

**Minutes of Selectboard Meeting  
September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Present at Meeting:**

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

Russell Reay

Liesbeth Van der Heijden

Sharon Winnicki – Chair

Warren Gardner

Kristin Kelly – Green Mountain Power, Dir. Communications

Mike Burke – Green Mountain Power, Chief Field Operations Executive

Mark Youngstrom – OCE

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Selectman Potter

**Approval of Agenda:**

Aaron moved and Bert seconded to approve the agenda. Approved

**Gaynor Rd Access from Vt Rte. 103:**

Russell Reay, agent for the abutting property owners (Dobler) summarized the impact of June rains which significantly damaged and impacted Gaynor Rd. to the extent that the Railroad track that runs parallel to VT Rte. 103 in the area of the foot of Gaynor Road was washed out, necessitating mitigation by the VT DOT. Upon further examination of the infrastructure of Gaynor Road (Class 4), it was discovered that a culvert had been installed some time ago, but the Road Commissioner nor VT DOT had no inventory of it. The recommendation by VT DOT, made in consultation with the Road Commissioner, was to remove the culvert so as not to cause any impediment for water to run in the ditches along the segment of road that was significantly impacted.

The abutting land owners had already sought and received permission from the Selectboard to utilize the road as part of a timber sale, with the caveat that the road would be returned to the codes and standards required to be in compliance with ACT 64.

The road will require about a day's work to remediate the damage as well as pulling the culvert as recommended by VT DOT. This will add additional scheduling issues to the Road Commissioner whose schedule has been altered numerous times already this construction season due to unexpected impacts of flooding and erosion as well as ongoing projects. The Selectboard indicated that they are not averse to rehabilitating the road to Class 4 standards including the required erosion mitigation, however they could not commit to meeting Russell Reay's schedule ahead of the Road Commissioner's schedule.

**GMP – Reliability Project Discussion:**

Kristin Kelly and Mike Burke presented an initial proposal to the Selectboard to initiate a discussion in response to a previous plan regarding the resiliency of power distribution in Shrewsbury. The previous plan which called for new overhead poles that were taller and closer together so as to accommodate the heavier shielded wire, was met with resistance from property owners and residents who had concerns in respect to the existing utility corridor

easements and the impact of moving those corridors out, in most cases from off road placement, to the road ROWs.

The summarization of the proposal, which is still to be engineered and presented as a defined project by GMP, consists of using newer technology to bury substantial segments of the power distribution lines. The presentation enumerated a number of different facets of the technology to be utilized and had proven to be successful in other towns (Heinsberg) on a pilot basis.

Statements were made about the safety and reliability as well as the GMP rationale for emphasizing resilient and reliable power to GMP customers impacted by power outages impacting other utilities that are relied on by those customers such as telecommunications. The Selectboard was positive in their response to the proposal as summarized, and will pass some of the highlights of the plan onto the Road Commissioner who is responsible for maintaining the codes and standards along the Road Right of Ways in order that he is aware of the proposal as initially discussed and solicit input from him.

Mike Burke indicated that a more formalized detailed engineering plan will be drawn up and presented in a future presentation.

#### **Catering License:**

A Catering License application was received, for a wedding to take place at 1204 Bailey Rd. This is the second application for catered wedding in the past two months.

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve the Catering License. Discussion: It was brought to the attention of the Selectboard that the Cashel's had previously submitted an application for a Conditional Use Permit for a wedding venue, but the application was withdrawn with no determination of a Conditional Uses specified by permit. The motion passed, Steven and Arron voting in the affirmative, Bert voting - No.

Steven indicated he will be contacting the Cashell's in order to get a better understanding as to what the Town might expect in respect to the Cashell's plans visa via multiple weddings and/or catered events.

#### **Cold River Relocation Road and Lottery Rd. Culvert Projects:**

Mark Youngstrom presented project updates for Cold River Rd:

- Certificate of Substantial Completion – project is 99.8% complete
- Change Order #3 – Referencing additional fill and tree planting
- Payment Requisition #3 – Overall the project is ~\$40k under budget for the Town portion of costs.

Steven moved and Bert seconded to approve Change Order #3 for \$13,012 and Payment Requisition #3 for \$118,397.22. Approved

Bert moved and Steven seconded to acknowledge receipt of the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Cold River Rd Relocation project. Approved.

Lottery Road Culvert replacement project is on schedule, with a pre-construction meeting scheduled for next week.

#### **New Business:**

Work in the Right of Way

Aaron Moved to approve the Work in the Right of Way for 2005 Keiffer Rd. in so far as a letter indicating permission from the property owners (Tarbell) to utilize the RoW was received.

Approved

**Minutes:**

Bert moved and Steven seconded to approve the minutes of 8/21/2019. Approved

**Open to the Public:**

No members of the Public present

**Orders:**

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve:

Selectboard Orders #9 of 9/4/2019 of \$4,261.71 and Road Commissioner Orders #9 of 9/4/2019 for \$ 155,674.58. (Note: Includes \$118,397.22 payment for the Cold River Rd. Relocation)

Approved

Meeting was 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.*