

Selectboard Meeting

Unapproved Minutes

October 26, 2015

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Robert Meagher, Jim Bowen, Joan Allen

Guests: Laura Perez-Stagecoach, Jay Strand & Chris Mattrick, USFS update, Lucy Gibson, Dubois & King, Sidewalk Scoping Study update, Marvin & Barb Harvey, Martha Slater, Rita Seto-TRORC, Nancy Woolley, Dan Gendron, Terry Severy

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm. No additions to agenda.

Robert made motion to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2015 meeting, seconded by Jim. So voted.

Guests: Marvin introduced Laura and Aaron of the Stagecoach. Laura gave an overview of what Stagecoach wants to do to expand their services. Marvin noted that Stagecoach is in need of volunteer drivers who would use their own vehicles for transporting. These drivers would be reimbursed for mileage, and their time is counted as an in-kind contribution for Stagecoach. This helps the Stagecoach when applying for Elderly and Disabled Transportation grants. The board thanked Laura and Aaron for their update.

Chris Mattrick and Jay Strand of the USFS spoke about the Robinson Integrated Resource Project for Rochester. This is a three phase plan. Phase 1 (2015) will conduct inventory and determine current resource conditions; Phase 2 (2016) will be collaborating with the public to brainstorm ideas to obtain the desired future resource conditions and to develop proposed activities. Phase 3 (2017) will be formal environmental analysis of the proposed activities per the National Environmental Policy Act and to decide what to implement. This project encompasses approximately 59,000 in total. He noted that Rochester hosts approximately 30,000 acres and the other 28,291 acres fall within the towns of Bethel, Braintree, Chittenden, Goshen, Granville, Hancock, Pittsfield and Stockbridge. Chris noted that this project will be discussed further in more detail as time goes on. White River Partnership will be involved, as well as Vermont Fish & Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Lucy Gibson of Dubois & King updated the board on the Bike Pedestrian Scoping Study. She spent time showing the board designs and mapping of the proposed changes to the Village area and asked for direction from the Selectboard regarding those changes. Plans showing existing conditions, site analysis and proposed concepts were reviewed. Martha noted that as a landowner along Rt 100, she has a small yard with a nice tree in the front, and she would not want to lose any property to a sidewalk. Terry noted that the town does not have a lot of extra

parking places for business access now. Lengthy discussion ensued with many options discussed. Lucy noted that this is the “first view” of the concept. Doon noted that parking in the village has to go hand in hand with pedestrian aspect, and it is important to start the conversation. Review and discussion of the proposed changes continued. It was decided that a public meeting should be scheduled in January 2016, and should be separate from the Selectboard meeting. Lucy will create some poster sized information sheets to be posted in town. The board thanked Lucy for her time with the update.

Rita Seto of TRORC noted that road surveying will probably happen in the spring, and culvert inventory is finishing up.

New Business: The board reviewed the proposal for the 2016 Maintenance Agreement for the emergency generator at the Elementary School. Doon made motion to approve Plan 1 at \$575.00, seconded. It was noted that Brook Field noted that if you go with Plan 1, the state inspection is NOT included, and the cost of that is \$200.00. Marvin also noted that the school was going to trim grass inside the fencing and also move snow out in the winter. The new maintenance director will be notified. Short discussion ensued. Robert made motion to rescind the previous motion, seconded. The board tabled voting on this agreement until more information is known about the state inspection fee.

The board reviewed the proposed letter to be sent to the Water users in town. Joanne would like to send it out with the “helpful hints” sheet that was prepared for the meeting last week. Terry suggested the letters be held until closer to the time the meters are installed in mid-November. Doon made motion to approve the letter, seconded by Robert. So voted. Short discussion ensued about when the meters will actually be installed. Terry thinks it would be mid-December for the meter change over. After the first quarter readings, there may be a rate change, but that remains to be seen. Jim asked if the remainder of the meters have arrived yet- Terry said most of them have.

Nancy Woolley noted that there are two large holes in the pavement near the Park House that are a liability and should be fixed. Dan will look into it.

Marvin asked again about snow removal in the Village. No decisions or policies have been made regarding how to remove village snow at this time. Short discussion ensued about an arrangement with a business owner allowing them to push snow across Bethel Mtn Road to the northern edge of the Park. Robert felt that this is not the best arrangement and creates bare spots on the Park and visibility problems for drivers. The board will have to decide if the Town should remove the snow, or the business owners, or a combination of both.

Joan Allen gave the board an updated preliminary plan for the New Park from Matt Murawski at Dubois & King. Matt is looking for comments and also to schedule a public meeting. Joan believes that Matt would like to start soliciting bids for work to begin in the spring if the board approves this plan. Discussion ensued regarding the possible parking area. Jim noted that it is

too close to the front of the Firehouse, which is not going to work. The chance of people blocking the firehouse is not feasible. Discussion continued.

Jim noted that the town reservoir site has not been trimmed yet this season. Short discussion ensued. Also the leaves on the Park need to be mulched.

Short discussion ensued about the proposed Park & Ride directly across Rt 100 from the "New Park".

Joan told the board that they need to obtain an Opinion of Counsel for the Park House project (same as was done for Beans Bridge project). Joan also sent a letter to Fairpoint regarding a tree that is hung up in their line. Several notices have been forwarded to Fairpoint over the past couple months. Fairpoint told her that the homeowner is responsible for removing the tree that is causing the problem.

The Selectboard set tentative meeting dates for Budget & Finance meetings on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

Bills reviewed and warrants signed.

Meeting adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_