

**Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
September 16th, 2015**

Present at Meeting:

Bert Potter, Selectman; Aaron Korzun, Selectman; Steven Nicholson, Selectmen; Linda McGuire, Treasurer; Jamie Carrara, Road Commissioner; Sharon Winnicki, Lister; Mark Goodwin, Clerk

David Fretz
Hugh Spafford

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Selectman Potter

Approval of Agenda:

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve the agenda. . Approved

Road commissioner:

Clement Bridge ALT Project Grader:

The invoice for the new grader has been received, and is ready for delivery. Jamie requested that the paperwork / payment commence in order to meet the FEMA end of the year deadline for expenditures of ALT Project items.

Steven moved and Aaron seconded to authorize the Treasurer to use the following allocations for payment of the grader:

\$250k Line of Credit (less minimum balance requirement)

~\$98,982 from the Reserve Funds (combined)

Remainder from the General Fund (Checking account)

Approved

Drainage Work at Meeting House:

Jamie indicated that he has examined the work that needs to be done at the Community Meeting House, and based on the scale of the required work, indicated that the Road Crew would be able to do the work. He anticipates that he will be doing it in the next couple of weeks.

Old Town Garage / Storage:

Jamie informed the Selectboard that he will be commencing to tear down the dilapidated Garage / Storage barn behind the Meeting House. Steven Nicholson indicated that Terry Martin is interested in salvaging pieces of the building, in order to reassemble at the SAGE site at the Russellville School House. Aaron indicated that he will contact Terry to let him know that if he wants the material he will need to schedule removal by the end of next week, otherwise the Road Commissioner will remove the material and appropriately take it to either the Shrewsbury or Hubbard Bros. Transfer Stations.

Chloride Tank & Budget:

Jamie requested that the Selectboard not re-appropriate the chloride budget in so far as he is planning on utilizing the funds to purchase the tank and material later in the year, even though the chloride season is about finished for the year.

Extension of Plowing on the Upper Cold River Road:

The request that Hugh Spafford had made and was tabled on September 2, 2015 was reintroduced. That is; for the Town to extend plowing from where it now ceases on the north

westerly end of the Upper Cold River Rd. (Hubbard property) down to the currently closed Brown Bridge. Bert indicated that he was not in favor of this proposal at this time. The rationale was that the Brown Bridge is currently closed for rehabilitation and the approach road on the western side is closed (UCRR Shear /PW 2867 area) and there is no set schedule for repair.

Bert moved and Steven seconded to maintain the current status of the Upper Cold River Road in respect to plowing. Discussion: Mr. Spafford asked if he could be reimbursed for doing it himself. Upon advisement from the Treasurer, the Selectboard was reluctant to approve such a request because of liability insurance issues. The Road Commissioner was reluctant to commit to plow at this time for a number of reasons: 1) Setting a precedent for accommodating one individual for access to a camp; 2) The undo utilization of manpower and resources for accommodating one individual at this time; 3) That if and when the road is repaired on the other side of the bridge, there will be more accessibility for utilizing both the road and the bridge for a larger population, which would be a better time to instigate expanded maintenance, and more practical to achieve; 4) It is unclear at this time what the weight rating will be for the newly renovated bridge, and if that may place constraints of the equipment currently available to plow. Consequently the Road Commissioner would recommend against plowing at this time. Jamie also cited 19 V.S.A. §302(a)(3)(B)

The Selectboard may decide not to plow a class 3 road in winter based upon safety considerations for the traveling public and municipal employees

And 19 V.S.A. § 310(d)

If the road was routinely plowed prior to July 1, 2000, the decision can be made only after notice and hearing.

David Fretz inquired as to the status of the expectations of plowing in respect to the statements made to FEMA in regards to previous negotiations for the determination by FEMA for repair of the UCRR. At the time of negotiations the repair and FEMA's obligation had yet to be determined, based on appeals and advise of VT DEMHS. The negotiations with FEMA were specifically for those repairs outside the Town ROW. At the time FEMA's position was that because it was a Class 3 Road, which was utilized officially for less than twelve (12) months out of the year that the road did not warrant repair. The Town during those negotiations, indicated that it was prepared to obtain equipment in order to maintain (plow) the road if FEMA was to repair it, the Town also cited other criteria for repair that included emergency route access and number of trips made by residents along the road, etc. Although a determination has now been made by FEMA concerning the road repair, the actual repair has yet to commence. Bert Potter attempted to manage expectations for the Brown Bridge Neighbors in regard to the winter maintenance of the road in the above cited context, that is, for now the current status will be maintained in respect to maintenance. Approved

Hugh Spafford then inquired about sanding of the portion of the road referenced; Bert indicated that "maintain the current status" implied the inclusion of sanding.

Old VT Rte. 103:

Steven indicated that he intends to attend the AOT Closeout meeting to be held on September 29 at the Lincoln Hill Culvert site. The consensus of the Selectboard is that there needs to be a deterrence from utilizing the Old VT Rte. 103 and from it becoming a thoroughfare across Town property. The consensus is there is simply too much liability on the part of the Town in so far as it is not a road that is maintained.

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to gate the Town property on both the north and south ends as appropriate on the Old VT Rte. 103. Approved

Bert will meet with Jamie in the near future to place stakes in the appropriate places in order to call in a fence / gate installer.

Executive Session:

Bert moved and Steven seconded to enter into Executive session in order to discuss personnel matters. Approved

Executive session commenced at 8:05 PM

Executive session ended at 8:17 PM

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve the Town paying for Gil Pitts' medical premium through November 2015, upon his retirement in October. Approved

Catering License Confirmation:

The Clerk approved a catering request received September 3rd for a wedding reception on September 19th at Crisanver House by Spice of Life Catering. Because of the timing the Clerk approved per previous authorization.

State of Vermont Grant Agreements (E-sign):

The Treasurer informed the Selectboard that she has not received any documentation from the Department of Taxes in respect to an agreement that needs to be executed by September 15th. Steven indicated that he will attempt to contact the appropriate agency.

Nurse School Update:

Aaron informed the Selectboard that the work on the storm windows and gutters is due to start next week. The front entrance railing will be modified so as not to be a hazard. Aaron will be contacting Cold River Services / Tabita Souza to determine availability of cleaning when construction is finalized.

The Selectboard have determined that the current Town Office entrance will be the main entrance.

Dog / Wolf Hybrid Ordinance:

Steven distributed updated documentation regarding the proposed updated Dog / Wolf Hybrid Ordinance.

Open to the Public:

No members of the Public present at the time

New Business:

Bert will send Lisa Steckler the necessary forms that outline responsibility for the collection of bottles / returnables for fund raisers, along with instructions for signature and return to the Town.

Minutes:

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve the minutes of September 2, 2015. No discussion. Approved

Orders

Bert moved and Steven seconded to approve:

Road Commissioner Orders # 9A of September 16, 2015 for \$389,570.42. and Selectboard Orders # 9A of September 16, 2015 for \$6,628.52. (Note: ~\$327k of the Road Commissioner orders are for the purchase of the new grader, via the FEMA ALT Project reimbursement process) No discussion. Approved

Meeting was duly adjourned at 9:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.