

**Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
July 17th, 2019**

Present at Meeting:

Bert Potter, Selectman; Steven Nicholson, Selectman; Aaron Korzun, Selectman; Mark Goodwin, Clerk

Jonathan Gibson – Ad Hoc Telecom Group

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: Update on status of Public Utility Commission review of Backup Power Obligations, Forest Fire Warden Appointment, Letter from Brian Ferguson re. Mitchell Road flooding and erosion, GMP request to meet with the Selectboard in order to clarify plans and options, complaint of residual signage from the VT Monster Bicycle Event. Approved with modifications

Cold River Road Relocation & Lottery Rd Culvert Status:

Lottery Rd. Culvert:

The schedule for this project has been delayed by the contractor. The tentative new date for the road closure will be September 10 through October 11. According to Otter Creek Engineering, the contractor indicated that the project will be within the time parameters of the stream alteration guidelines and permit.

Cold River Road Relocation:

A partial payment request from M&M of \$161,614.19 was received. This represents approximately 53.52% of the contracted cost. Work on the project appears to be going smoothly and the Selectboard is not aware of any delays or other substantial concerns at this time.

Brown Bridge Area Penurious Camping:

In response to numerous complaints and concerns regarding overnight camping on Town owned land in the vicinity of the Brown Bridge, particularly in regards to health and personal safety, Bert has been attempting to speak with the Sheriff but has reported that his phone messages have not been returned so that he will need to contact the Sheriff in person at his office. Bert is attempting to seek recommendations and assistance on the process of serving eviction notices to those who have established semi-permanent / seasonal camps in the area.

New Business:

VT Department of Public Service Order on the Scope of Workshop Proceedings:

Jonathan Gibson reported that the PUC directed the Public Service Department to conduct additional workshop proceedings to investigate the substantive concerns about battery backup and provide recommended findings and a draft report to the Commission. Mr. Gibson pointed out to the Selectboard that the Town of Shrewsbury's concerns iterated in its June 19th response to the PUC was cited in the PUC order to the Dept. of Public Service to expand their investigations.

Brian Ferguson – Mitchell Rd. Flooding and Erosion:

The Selectboard received correspondence from Brian Ferguson outlining his concern about recent flooding on Mitchell Rd and how the erosion is impacting his pond and property. Currently the Road Commissioner is replacing a number of culverts that were impacted by the recent heavy rains in conjunction with specifications outlined by both VT Dot and ANR Municipal Roads General Permit. In addition, Mr. Ferguson had contacted Josh Carvajal, VT DEC Rivers Program in respect to the design status of his pond, in which DEC responded to both Mr. Ferguson and the Town indicating that the pond is feed by a perennial stream and is regulated under the Stream Alteration General Permit criteria. It is stated that the pond is a separate issue than the roadside improvements that the Town is undertaking. That, because of the inherent nature of a pond embedded into a perennial stream it will be constantly filling with debris and sediment. The Town therefore has no jurisdiction in regards to the design or abatement of design deficiencies related to the pond. The road work being undertaken on Mitchell is compliant with designated best practices and State certified Road & Bridge Standards as noted by Mr. Carvajal. The Selectboard will let DEC's response to Mr. Ferguson stand as their response, in so far as they have no jurisdiction in regards to the pond design nor any abatement of the reconstruction undertaken by the Road Commissioner which is in compliance with stands and practices.

GMP

Aaron reported that he was able to contact Kristin Kelly, Director of Communications for GMP in respect to the ongoing Reliability Project. Aaron reported that GMP would like to meet at the August 7 regular Selectboard meeting to discuss options that would take into account those concerns that have been expressed to GMP in the formulation of their Reliability Plan for Shrewsbury.

Forest Fire Warden Appointment:

Upon receipt of a nomination letter from the Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation, for the appointment of Kevin Brown as Forest Fire Warden for a term of five years (the appointment had expired in June of 2018).

Steven moved and Arron seconded to appointment Kevin Brown as Forest Fire Warden for Shrewsbury. Approved.

Open to the Public:

No members of the Public present

Minutes:

Correction of the minutes from July 3, 2019. Bert moved and Aaron seconded reconsider and to not waive the penalty for late filing of the Homestead Declaration. Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Aaron moved and Steven seconded to approve the minutes of 7/3/2019 as corrected. Approved

Orders:

Correction to the apparent transposition of Selectboard Orders # 7 of 7/3/2019 from \$3,641.36 to \$3,461.36

Bert moved and Steven seconded to approve:

Selectboard Orders #7A of 7/17/2019 of \$2,854.58 and Road Commissioner Orders #7A of 7/17/2019 for \$ 169,322.15 (Note: Road Commissioner Orders include approved partial payment for the Cold River Road Relocation Project). Approved

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

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