

**Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
December 4th, 2019**

Present at Meeting:

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

Conservation Commission: Louise Duda, Cynthia Thornton, Peter Grace, Connie Youngstrom, Pam Darrow

Planning Commission: Laura Black, Melisa Reichert

Randy Page

Sandy Bragg

Mark Youngstrom – Otter Creek Engineering

Ann Vanneman

Alyssa & Elliot Stewart

Call to Order:

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

Approval of Agenda:

Arron moved and Bert seconded to approve the agenda. Modifications: Additions: Better Back Roads Grant application, Advanced Notice to Proceed – DPS Grant, Transfer Station recyclables, Otter Creek Engineering closeout documents for Cold River Rd. Relocation and Lottery Road Culvert projects. Approved with modifications

Lottery Road Wildlife Corridor:

Louise Duda again presented the Conservation Commission project that is assisting Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife in obtaining the 527 acre Hidalgo property at the end of Lottery Rd. This initiative is being undertaken by the State, who has been studying the area for a number of years, in order to protect a large critical forest block that has been determined to be an important wildlife area for species migration, range habitat and critical ecological functions within Vermont. And ANR has determined that the State would benefit with the addition of this parcel as an inclusion to the overall mission of F&W as determined by the Agency.

The Conservation Commission is requesting that the Selectboard transmit a letter of support to Fish & Wildlife's Jane Lazorchak-Public Lands Section Chief as part of the State of Vermont acquisition process. This is a pro forma endorsement utilized in the acquisition package that is sent to the Governor with a recommendation for approval.

Randy Page commented on his concerns regarding the loss of privately owned land and the consequential loss of school revenue paid by a single entity rather than payment of the School tax being dispersed throughout the State as a share to all Educational Taxpayers. Randy questioned the "corridor" aspect of the project in so far as the parcel to be conserved is not directly abutting any other State owned or conserved parcel making the "corridor" aspect of the project tenuous from his perspective. Randy also commented on the fact that there had been no "Public Hearings" on this acquisition.

Laura Black, Chair of the Planning Commission reiterated that the Town Zoning Regulations as well as the Town Plan has had an overlay district and specific policies in support of wildlife

corridors and undeveloped forest blocks in our zoning and Town Plan since 2008 and has been compliant with Act 171 in respect to Forest Blocks since enacted in 2016, the enactment of which require Public Notifications and hearings.

The Conservation Commission referenced previous forums where this types of conservation projects were ranked as priorities for future planning and conservation goals.

Bert moved and Steven seconded to modify the language of the template letter to indicate that the Shrewsbury Selectboard “does not oppose” the acquisition of this parcel by Fish and Wildlife as a Wildlife Management Area for among other activities hunting and non-motorized recreation. Approved

Old Barn / Stewart Enterprises Liquor License Application:

Alyssa Stewart presented an application for a 2nd Class Liquor License (Sale of Malt and Vinous liquor) for the Old Barn in Cuttingsville.

Alyssa indicated that the license is required to sell beer and wine at the retail enterprise operating at the Old Barn site in the Post Office / Rustic Rooster complex.

Aaron moved and Bert seconded to approve the application. Approved

Otter Creek Engineering- Closeout for Cold River Rd. Relocation and Lottery Rd. Culvert Projects:

Mark Youngstrom present for approval closeout documentation for \$14,491.30 for the Cold River Road Relocation and \$53, 313.62 for the Lottery Road Culvert project, and Certificate of Final Completion for the Lottery Road Culvert Project. These represented the final payments to the respective construction contractors for work that has been substantially completed. OCE indicated that there may be additional minimal administrative costs associated with submissions to the granting agencies for final payment to the Town for reimbursement of the projects funded by grants with associated matching monies from the Town.

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve the closeout documents for the respective projects.

Approved

Bert moved and Steven seconded to approve the Certificate of Final Completion for the Lottery Road Culvert. Approved

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant:

Bert signed the Grant application per previous approval of 11/20/2019.

Open to the Public:

Ann Vanneman inquired of the Selectboard about the process of discarding Compact Florescent Light (CFL) bulbs and batteries at the Transfer Station, in so far as the bucket that was utilized to collect those items are no longer at the Transfer Station.

Bert responded by indicating that although the process was addressed in a past Times of Shrewsbury, the current ANR regulations: Environmental Producer Responsibility (EPR) Products -(Paint, CFL Bulbs, Batteries, and Electronic Waste) mandate that materials deemed hazardous like CFLs that contain mercury, or residual paint or re-chargeable batteries are to be returned to the supplier or outlet that sells that material. Bert also indicated that he will request that the new procedures for this type of waste will be published again in the Times of Shrewsbury (currently posted on the Shrewsbury website: [www. Shrewsburyvt.org/Town Office/Transfer Station/EPR Collection Information](http://www.Shrewsburyvt.org/TownOffice/TransferStation/EPRCollectionInformation)).

Hold Harmless Payment:

The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of the Hold Harmless payment to the Town from the State is \$61,755. Hold Harmless is the payment from the State to the Town for loss of municipal revenue for assessment of property enrolled in Use Value or Current Use.

Review of Rutland County proposed 2020 Tax:

For budget purposes the County Court has submitted a proposed budget that increases 0.002% based on the 2020 Grand List for the respective Town.

Minutes:

Bert moved and Aaron seconded to approve the minutes of 11/20/2019. Approved

Orders:

Bert moved and Steven seconded to approve:

Selectboard Orders #12 of 12/4/2019 of \$1,779.13 and Road Commissioner Orders #12 of 12/4/2019 for \$ 82,378.90 (Note: \$14,491.30 for the Cold River Relocation and \$ 53,313.62 for the Lottery Rd Culvert projects). Approved

Transfer Station Drawing:

The following names were drawn for the \$10 Punch Card drawing:

November – Sue Kelly

December – Alan Crossman

Meeting was 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.