. All members voted in favor, motion passed.
- **Sheriff Coverage:** Lisa recapped for the board where we are with the budget on sheriff coverage. We have spent \$3,440 of the contract for \$3,500. The board would like the additional \$500 budgeted will cover court fees if needed or the town will use on an as needed/on call for services with the Sheriff Dept. over the rest of the year. Board approved and Lisa will advise Sheriff Norris.
- **Street signs:** Lisa brought up the issue of street name signs and if the town should be paying for private drive signs. As they are a requirement of the 911 emergency systems it is felt that the town should install the signs to be sure they are compliant with the requirements.

Old Business:

- **Grissom Dog:** fines have not been paid to the court as of Sept 5. The court states the default of fines expires on Sept 27; if not paid by this date additional late fees will be assessed. Lisa will do a letter to the dog owners that if fines are not paid by Sept 27 and all requirements from the June 12, 2013 letter are not met by this date as well that the dog will be picked up by animal control. Letters to be sent registered mail and hand delivered by the animal control officer.
- **Ambulance contract:** reviewed the contract written by Enosburg Rescue Service (EMS) for services for the next three years with a 3% increase yearly; 2014 will be the last year of netted payments for the ambulance sale. The board would like to discuss the contract with Polly Gadbois before signing and being locked into EMS services until 2016; she will be invited to the next meeting.
- **Class 4 road policy:** The board discussed the current policy which is in place. It clearly states that the town does not maintain class 4 roads; that it is the responsibility of the residents or property owners as needed. The board will send letters to the residents of Messier Rd advising the board is willing to reclassify this portion of the road to class 3 after the upgrades to the state standards for class 3 roads are done and inspected by the highway dept. and road commissioner. All upgrades and work to be done by and at the cost of the residents.
- **Health Insurance:** The health insurance options reviewed with town clerk and the comparisons done by VLCT to our current plan. Discussed the deductibles and premiums. The town must register in October through the VT health exchange (VHC) with a plan cap of their benefit option. Employees will need to choose their plan with VHC in November.
- **Sand Shed:** Yvon and Wayne gave an update of the sand shed project. Wayne had spoken with FTC about the location setting and ROW to the underground lines. The project was given a final measurement to be sure all was good with FTC and the engineering of the drainage grades. Harrison Concrete had been in contact with Mr. Lussier/tarp structure supplier to get the specs for walls. The walls have been poured and drainage mostly complete. Discussed the floor; asphalt vs. concrete. Asphalt would need a 2 ft. base of stone; asphalt cost would be \$11,500-\$14,000 depending on thickness-3-4 inches. Concrete with a 5 inch thickness with rebar every 18 inches would be approx. \$15,000. Reviewed benefits/factors of both applications. Board agreed to use concrete with a sealant. Also advised that the outside walls of the structure should be tar sealed before being backfilled.
- **Dewing Bridge:** No bids have come in to date, they are due Oct 4. Lisa will create a justification sheet with the necessary criteria from the bid proposal on rating the bidders at the time of opening of bids.

New Business:

A Real estate agent has phoned regarding installation of water lines under Rte. 120/Lake Rd at the north end of the lake. Board advised as this is a state road permission would have to be granted from them for this work.

Selectboard folder:

- Selectboard institute on Nov 2 is members are interested
- Patrick Leahy has sent a letter to the board in support of their objection to the border crossing fees.
- Letter from the Highgate Selectboard thanking the board for their support in the tri-town arena project.
- VT trails and greenways resource book
- State of VT direct discharge permits notification for public comments.

Member Concerns:

- Peter reviewed the pending lawsuit regarding the chloride spill on the blacktop at Browns Corner Rd in May 2010. Lisa was asked to review and draft answers to the questions that have been asked by the court.
- Discussed the storage/organization of items at the town garage site in the lean-to attached to the salt shed and racks on the back of the sand shed.
- The weed harvester should be pulled from the lake at this time; Lisa will advise the highway crew.

Yvon/Andrew made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk
September 12, 2013

These minutes are not official until approved at the Select board's next regular meeting. Approved by Selectboard on October 8, 2013.