

May 11, 2021

Selectboard Meeting

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Pat Harvey, Frank Severy

Guests: Julie Smith, Nancy Woolley, Martha Slater, Tony Goupee, Agi Klausz-Baier, Kathryn Schenkman, Burma Cassidy, Tim Pratt, Vic Ribaud, Bruce Flewelling, Susan Banas, Orca Media, Rochester Public Library, Shelly

Doon called the meeting at 6:00 pm

Doon read the State statute guidelines for holding a proper meeting electronically and confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

**Prior Meeting Minutes:** Doon moved to table the Selectboard minutes from April 26, 2021.

**Additions to the Agenda:** Tim Pratt-speak; Jeff Gephart- communication from VT Counsel of Rural Development, issue with community profile from GMP,

**Opening Bids for stone-lined ditching projects for 5 town roads:** Joan read through all the bid openings. Attached are the companies that provided bids and their bid amounts. The decision to award will come after another special selectboard meeting in the coming week.

**Joan Updates:** Joan noted after conversations back and forth with the final reimbursements from the State for the Bethel Mountain project, a decision would come on Monday for a payment in their error for something they thought they had already paid us for.

She said there was a resolution from FEMA for the reimbursement of completed roads for storm damage to roads in 2019. As she mentioned at the last selectboard meeting, they thought the town would need permits from the Army Corps of Engineers or Wetlands or D.E.C streams. Joan thanked Chris Bump for his involvement in providing the resources necessary to prove there were no permits required by the town.

Joan and Cooter will be working on the municipal roads general permit. They will need to report the progress towards addressing the hydrological sections of roads that are not functioning to 100 percent. They will need to find out the interim towards the final goal of having all road sections improved to state standards.

**Library Updates:** Tony noted there will be a trustees meeting Tuesday evening at 6 pm. Tony said Jeannette is opening the Library by appointment right now. Tony said there was an application on the agenda to address. Jeannette asked if the Library could use the Gazebo on the Park on Thursday afternoons from 1-4, for the pre-school aged children for a reading program. Pat thought the lawn care service should be aware of the activities. Frank thought since the Library is using the Gazebo on Friday afternoons for the older children, to seek out the school for the Thursday reading program. Discussion ensued and the board decided to allow the Gazebo for one month trial. Doon moved to approve with a one-month trial. Pat seconded. Pat and Doon in favor. Frank against. So, voted.

**Bike Path:** Kathryn spoke earlier in the meeting in respect to the concerns of her and the neighbors with a bike path behind the properties that was being used. Kinley addressed the concerns, his conversation with Mahar and spoke on his behalf. He noted the small woodland path on Sperling's property has no intention of going public. He said RASTA has no intention of using the truly short path on private property. Kinley noted neighbors could continue conversation for a resolution, but the board no longer needed to address the private matter. Peter asked if Mahar could make a statement in writing. Peter noted his concerns for the path use and the dangerous repair to the wall on the stream bed where it is collapsing about 50' from the path.

**Energy Coordinator:** Jeff announced that we have been selected from Vermont's Council on Rural Developments choice for their model climate communities' program. He noted it would restart the Envision Rochester and give us additional assistance in looking at the high school repurposing and including all of that planning to analysis and address our building and town assets to set us on a path for the future.

Jeff also announced that GMP will be coming to Rochester on May 18<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Vic, Frank and others for their input to provide GMP with a community profile. The information would provide them what they need for the resiliency island and if we can go ahead with the program. They will look for a location for the island. The power would be renewable to help when power to facilities and buildings are down and support to outlying areas. The benefits would help GMP with less repair costs and the ability to tap those batteries when they go into peak periods to prevent them from having to buy expensive power making it appealing to GMP. The board will need to approve so GMP can review it. Frank asked for a change to one of the answers to the question to include the whole board, instead of just his name as a contact.

Jeff shared that on May 27, the Mow Electric demonstration is scheduled. He noted this the work of the Rochester Energy and Climate Action Committee. There will be three vendors that will participate showing commercial grade mowing equipment. Invitation to various mowing companies and commercial properties including Sunshine Berry Farm and the Golf Course, including neighboring Golf Courses were sent out. Steve Wisbaum will attend with his expertise in the field. GMP will attend with a \$2,500.00 incentive for the equipment. GMP will be bringing in their people all over Vermont to attend. The event will take place down at the ball field from 11am -2 pm. Jeff said he will be bringing hot dogs and chips and have a cookout. Doon asked if there was a need for coordination with John Gorton, who is the towns mower to hold off on mowing the field for the event. Jeff said he was in touch with John. Jeff suggested he, Frank and John meet up and go over all the details before the event. Jeff said this is not about residential mowers and more about commercial grade equipment. He shared there will be electrified hand tools as well such as chain saws, blowers, weed trimmers. Jeff requested a porta potty be installed for the event.

Jeff stated there will be lectures series with Jeannette through the Library on heat pumps starting on Wednesday evening, May 19 from 7pm-8pm on zoom. To attend please call the Library. Jeff hoped these would run through October, meeting once a month.

**Old Business:** Doon moved to approve the updated driveway permit for Agi-Klausz- Baier. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Doon moved to approve the updated driveway permit application for Frank Landry. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Tim Pratt asked about putting together a co-ed softball program down at the ballfield. He spoke about all the logistics that would have to happen. Tim said the ball field is in great shape. He would like to have a soft ball tournament on July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Martha asked what age group the team would be made up of. Tim thought above 17 years of age, unless given permission by a parent then under 18 could play. Tim thought Harv Downs would be great at helping with the team. Burma shared her concerns of the dead branches and trees down by the ball field against the river. Tim understood the issue and said the ones that are easily removed could be done. Tim said with shared interest from the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and go from there with more games continuing. Doon agreed with the idea and shared his support. Discussion ensued. The board supported the idea. Doon moved to approve. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted. Bruce suggested they coordinate it on the fourth with Pierce Hall's Chicken Barbeque.

Pat noted seeing the ABLE Waste contract addendum beginning to pick up recyclables and trash in Rochester every Saturday starting July 1 from 8am-11am. Frank asked if Hancock had approved and thought their selectboard had tabled the decision until May 17, 2021.

Frank announced the park was fertilized that afternoon.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Smith

Bids Submitted 5-10-021

**K&S Construction- All 5 bids**

Jerusalem	\$31,280.00
Mt Cush	\$42,016.00
Wes Young	\$ 4,512.00
Wing Farm	\$37,440.00
Maple Hill	\$20,208.00

5% discount if they get awarded all 5

Total	\$135,456
With disc.	\$128,683.00

**Blue Mountain Trucking-All 5 Bids**

Jerusalem	\$34,474.00
Mt Cush	\$49,412.00
Wes Young	\$ 6,000.00
Wing Farm	\$42,069.00
Maple Hill	\$21,668.00

Total	\$ 153,623.00
-------	---------------

**Xcav8-All 5 bids-All 5 Bids**

Jerusalem	\$24,828.50
Mt Cush	\$33,850.20
Wes Young	\$ 3,581.40
Wing Farm	\$29,718.00
Maple Hill	\$16,040.10

Total	\$108,018.20
-------	--------------

**Harveys P & E-4 bids**

Jerusalem	\$37,291.00
Mt Cush	\$ no bid
Wes Young	\$ 5,867.00
Wing Farm	\$24,823.00
Maple Hill	\$22,007.00

**Jack Bowen-All 5 Bids**

Jerusalem	\$22,541.45
Mt Cush	\$27,836.57
Wes Young	\$ 3,026.45

Wing Farm	\$24,388.34
Maple Hill	\$13,845.98

Total	\$91,638.79
-------	-------------

**ECS-All 5 Bids**

Jerusalem	\$19,032.96
Mt Cush	\$22,185.52
Wes Young	\$ 2,658.28
Wing Farm	\$17,638.00
Maple Hill	\$10,929.00

Total	\$72,443.76
-------	-------------