

Selectboard Meeting

February 24, 2020

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Tom Schnabel, Pat Harvey

Guests: Martha Slater, Tony Goupee, Terry Severy, Walt Wells, Nancy Woolley, Mason Wade, Harland McKirryher, Robert Meagher, Dan Mckinley, Larry Pleasant, Nancy Wooley, Tenner Kinsley, Barb Dehart, Kathryn Schenkman, Evelyn Pruiksma, Dave Harvey, Lizzy Shackelford and Nancy Sanz

Doon called the meeting at 6:52 pm

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Additions to the agenda: Harland-missing book; Tenner- legal fees; Robert- Envision Rochester

Doon moved to accept the minutes with the corrections of the typos. Tom seconded, all in favor.

Library Updates: Tony noted this week in 7days there was a great article about Libraries in VT.

Highway Updates: Doon noted that the truck was not done yet but that the crew was headed up to Clark's to get a loaner truck. Doon noted that the 550 with the burned-up transmission was going to be fixed under warranty. Doon noted the 550 would have the new transmission installed and picked up the next day. Kathryn noted that big pieces of asphalt were in chunks on the side walks and would need to let the sidewalk contractor know so he didn't run over them.

Utilities Updates: Terry asked if the hydrants were ever going to get done. Doon noted and agreed they needed to be attended to.

New Business: Doon noted we have a request for permission from the VT Grand Fondo cycling event to use roadways on Saturday, June 27th. We will also notify ambulance services and the Sheriff's Department for services that day. Doon moved to approve and Tom seconded. All in favor, so voted. Doon noted we also have a proposal for the VT Senior Games events in Rochester held October 3, 2020. The Selectboard approved.

Dan spoke about the Envision Rochester updates. He noted that it's a new facilitation of characters trying to spear on some interest on keeping our town sustainable. Dan noted the Envision Rochester group had a few community meetings and asked community members what would be important and came up with broad topics with dozens of sub-topics. Dan noted that there was a workshop recently at Pierce Hall that asked the folks out of the 13 topics, what would be the four most important. Dan noted that the selected topics from the 48 members, were Park and Events, Education and the School Building, attracting young families to the community, and fourth was Commerce and Jobs and Agriculture. Dan noted that all those groups will be meeting again to continue to work. He noted Envision Rochester isn't telling them what to do and how to run their ideas through the committee, he noted its empowering them to continue to work on their ideas through their committees and to do it with intention of having broad community support. He noted there will be another meeting two-months out from the last meeting to bring all the groups back together to update all the information and what they have learned and what decisions were made and to give feed-back and see if they can share resources. He noted that it encourages other small groups to get started. Dan noted there are flip charts posted on the White River Community calendar and information will be posted there.

Robert spoke about his participation in the Education and School Envision group. He noted that they are in the information and gathering stage. He gave a brief overview of the two buildings, each that would have two parts. The south main portion of the Elementary School and the North end which encompasses the kitchens and gymnasium and classrooms. He noted within the High School and on the West End are the auditorium, shops, music room and home economic room also the east side of the building. Robert noted that the school has started on the process to evaluate the buildings to decide which one it wants to be in. He noted they didn't want to maintain both buildings. Some of the engineered proposals are envisioning where they would spend a lot of money to do it all in one building. Robert noted what would make most sense is for the school to have all of one building and some of the other. He noted then let the tenants that are compatible to share the rest of the space. There is a lot of interest of using the rest of the space with ideas of what the community needs. He noted is it only at the gathering of informational stage. Robert asked the selectboard for their input and to work together. Kathryn noted that it would be great to get the blessing of the selectboard to work together to gather and share interest. Tom asked if the space would only be municipal or could it be commercial space as well. Robert noted all ideas are great and is just the gathering of information. Doon moved to accept the idea to work with the Envision group as they move forward. Discussion ensued about the ideas of use for the buildings. Doon noted the excitement and energy for future process and working towards the needs of the community.

Doon asked if anyone found the book. Tom noted that he didn't find the book downstairs but did find audio tapes from the school board meetings. Doon noted that the tapes were used to transcribe with.

Doon noted to Tenner's request about the update from the legal fees and that there wasn't a change from the last meeting of \$63,133.98 over the last 3 years. Doon asked what we put in the budget for legal fees and it was noted \$15,000.00. Dave asked if it is going to stop anytime soon. Doon noted he couldn't answer that.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Smith