

**Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
October 3rd, 2018**

Present at Meeting:

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

Members of the Public:

Carroll Adams

Mark Youngstrom

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. Modifications: No Listers Update will be presented. Approved with modifications

Cold River Road Mitigation Project:

Carroll Adams addressed the Selectboard saying that he understands and appreciates the initiative that the Selectboard has undertaken to address the collapse of the bank on the Cold River bank and the imminent failure of the Cold River Road bordering his property. However, he is not in favor of the approach that the Town has taken, that is moving the road away from the Cold River towards his property, because of the impact that it would have on his property. Mr. Adams indicated that he would prefer to have the erosion problem fixed at the source, similar to what was done with the Brown Bridge approach road slide on the Upper Cold River Rd. He listed that the lay of the land in the planned relocation area is the only flat area on his land that may be suitable as a future building lot, he raised concerns about the possible impact of his water source and the close proximity and headlight disturbance that would follow when the road is moved over and ending up more in line with his house. These were some of the reasons he indicated that the compensation offered does not meet the expectations of his value of the land under consideration.

Discussion regarding the amount of land, which the Selectboard reiterated to be approximately one and one half acres, with Mr. Adams declaring that even if the monetary offer was to increase and be what he considered to be more fair, he really did not want to sell, but seemed reluctantly resigned to the prospect that the "Town will do what it needs to do".

Mr. Adams questioned if moving the road will over time actually solve the problem of the erosion, and what was there to stop the river from just undermining the proposed new section of road. The Selectboard and Mark Youngstrom provided and referred to the Haley and Aldrich geotechnical study that not only warned about the imminent road failure but also that from the data collected it indicated that at a 44 foot depth in the area the drill could no longer penetrate, indicative of either bed rock (ledge) or an extremely large boulder that could not be dislodged. That the evidence of stabilization was one of the aspects for the award from the Federal Highway Administrations determination for eligibility for a FEMA Mitigation Project that funds projects that will avoid and avert disasters before they occur.

Mark Youngstrom explained that cost associated with armoring the Cold River bank in a similar manner as the approach road to the Brown Bridge would have associated costs in the millions of dollars, and still not be assured of stabilization until the bank deteriorated to its' angle of repose. The road relocation awarded grant scope is scheduled to cost \$714, 500 (Federal Share - \$535, 875 with a match from the Town of - \$178, 625).

Mr. Adams indicated that he would attend the next Selectboard meeting to review any reconsideration that that the Selectboard might determine. By consensus the Selectboard tabled discussion until a later time.

Road Commissioner's Report:

Bert moved to go into executive session in order to discuss personnel issues with the Road Commissioner, Aaron seconded. Approved

Enter executive session at 7:30 PM

Exit executive session at 7:38 PM

Bert moved Aaron seconded to approve the Road Commissioners' plan to hire a fourth member for the Highway Department. Approved.

Road salt for 2018 will be purchased through Cargill at \$79 per ton vs. the State Contract for District 3 from Apalachee at \$75 per ton. Jamie indicated that currently Apalachee is a new vendor with the state and has no local distribution network and no assurance that it can make timely periodic delivery. Cargill on the other hand has two local distribution points and can assure price and periodic delivery when requested. Jamie indicated that typically he utilizes about 300-300.5 tons per season, with the salt shed capacity of just about one hundred tons.

Cold River Road Mitigation Project:

Bert moved and Steven seconded to go into executive session in order to utilized the attendance of Mark Youngstrom to get his perspective on options for proceeding with the Cold River Mitigation Project. Approved

Enter executive session at 7:48 PM

Exit executive session at 7:54 PM

Steven moved to send a letter to Carroll Adams regarding the necessity of the project for the health and safety of the community with and updated compensation offer. Approved

GMP Power Line Relocation:

Mark Youngstrom presented the petition signed by 87 individuals that requests the Selectboard to write a letter to Green Mountain Power that the planned relocations of power infrastructure along Northam and Crown Point Rd. will cause undue aesthetic impact on two significant Town Highways. Mr. Youngstrom summarized in some detail the recent statements from GMP at a recent community meeting in regards to specifics of Rights of Way, current utility corridors and obligations by GMP to notify the Town of impending power pole relocations.

Steve moved and Aaron seconded to send a letter to GMP indicating that the Selectboard is in support of the petition and its' initiative and will be sending a letter indicating it does not support a relocation of the existing distribution corridors. Approved.

Open to the Public:

No public present at the time.

New Business:

Orders:

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve:

Selectboard Orders #10 of 10/4/2018 for \$24,743.67 and Road Commissioner Orders #10 of 10/3/2018 for \$22,588.17. (Note: Road Commissioner Orders ~19k for winter sand and Selectboard Orders included ~22k for the Garage bond payment)). Approved

Minutes:

Aaron moved and Bert seconded to approve the minutes of 9/19/2018 & 9/21/2018. Approved

Meeting was duly adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

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