Selectboard Meeting

Unapproved Minutes

Monday, January 23, 2017

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Jim Bowen, Robert Meagher (by phone)

Guests: Tom & Anne Pierce, Jeannette Bair, Dan Gendron, Tim Crowley, Mason Wade, Jeremy Rathbun, Charles Johnsten, Mike Harvey, Terry Severy, Vic Ribaudo, Lois Bond, Barb DeHart, Nancy Woolley, Bud Venturini

Doon called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

**Additions to agenda**: Joan noted that Lucy Gibson from Dubois and King will not attend tonight’s meeting. Doon added the petition for an article regarding public funds.

Minutes from 1/9/17 meeting were approved. Doon made motion to accept, Jim seconded. So voted.

Guests: Jeremy Rathbun of Dubois & King spoke to the board about Site 3 sewer system. Jeremy explained about the annual review that has taken place for years first with Phelps Engineering and now with Dubois & King. In 2013, concerns arose regarding the leach field at Site 3. We checked with the State of Vermont about refurbishing this site where located, which was approved. In July, it was found that the site was beginning to fail and plans should be made to replace. It’s been over 3 years now, and more signs of failure are occurring. The time has come to plan refurbishing the site. Jeremy prepared a preliminary opinion of cost, which will be $350,000-$400,000 to rebuild the site. This would also reduce pumping costs as well. Funding the project could be through Rural Development and clean water state revolving loan fund could be helpful in funding. Jeremy noted that the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund is looking for projects. In 2016 law was changed that any project receiving federal monies has to follow strict guidelines as far as picking engineers/design professionals. Need a request for qualifications for the competitive process. He handed a packet to the board with information about the company, FAQ’s and info about the CWSRLF. Town will need to prepare to request bids for engineering and for construction, and will need to vote on a bond for the money. The concern is that if we wait until it fails, we may be forced to pipe site 3 over to site 4. Terry agrees with Jeremy that the site needs to be repaired. Short discussion ensued. Robert asked if we should have Kricket McCusker help create the qualifications for bidding for engineer. If she is not interested in pursuing the project, she would be helpful in that capacity.

Doon noted that Marvin Harvey has resigned as Stagecoach Representative after many years of service. He noted that Tim Crowley has stepped forward to fill the position. Robert made motion to accept Marvin’s resignation with great thanks for his service, seconded by Doon. Doon made motion to accept Tim Crowley as new appointee to Stagecoach board, seconded by Robert. So voted.

Doon noted that he added the petition that was circulated asking the Trustees of Public Funds to change its income stream from Wall Street investments, etc. to harvesting solar electricity for its income stream and to hold the funds in a Vermont Credit Union. The petition also asks that the Trustees will hold updated public meetings every third month until the program is realized and that a yearly report will be published in the annual report. The petition has enough signatures to be accepted. Doon noted that he does not know that the petition can be accepted. The TOPF have guidelines as to how the money can be treated, so this cannot be put to a vote. Copies of the Townsend Hutchinson fund guidelines that were reviewed by Atty Paul Gilles in 2002 were available for the public. The TOPF are bound by 24 VSA 2432 which lists the type of investments the Town can make with public funds which include US bonds, municipal bonds etc. Doon recommends that this request for the town to become “green” be directed in a different manner. There is definite interest, but another way will need to be found other than using public funds. Mason asked if the Town could go to a Vermont judge to have these guidelines rewritten. Robert noted that it is not considered a valid article at this time but wondered if it should be directed to VLCT to see what they think. Doon spoke with VLCT today, and they verified that this is not a legal article, but could be discussed under “other business”. Discussion ensued. Anne Pierce noted that income from trust documents are earmarked for the poor in many of the trusts. Mike Harvey noted that this is a legislative matter. The trustees are managers of the funds, and changing the trust will need legislative work. TOPF meetings are public meetings, and people are welcome to attend. Mason noted that this is about the voters choosing new directions to invest in. The voters do not have statutory right to instruct the trustees on how to invest funds, therefore this article cannot be presented for a vote. Short discussion continued, and Doon asked Mason to keep trying to bring more “green” into Rochester.

It was noted that Health Connections of Upper Valley will hold a meeting about drug abuse in the valley at the VT Law School on Jan 31st.

New Business: Liquor license for the Skip Mart was reviewed. Doon made motion to approve, seconded by Jim. So voted. The management findings for the June 30 2016 audit were reviewed and signed.

Chet Brown from the Solid Waste Alliance requested use of the town parking lot on a Saturday in September 2017 for a hazardous waste pickup location. The board agreed to allow this as long as it does not fall on the 1st Saturday of the month, which is our recycling day. Doon made motion to allow, seconded by Jim. So voted.

TRORC forwarded a notice of the re-use project deadlines (205, 209 North Main-New Park) for the CDBG grants. Doon noted that this project is moving forward again and bids are due early February. Project should be completed and closed out by June 30, 2017. A copy of the 2016 Highway Mileage Certificate was reviewed.

Robert will take care of the Bridge Restrictions filing when he returns.

Bills were reviewed, warrants signed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McDonnell