

Selectboard Meeting

Unapproved Minutes

September 14, 2015

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Robert Meagher, James Bowen, Joanne McDonnell, Joan Allen

Guests: Martha Slater, Nancy Beattie, Terry Severy, Dan Gendron, Barb DeHart, Nancy Woolley, Lois Bond, Walt Pruiksmas

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm. Additions/amendments to the agenda are as follows: Fire Department pre town meeting request, Road Commissioner petition, Town website

Minutes from the following meetings were approved. Robert made motion to approve and Jim seconded the following minutes:

July 27, 2015, Aug 24, 2105 regular meeting

July 7, 2015, Aug 12, 2015 and Sep 1, 2015 special meetings

July 16, 2015 emergency meeting

So voted.

Guests: Nancy Beattie gave the board documentation to prove that the Dora Darrah property did not abut the Bemis property. She submitted maps of the lots as well and explained the chain of title to the board. She also noted that the Town of Granville is considering bringing TH 21 a Class 3 road, and Rochester has been maintaining almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the .17 segment as class 3 already. . Short discussion ensued. Robert explained that he will make a statement during a regular meeting that will be recorded in the minutes as formal acceptance.

A petition to the Selectboard asking for articles to be placed on the Town Meeting Warning was reviewed. The Articles are 1) Shall the Town of Rochester vote to elect the road commissioner and 2) to elect a road commissioner. Robert noted that per statute, both articles cannot be voted on at the same meeting so it will take two town meetings to complete. Short discussion ensued.

Terry Severy asked the board to schedule a pre-town meeting for the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting so people can get information on the purchase of a new fire truck. The board scheduled a pre town meeting for September 28, 2015 at 6:15 pm. Joanne will do a notice to post in town. Nancy Woolley noted that she saw the legal notice of the Special Town Meeting and noted that other people she has talked with didn't know anything about it. She wondered what

information there is about the net metering article in order to get questions answered. Nancy noted that there is nothing on the website about this either. Terry noted that there will be an increase in the cost of fire trucks very soon, and Jim noted that there is no cost to the Town to join in the net metering contract with SunEdison. Doon explained the contract with SunEdison is no cost to the Town and will reduce our electricity costs by 16%. Not sure if the school is included in this contract, but it would be good Discussion ensued. Doon will try to get the representative to attend the pre town meeting to give further details.

Robert noted that the website has not been updated lately, and the Special Town Meeting has not been posted there either. Joanne explained that there was a problem with the minutes and agendas posting that Norm had corrected twice, but that she has not been keeping up with the other postings recently.

Highway: Dan noted that there was a replacement road sign put up recently in Great Hawk that disappeared. One of the older brown road signs is now in its place. Dan would like to know where the green road sign went, as they are quite expensive. Robert had emailed one of the homeowners there and will reach out again for an answer. Short discussion ensued about the safety issues with road numbers and non-reflective road signs in the Hawk Community.

Dan also noted that it will be necessary to create a turnaround for the town plow truck on Corporation Road.

Robert noted that the culvert survey is underway with TRORC. Larry Straus has volunteered to accompany Rita Seto during the survey. Joan told the board that VRANS is taking their time about creating protocol for this survey. She believes that we will be able to apply for a 90/10 match for the survey because of the delay on VTRAN's part, and because we are actively working on the project. The board agrees that the road assessment and culvert inventory should be kept on a spreadsheet and a plan for road/culvert maintenance should be created. Lengthy discussion ensued of upcoming road standards and needs ensued.

Little Hollow Rd has been ditched, still needs gravel.

New Business: Robert made motion to execute the grant anticipation line of credit with Mascoma Savings Bank in the amount of \$335,000.00, seconded by Doon. So voted. The board signed the document, and the line is open for one year.

A Park Use form was approved for a wedding on September 20, 2015. A second park use request was reviewed and discussed. The couple would like to have their reception on the Park as well, and would like to serve wine and possibly have a tent for weather purposes. The board tentatively approved the use form, based on how the permitting for alcohol will be obtained.

Joan updated the board about the Bike & Pedestrian Grant. Lucy Gibson of Dubois & King would like to discuss with the board and set up a time for a presentation. If October 26<sup>th</sup> is a good date for Lucy, it will be scheduled. Joan will check with her.

Efficiency Vermont LED Streetlights is a project that Joan has been working on as well, and she noted that it would be very helpful to have a committee of volunteers to help on this project. Short discussion ensued regarding the project.

Joan told the board that due to the Clean River Act that was passed recently, there is a lot of money available for road projects. VT Local Roads and Better Back Roads are looking at programs offered currently and what they should offer in order to take advantage of the funds.

Joan noted that projects in town buildings should be looked at for energy efficiency and also wastewater treatment plants, which we don't have. Federal Transportation bill also has money for projects. The board should think about different projects to be done in town. Robert also noted that where the road crew dumps snow could be a problem for runoff into the river. Joan will start the process of looking for advice as to how others handle this.

Commented [TC1]:

Utilities: Terry noted there is no firm date for delivery of the meters. The September reading will be as it has been in the past. Discussion ensued about when to adjust rates and how to notify users about their usage on the new system. No decisions made until meters arrive. The informational meeting will take place before the first reading.

Short discussion ensued about the memo of understanding (MOU) for the Granville First Response Squad. They are asking for \$50 per call, and Granville has voiced their desire to work with any Rochester first responders in the future. Doon made motion to execute the MOU, seconded by Robert. So voted. Robert also noted that Vic Ribaudo will take on advertising for upcoming classes. We will also need to have a continuing budget line item for First Response. Martha asked if anyone has approached the school yet as students need community service now.

Joanne asked the board for their ok to set up the second Selectboard meeting and not be in attendance. She has taken Transition board minutes since last winter and would like to continue through June. Short discussion ensued, and the board agreed that between Joan and the tape recorder, minutes will be acceptable for Joanne to transcribe.

Discussion ensued regarding the "new" budget and finance committee without Larry. It will not be possible for Joan to attend each meeting, and decisions will need to be made about updating the budget worksheets.

Bills reviewed, warrants signed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McDonnell