

Selectboard Meeting

Unapproved Minutes

June 12, 2017

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Jim Bowen, Tom Schnabel

Guests: Joan Allen, Dan Gendron, Ray & Cheryl Harvey, Martha Slater, Terry Severy, Nancy Woolley, Mason Wade, Marv & Barb Harvey, Angus McCusker, Frank Russell, Jonathan Ashley, Dubois & King,

Informational Meeting for Site 3 Replacement

Doon called the informational meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Jon Ashley of D&K spoke to all about the proposed replacement of Site 3 wastewater disposal system, and the proposed improvements at Site 1. He gave a handout to the board that summarized each system, and reviewed the possibilities of how to fix the failing leach field at Site 3 which has lasted 30 years. Environmental impact is an issue as this will be completed with state funding. Discussion ensued. Mason asked if we should be stepping away from the “flush and dump” concept. Jon explained that every existing wastewater facility in Vermont is adding treatment requirements. Mason noted that with all the wastewater issues, he thinks we should look beyond to newer sciences coming into play, and the State could work with us on that and go in a different direction. Jon noted that this is the most environmentally approach available now. Discussion continued. The Site 1 pump station improvements would create a hatch over each pump with lifting rails so they can be pulled up from the ground level. Short discussion ensued. Jon told the board that the State has been great to work with on this project. This will be a 20 year loan, and the 50% “forgiveness” from the State happens with a positive bond vote regardless of when the actual construction work begins.

Hearing adjourned at 6:35pm.

Doon called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Additions to the Agenda: Angus asked to discuss Skatespace, Mason asked Doon to discuss his conversation with the Secretary of State regarding the School petition he submitted in February/March.

Minutes: Doon made motion to approve the minutes from the May 22, 2017 regular meeting, seconded by Jim. So voted. Doon made motion to approve the minutes from the May 31, 2017 special meeting, seconded by Jim. So voted.

Guest: Marvin Harvey explained to the board that there was damage to the road in front of his house on Marsh Brook Rd from the grader. He showed photos to the board of the road and in front of his mailbox. Doon noted that he looked at the area and discussed with Dan, and it is due to the lack of gravel on the road, and that the large rocks in the road bed cause the grader to be pulled off its trajectory. Marvin noted that he is glad to have the potholes gone since the road was graded for the first time in years. However, he explained that it is a 13" cut on the wheel track in front of his mailbox which used to be level with the road. It hampers access to his driveway, as well as to his barn. The mailman has trouble reaching the mailbox now. Discussion ensued. Dan noted that in order to crown the road, there is material at the side of the road. He also noted that the grader will not dig down 13 inches to create that much material. Again, gravel is needed on all roads now.

Angus McCusker RASTA representative spoke to the board about the possibility of using Skatespace to house a pump track for kids to ride bicycles on. They are looking for a permanent location for the pump track, and many people feel that Skatespace is a good location for this. They have created one in Randolph which has been a big hit. He would also like to utilize a section of the land on the end of the facility to create some dirt rolls and features. The actual track would be moveable to utilize in other locations for special events and winter storage. Martha mentioned that she sees skateboarders and other kids using it for basketball as well. Nancy noted that she heard the skateboarders are planning to build skateboard features. Lengthy discussion ensued about the work that needs to be done on Skatespace before another ice skating season arrives. Terry noted that the Fire Department fills the rink every winter on their own time. It was discussed at length during budget meetings last year, and after July 1 there is money budgeted. It is possible that Rasta can also help the Recreation Committee get the rink back into shape. Doon recused himself from voting on Angus' request, as he owns a bike shop. Jim and Tom both agreed that Rasta could move forward with this project.

Doon also asked Angus if it may be possible for Rasta volunteers to help move the tires that were dumped on Cushman Road. Mike Bowen has agreed to take them, it's just a matter of getting them to his farm. Doon will check with him again about possibly scheduling hay wagons for transporting.

Mason Wade asked Doon to inform everyone about his conversation with the Secretary of State regarding the petition that Mason had prepared for the Annual School Meeting warning. Doon explained that according to the SOS, executive sessions need to have a reason stated. When the petition was presented to the School Board, they entered executive session with the Supervisory Union attorney, and exited stating that the petition would not be included on the warning due to it being vague. It may not have been properly warned as executive session at that meeting, and possibly should have been addressed in open session. The warning for this meeting was prepared prior to the final due date for petitions as well. Mason noted that the petition was a petition for an article to be put on the Town Meeting agenda, which is different format than other petitions for a school town meeting and was signed prior to the petition

deadline by at least 50 voters. There is a one year window to question this. Joanne asked if Mason has brought this up to the school board and the attorney who made this decision, but Mason felt that after attending the meeting and watching the petition “go down” and hearing the unanimous decision of being vague, he felt he needed to walk away. He again noted that there are 50 voters or more of Rochester who have similar feelings about town politics. Mason does not agree that the school board and supervisory union are the correct place to get the answer, but that the Selectboard should deal with this as the petition was signed by town voters. Mason thanked Doon for making the call.

New Business: Several residents sent letters to the board commenting on the possible use of snowmobiles or ATV's on Bingo Road. The new owners of a camp way up in Bingo accessible by USFS land asked for a permit from the Forest Service to use snowmobiles/ATV's to get to their camp. Mason had brought this issue to the board at a previous meeting and voiced his concerns about the amount of pedestrian traffic there is on the road. Doon noted that at this time, the camp owners have not contacted the Town for any permit. There was a short extension to the deadline by the USFS for the public comment period that was set by the USFS. Mason believes that the town should be notified when the USFS makes their decision. No action taken at this time.

Park Use application: Pierce Hall would like to hold an Ice Cream Social on Saturday July 1 from 21-4. Doon made motion to approve the application, seconded by Jim. So voted.

Ray Harvey agreed to be Fire Warden for another 5 year term. Doon made motion to appoint Ray Harvey, seconded by Jim. So voted. Cheryl noted that this is Ray's 36th year as Fire Warden.

The grant application for VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation was signed by the board. This is backup for the Site 3 replacement project. Joan also explained that there is an opportunity to apply for an ecosystem restoration grant from the VT DEC. This is for stormwater runoff. The deadline to apply is July 6th, and she noted that White River Partnership will work with the town on this. There is no match funds needed by the Town for this grant. Doon made motion to apply for the grant, seconded by Jim. So voted.

Joan Pontious, P&Z secretary has requested office keys from the Selectboard. Doon explained that they had a hearing recently and had to wait for someone to come with a key to get into the building. Short discussion ensued, and Joanne will give Joan a set of keys.

Doon explained that he had a request from Janice McCann for reimbursement for food she purchased for an emergency shelter committee training session. Discussion ensued regarding the shelter committee's mission, and the emergency management budget. Having the town pay for volunteer's food was also discussed and Mason thought this might be a good town meeting topic. Doon made motion to reimburse Janice McCann after she submits receipts, seconded by Tom. So voted.

Highway: Dan noted that the gravel budget will be spent before June 30th. Nancy asked about the storm drain on the corner of the Park in front of Bates' house. Dan knows it will need work.

Water/Sewer: Terry told the board that the controller at site 4 went. SCI installed a new one but it is not working as he thinks it should. The readings come to Terry's cell phone daily, and he hand writes the information down to be forwarded to the State on a monthly/quarterly basis. Terry will contact them again to have them come back. Discussion ensued.

Nancy told the board that there is a "dip" in the road just at the top of the hill when entering Woodlawn cemetery. This needs work, and the cemetery commissioners need to get this repaired.

Doon noted that he was approached by a teacher who is looking for soil for gardening at the school. Dan had some from a different project, but it was given to the cemetery commissioners to use. Doon also asked Dan to use up the remainder of the material that is sitting at the ballfield parking lot.

Nancy asked the board if the information board at the new park is finished. One side has a piece of plexiglass, and the other side is plywood painted black. It was supposed to have two sides of plexiglass. Doon will check to see what happened. Terry asked about the handicap parking. There is no ramp or way for a wheelchair to get down to the slope to the pavilion. Short discussion ensued. Some type of curbing will also be needed.

Bills reviewed and warrants signed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McDonnell