

**Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
August 2, 2017**

Present at Meeting:

Bert Potter, Selectman; Aaron Korzun, Selectman; Steven Nicholson, Selectman; Jamie Carrara, Road Commissioner; Mark Goodwin, Clerk

Members of the Public:

Louise Duda & Cynthia Thornton, Conservation Commission, Rich Biziak, Auditor
Francis & Casey McGuinness

Call to Order:

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

Approval of Agenda:

Aaron moved and Steven seconded to approve the agenda. Approved

Road Commissioner's Report:

Jamie updated the Selectboard on the status of proposed projects that the Highway Department is anticipating:

- Deciding to postpone the drainage projects on Lincoln Hill Rd.(Smith) and Northam Rd. (Carrara) till next year. Finding suitable contractors has been difficult because of availability backlog due to the localized flooding from the July 1st rain storms has made scheduling difficult. The Road Commissioner indicated that the Grants that are funding these projects will be available through the 2018 construction season.
- Permits were received from ANR / DEC to build a buttress wall of approximately 200 feet along the Cold River Road in the area of 6804 Cold River Road (Girouard). This area was impacted by the July 1st storms and water rise on the Cold River. Fluvial erosion impacted the stabilization of the river bank in this area and requires attention in the way of rip-rap for armor and stabilization. The work has priority because of the commencement of the High Risk Rural Grant work, which will place guardrails in the specific area.
- Based on these changes the paving project scope has had to be adjusted so that newly placed pavement would not be torn up in an untimely manner. Hence additional reclamation and additional amount of material in some areas will be utilized to stretch resources so that residual paving monies can be utilized to cover these unexpected requirements and necessary work.
- The Road Commissioner reported that issues have developed in the vicinity of Crisanver House's driveway on Crown Point Rd. Drainage issues from new construction is impacting the road ROW. Jamie was seeking support from the Selectboard in discussing the problem with Michael Calotta (owner) and Pete Harrington (contractor) in so far as a Permit to Work in the ROW was not executed prior to the commencement of the work. Bert will speak with the Town Agent and request that he attend the next Selectboard meeting to discuss this and another issue affecting Town ROWs.

Rich Biziak commented in order to thank the Road Commissioner for his efforts in responding to various washouts that occurred during the July 1st rain event.

Dog Ordinance Enforcement:

Bert reported that he had left a message with the Sheriff's Department and is planning on personally visiting with Sheriff Bernard on Thursday. Items for discussion will be the cost involved with the issuance of citations in respect to infractions of the Dog and Wolf Hybrid Ordinance.

Fran McGuinness; Abutters installation of Drainage Pipe:

Fran McGuinness presented to the Selectboard an issue involving the installation of a drainage pipe from neighbors (Over) property across the Old VT 103 entranceway which acts as a common driveway for both the McGuinness' and Over's. Mr. McGuinness presented documentation (photographs) of the effects the drainage pipe has had on his property. Bert indicated that the Town Agent will be asked to attend the August 16 Selectbaord meeting in order to address the status of Old VT 103 and other ROW issues.

Open to the Public:

Members of the Conservation Commission and Rich Biziak presented a status update concerning an ongoing discussion that the SCC has been having concerning the Hidalgo property at the end of Lottery Road. The SCC is proposing formulating an "Exploratory" group to research and gather information concerning the implications of obtaining the property or parts of the property for conservation purposes. No particular strategy has been formulated, but the SCC is engaged in due diligence in addressing the apparent fact that the asking price for the property has been reduced. Weezie Duda indicated that the effort has just started moving away from the initial discussion phase and were now at the point of formulating a group of Townsfolk to work on and understand the implications of such an acquisition.

The Selectboard, although had some reservations concerning the consequences of such an acquisition primarily in respect to the implications on the Grand List, they indicated appreciation for the Shrewsbury Conservation Commission for undertaking such an effort.

The Clerk inquired if this was going to be a "Sub-Committee" of the Conservation Commission and if so how would it be constituted and as such how would it be obligated to adhere to the Open Meeting Law requirements. The group did not immediately address that issue and gave no specificity as to when and how the issue will be addressed in the future.

Minutes:

Bert moved and Steven seconded to approve the Minutes of July 19, 2017. Approved

Orders

Bert moved and Steven seconded to approve:

Road Commissioner Orders # 8 of August 2, 2017 for \$4,769.14 and Selectboard Orders # 8 of August 2, 2017 for 2,996.55. Approved

Thomas Hartigan's name was drawn as the winner of the \$10 Transfer Station Punch Card.

New Business:

Steven moved and Bert seconded to cease using AT&T as a Long-Distance carrier and utilize Vermontel, the current phone service provider, foe Long Distance service. Approved.

Meeting was duly adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

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