

Selectboard Meeting

Unapproved Minutes

April 24, 2017

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Jim Bowen, Tom Schnabel

Guests: Martha Slater, Randy Brouillard, Mark Belisle, Denny Rhoades, Tammy Miller, Nancy Woolley, Marv & Barb Harvey, Tim & Kelly Bowen, Mason Wade, Pat Harvey, Dan Gendron Jackie Harvey and Joan Allen.

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm.

Doon made motion to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2017 meeting, seconded by Jim. So voted.

Additions to agenda: DisasTour Race 4/19/17, Oak Lodge Rd, Library building

Doon noted the 5th annual DisasTour race will happen this weekend. The bike race goes up Brook Street, through the Hollows and down Buffalo Farm Rd in Granville. He asked Dan if grading could happen elsewhere until after the weekend so riders are not riding on freshly turned over roads.

Tom asked to discuss the pending Oak Lodge Rd situation. He was forwarded the report by Paul Hannon which he has read, and is wondering where things stand now. Doon explained it was forwarded to an attorney but unfortunately has dragged out a long time. Tom would like to walk the area in order to answer questions raised by Paul's report. Doon explained that the road came into use after Irene in order to help those isolated in Hancock to get down to town, and was going to not be maintained after the road in Hancock was fixed. Short discussion ensued. Langrock Sperry Wool has had the report for several months now, but have not responded with any opinions. The board could make the decision to terminate the legal work as whatever decision is made, most likely it will end up in court. Discussion continued. The board will inspect the area.

Marv asked what appointments he was given this year. He also asked if there is any further information about the deeding of the Library building, which there is not at this time. He asked the board if they would accept a deed signed by the Trustees turning ownership of the Library over to the Town. Doon did not feel that it could be accepted without being sure of the status of the building. The Library is owned by the Trustees. He feels it would waive liability issues, and the family who originally gave the building to the Trustees will be able to leave the situation behind. Discussion ensued. Mason asked if the Town could put solar panels on the building if ownership was clear. The issue will be taken up again in the future.

Marv also noted that he read that Middle Hollow Rd may be under consideration to be brought back to gravel. He noted that this is the only way to drive to his home in springtime due to mud season. He doesn't think it would be a real savings to take back to gravel. It was last paved about 15 years ago, and is a Class 3 road. Discussion ensued. Jim noted that this was just an idea, and will not be happening. Doon noted they have been working on the Better Back Roads grant to help fund the paving.

Site 3-Marv would like to see that whomever designs the new site uses up to date/current technology in rebuilding. Mason noted that he was talking with USDA and Rich Earth Institute in Brattleboro. He shared info from Rich Earth and noted that we should look at in regard to future upgrading. Short discussion ensued. Terry noted that he has not heard anything about the grant yet, but should be moved along. Joan noted she has been working with John Ashley on the process for the last few weeks. By mid-May there should be a signed contract. Still hoping to be far enough along by end of fiscal year to meet the financial deadlines. Discussion continued.

Mason gave the board some information about solar energy and communities. Consumers/voters have the right to be able to contract with electric lawn mowing. He wondered if the community could help a private contractor with a loan to purchase equipment that steers away from fossil fuel. He also mentioned that there may be snowmobiles and ATV's in Bingo now and that the USFS will be logging up to Hwy 62 in Bingo which will bring in more traffic. He would like community input and noted that he drives very slow on the road due to foot traffic. He has concerns for safety when the log trucks start traveling the road, and asked if the Forest Service has brought this to the board yet. Discussion ensued about Hwy 42 and 62, and maintenance of those roads up to the 4 corners. Dan noted that they have to plow up to the 4 corners if it is requested. At this time, no one has lived that far up so they stop after Harland's house. Discussion continued. It was noted that there is a meeting at the school to discuss the USFS plans on Wed April 26th at 6:00 pm.

Joan updated the board on stormwater management in village. Nothing is planned yet, she has been talking with Mary Russ at WRP to get a better handle on the issues and how to prioritize. She will contact a firm who will walk around village at no charge to look at issues. State has money through the clean water fund to fund projects. She is organizing a tour sometime this summer.

Constables: Mark reminded the board that they recently installed a video system in the cruiser. The next fiscal year they will need to look at storage of the data, possibly on its own computer. He will talk with Becky Donnet about the possibilities. Short discussion ensued. He informed the board that he is applying for another DUI grant. He also would like some modifications to the lower part of the office. The constable's office is not ADA compliant, maybe they can look for some grants. He would like to have the tower set up, fan for processing room. He also mentioned that the windows at the front of the building are old and rotting. It would be fairly easy for someone to break in. Doon noted that this building is ready for maintenance. He will order a new radar sign soon to replace the one that was stolen. Short discussion about truck traffic over Bethel Mtn Rd ensued. Doon noted that the proper weight limits are posted now, but even if a truck is empty, it has to be weighed before fining. Jim noted that if they are trained, they can use loaner scales to weigh trucks. We can also create a town ordinance prohibiting thru truck traffic. Discussion continued.

Highway: road signs are being stolen, and at \$100 per replacement, it's getting expensive. Grading roads happening now. Tom asked if Marine Hill is scheduled for work, and Dan noted that it will be graded when grader goes back up there. Dan noted they are looking at new single axle trucks due to age. Short discussion ensued.

Utilities: Terry noted that he has to replace the hot water heater at the water house. Short discussion ensued. Harvey's recommends just going with another electric heater since Terry turns it on and off for each use, and the Rinnai hybrid heaters would increase the electric bill. Board agreed. Spring walk around will happen on Friday the 28th at 8am.

Joanne had prepared a cost comparison of ECFiber and Comcast, Fairpoint and AT&T. The costs are pretty comparable. ECFiber charges \$24.46 per month per line and internet is \$74.00 per month. The library has decided to look into their own phone service. Short discussion ensued. The board would like to see internet at the town garage and also make sure a phone line is included for the fire department. Doon noted he would be inclined to convert over to ECFiber. Discussion continued. The board will wait for more cost details before making a decision.

The board looked over the mowing contract for John Gorton. Discussion ensued about the need for workers comp insurance and if his bid included the Library mowing. Tabled until further information is available. The contract for Marnie Wikel for library grounds maintenance work was reviewed. Tabled that contract as well. Nancy complimented all the Tri Town Youth parents and kids who did such a great job raking the park, and the Town crew for cleaning it up today.

Park use application from Jehovah Witnesses was reviewed. Board prefers having specific dates of use. Joanne will contact Rita Peck.

Cat1 test has been completed on the elevator. Kelly suggested that if it is in the minutes of a prior meeting, maybe it should be a follow up item for the next meeting.

Dan noted roads are graded all at one time. Tom asked about an invoice for a drill press. The press was delivered in February, and we were just invoiced now. Dan explained that this is a replacement drill. Nothing new about key situation for fuel pump at town garage. Short discussion ensued.

Mason wondered why things went down with the petition he presented as a town petition at a school board meeting in executive session. He is wondering how voters feel secure with town government when the petition was decided on in executive session with a Supervisory Union lawyer. The petition asked that the students have the decision to vote on school choice and to close the high school and return the building to the town. He wanted it to be included in the School Report, but the school board felt it was too vague. He is concerned that procedures are not followed correctly. Mason feels it should have been discussed in public session. Jim asked if Mason had brought this issue back to the School Board, he did not specifically say. Short discussion ensued.

DOON, ENDED HERE!! WHAT ELSE?

Bills reviewed and warrants signed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.