

Selectboard Meeting

May 16, 2016

Draft of the Selectboard Minutes

Board members present: Leonard Barrett, chair, Jerry Forbes, Earl Audet, Sue Walker, Joan Huestis, board clerk.

Also present Irene Zaccor, Town Treasurer, Mark Young from the National Bank of Orwell, Mike Sunderland, Road Forman, Ed Payne, Zoning Administrator and Regional Planning board representative, and H. Kent Wright III.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Leonard Barrett at 6PM.

Sue Walker made the motion seconded by Jerry Forbes to accept the secretary's report as written. The motion passed all in favor.

Public comment:

Ed Payne spoke first stating that the Town Plan was about wrapped up and will be part of the Regional plan if approved.

As a designated representative from the Masons, Ed stated the steps and ramp at the Community/Masonic Hall are in need of repairs. The Masons got a quote from R. K. Miles for materials at just over \$500.00. The building is owned by the town so for liability purposes the Masons are asking for permission to make the repairs as their part of the project and have the town pay up to \$500.00 toward the materials needed. The motion was made by Jerry Forbes seconded by Earl Audet to spend up to \$500.00 on materials for repairs to the steps and ramp at the Community/Masonic Hall. Discussion followed. Motion passed all in favor.

As Zoning Administrator Ed was asked about the number of vehicles that can be on a property. The answer was 3 unregistered vehicles and unlimited registered vehicles.

Kent Wright spoke on behalf of the Masons as well in regard to the bulletin board at the Community/Masonic Hall. There were several organizations that had placed papers on the board over time. Kent stated that they had all been removed and he questioned why. Irene said the Addison & Bridport Detective Society annual meeting was Saturday and they may have taken them down. Irene will track them down and get them returned to the bulletin board.

Also Kent was concerned about the road sand used by the town. He had his grandson get some this winter and it caused problems on his hardwood floors. Leonard stated it was a blend of white stone and sand and that it was what the town probably would continue to use, because it worked well on the roads.

Treasurer's Report:

Irene introduced Mark Young from the Orwell bank. Mark had brought loan paperwork that needed to be signed by the Selectboard for the new town grader. The loan is for \$200,000.00 at 2.25% interest. The loan will be paid off in 4 years at a rate of \$50,000.00. The motion was made by

Sue Walker and seconded by Earl Audet to sign the papers Mark had brought. Discussion followed. Motion passed all in favor.

Irene presented invoices totaling \$58,524.03 to be paid and reported \$183,594.11 cash on hand. Irene reported a check from the school district had been received in the amount of \$26,993.24. We are 5 months into our budget year.

The Cemetery Commission has set up a new checking account, so that the check can be written (in the amount of \$50,000.00) for the grader when it is needed. The Cemetery Commission is lending the town \$50,000.00 at 2.25% interest (the same interest rate as the National Bank of Orwell). By doing this the Cemetery Commission will receive a higher return on money that is in the perpetual care fund. Only the interest from this fund may be used toward cemetery upkeep.

Jim Craig received all moneys prior to the tax sale of the three properties listed up for tax sale. Also, Jim Craig still shows \$68,944.00 due to the town in delinquent taxes as of May 9, 2016 (after the 3 tax sale properties paid).

Department order numbers need to be on all invoices so that moneys can be traced without spending a large amount of time tracking department expenses.

The motion was made by Earl Audet seconded by Jerry Forbes to accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Discussion followed. Motion approved all in favor.

Road Report was presented by Road Forman, Mike Sunderland.

Mike reported that we did not receive any paving grants. Hoping to still receive Better Back Roads Grant. Mike presented paving projects totaling \$215,000.00 which will be put out to bid.

Mike also said the new grader was in Williston. Rouse Tire has the new tires for the grader. Earl will call Tim Pudzar to ask about keeping the old grader until we are sure the new grader is working properly, the company wants to take the old grader at the time the new grader is delivered.

The fire department is in need of replacing the asphalt in front of the fire house. It was decided to have the fire department present more information as to what they would like done to keep water from entering the building and bring the information to our next meeting.

The old mower has been advertised in the Independent and can be viewed at the town shed.

American Flags were put up on Green Mountain Power's new poles, with their permission. Handicap signs and parking lines were redone. The hydro seeder is in Starksboro and when they are done using it the town crew will use it to seed ditches and behind the Hearse House. Motion was made by Jerry Forbes and Earl Audet to accept the report as written. Much discussion followed. Motion passed all in favor.

Dusty Huestis has an excavator he would like to rent to the town. Motion was made by Leonard Barrett and seconded by Jerry Forbes to try out the excavator once proof of insurance and registration were given. Discussion followed, Motion passed all in favor.

The motion was made by Joan Huestis seconded by Jerry to purchase a new time clock that will total hours automatically.

Old business:

Sue Walker attended the Regional Meeting regarding TDI. We are waiting for an e-mail from Adam Lougie as to the legality of charging a second time, because the state has already given all the necessary permits for construction of the electric line in Lake Champlain.

Jerry Forbes attended the VTrans meeting about the clean water act. He reported the state wants \$2000.00 annually for fees and the meeting really wasn't what he was expecting. There was little discussion about clean water.

There is nothing new to report on the charter change.

There is nothing new to report on replacing the trees in the park.

New business:

Joan will gather information about putting solar panels on the town sheds and report to the board at the June meeting.

The Parrish Hall is listed for \$115,000.

Leonard made the motion and Jerry seconded to send The Emergency Management Plan to Tim Boutin with no changes. Discussion followed. Motion passed all in favor.

Meeting Adjourned 7:42

Respectfully:

Joan Huestis, recording clerk

Leonard A Barritt

Earl Hudes

Sue Walker