

Selectboard Meeting

April 8, 2019

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Tom Schnabel, Pat Harvey

Guests: Mason Wade filming for Orca Media, Terry Severy, Martha Slater, Nancy Woolley, Joan Allen, John Champion, Mark Belisle, Oscar Gardner, Carol Zeglen, Deb Moore, Dean and Connie Mendell

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

Additions to the Agenda: Deb and Carol discussing 5G

Minutes: Doon moved to approve the minutes from the Selectboard meeting on March 25, 2019. Tom seconded. So voted.

Deb Moore invited all to attend an informational documentary on the Opposition of 5G. The filmed documentary will be held at the Rochester Public Library on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Doon Hinderyckx was nominated as the Selectboard chair by Pat Harvey. Tom Seconded. So voted.

Doon nominated Nancy Woolley on the Cemetery Committee. Tom seconded. So voted.

Chris Mattrick spoke as a guest speaker from the US Forest Service. Chris noted the signing of the Annual Road Agreement of \$2,300.00 to the town. He brought us up to date on the various projects happening around town. Chris noted that there was a grant for a cost/share agreement for the West Hill Road bridge. The grant would mostly cover the design work and maybe have some left for construction. This grant would need a 20% match with whoever we enter into an agreement with. He noted other federal money that could be utilized as well. Money such as Federal money managed by the state for access to federal lands. As the biggest land holder in the state we stand a good chance. State would announce this when they have the funding available. More conversations about West Hill in the future. Chris continued discussion on the logging for West Hill and said it was unscheduled right now. Bridge is like 2 year away. That would need to be addressed first. West Hill Project would be like a 5, 7 and up to 10-year implementation. He noted that there will be multiple timber sales coming out of that one Robinson decision. The first two they are working on right now and they are not related to West Hill Road. West Hill road would probably be scheduled late to insure the bridge is complete before hauling timber off that. Tom asked if you were an adjacent land owner to the project, is there a buffer zone between private land and actual logging operation. Chris said there doesn't have to be but if a private land owner was concerned about that they should come talk to him and make that work. There haven't been any management actions that was specifically approved in the Robinson Project.

Robinson Project decision was signed in December. He noted they were beginning to plan implementation. There is a process they follow internally where they plan out timber sales and divide those timber sales geographically related. All the other activities such as recreation, watershed, fisheries, wild life projects, special uses and things like that. We fill out a schedule with the sequence of how things would make sense because the timber can fund some of the other activities so we can retain receipts from timber harvest, the income we would get from the logger and use it to do projects much like the large wooded debris work at CCC Camp, parking lot maintenance for federal and public access. He noted they are working on issuing special use permits, mostly access, driveways etc. He continued discussion with two timber sales that we are actively marking that are scheduled to be sold in 2019. One is Swans Hill

which is up Maple Hill and the other is Soup House which is if you go up past Chittenden Brook Camp Ground on the left-hand side of the road. They are the first two timber sales coming out of Robinson. They will be marked this summer. The earliest harvesting that could occur would be this upcoming winter 2019/2020. Once it sold its up to the purchaser to schedule that timber sale activity. They could start right then or wait a couple years to get that started. Discussion ensued. He finished noting any new activity he would bring information to the town. Doon thanked Chris for coming in.

Dean and Connie Mendell spoke and asked for an appeal for a certain amount of forgiveness to their water bill due to an unfortunate water leak. They thanked Terry for his input and bringing it to their attention. They proposed to split the difference of the off set from their typical quarterly amount, Board listened to Terry and his insight and decided it was fair. Doon moved to approve and Tom seconded. So voted. Julie will find out the correct procedure to adjust the amount and get back to Connie and Dean.

Joan Updates: VTrans will be coming in on Tuesday for their annual meeting. They will be discussing the Highway and financial plan. They will be going over new road standards. She noted that VTrans would need the Town to confirm that they will be following all the requirements of all the municipal roads on hydrologically connected sections of the road. They then ask if you are willing to also do that on non-hydrologically sections of the roads as well which is not required by the permit. Joan asked John about how he would go about it. He answered the questions for Joan to take to the discussion with the VTrans meeting.

She continued with the discussion with the annual inspection report on bridges. She noted that there 9 town own bridges that the town owns and with that 6 came with suggestions for maintenance work. Some of the issues have come through for several years and her suggestion is to take a serious look at this and think of doing one a year and budget for them. She noted that the Better Roads Program do have experts that can come out for free and make recommendations.

Constable: Mark noted that April 21 he would be resigning. He said he will be working full time for Windsor County Sherriff's Department. He brought up a recommendation for his replacement. He introduced to the board Oscar Gardner. Oscar shared that he was retired from the Addison County Sheriffs department after 17 years. He noted his training and credentials. His certifications are up to date for what is required as a Town Constable. The selectboard thanked him for coming in and Mark for introducing Oscar.

Highway: John noted that the compressor died and had to purchase a new one for the town garage. He noted that the fix was nearly as much as a new one so he purchased a new compressor. Doon thanked John for the greater amount of compliments he receives over the complaints for doing a great job. Nancy thanked the crew for getting the park cleaned up with the limbs.

Martha asked about Green up day and will be gathering information to do an article in the paper for the upcoming event held on May 4th.

Utilities: Terry said that Jeremy contacted him about doing the manhole covers. Terry said there was still too much snow on the ground for them to come out yet. He said he has a leak down by Bobby Sherman's old place. He said this same spot has happened 3 different times. Discussion ensued.

Doon noted an updated VLCT policy on Conflict of Interest and Ethical Conduct to adopt. The board wanted to review the new with the older policy before voting to adopt.

Doon noted a new Contract from A.B.L.E Waste for the new fiscal year to agree to. He motioned to approve. Tom seconded it and so voted.

Old Business: Doon noted that the on-going discussion of the missing book and the continued efforts of looking for it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Smith