

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2022

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey (Zoom)

Guests Present: Kristen LaPell, Julie Smith, Terry Severy, Nancy Woolley

Guests Present on Zoom: Orca, Martha Slater, Joan Allen, Jeff Gephart, Troy LaPell, Tim Patterson

Doon called the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity

Pat moved to approve the February 28 meeting minutes with one typo. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Jeff Gephart asked if board could listen to Tim Patterson who has put together a way to utilize battery storage for emergency backup. Sun Common Consultant, Tim Patterson spoke to the board about solar battery backup for the emergency generator as an option. He submitted 3 different quotes with incentives available for the board to review. Doon thanked Tim for attending and putting together options for them to review.

Consideration and possible approval of a necessity resolution for refinancing the Randolph National Bank Fire Station Promissory Note: Julie shared the current loan has a balance of \$168,000.00 due and is currently financed with an 11-year term at 3.95% interest. She was able to find through Mascoma Bank, the town could refinance the loan at 2.6 % and continue with the 11-year term saving the town about \$14,000.00 on the loan. Doon moved to approve a resolution to refinance. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Sign the Mascoma Financial Proposal for refinancing the Fire Station: Doon moved to sign the proposal from Mascoma for refinancing the Fire Station.

Grant Agreement Resolution for the Rochester High School Repurposing Study: Doon moved to agree the Resolution for the High School Repurposing Study. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, approve.

Golf Course Dining: Doon noted Tony was not present to discuss.

Approve 2nd Class Liquor License for Mac's Valley Market: Doon moved to approve. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Joan Updated: Doon noted he has the Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and network inventory. He shared that we do meet the minimum requirements that identifies location size, deficiencies, conditions of roads, bridges, causeways, culverts, and highway related retaining walls on class 1, 2 and 3 town highways. Joan shared this is the certificate we sign every year along with updating various town officials. She said the budget we give; the financial plan is something done after the budget is approve at Town Meeting. She said the folks at VTrans plan to have an annual meeting with the Town.

Utilities Updates: Terry shared he is looking to save the Town \$700 with changing pumping outfits for the tanks. He is waiting to hear back from the company for confirmation.

Energy Coordinator Updates: Jeff received a phone call from a woman up in Waitsfield, who is interested in purchasing the old fire house to roast coffee beans in and then ship back to Waitsfield. Doon said he had spoken to the gentleman about that and said we are not interested to sell the old fire house. The town has use for that building and no interest currently to sell.

Frank spoke about the Emergency Generator Grant for the Town Office. The board would like to award the grant to Brookfield Services for \$12,346.00. He said there will be additional costs to the town in the amount of \$1646.00 that the grant does not cover. Doon added this does not preclude the possibility of using batteries or then to the extent to which if the Resiliency Zone is established, that would be the first line of backup. Doon noted this decision is time sensitive with costs. The bid was on a 30-day notice so it was best to make the decision so work can begin. Joan noted the bid was good as of yesterday. She thought if they could get back to Brookfield in the next couple days, they wouldn't hold it to the town. Pat shared she would recuse herself from the decision as her company was a sub for one of the bidders. Doon moved to award Brookfield Services as the winning bid. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, voted. Joan said the bid would need signatures and a breakout of \$3,000.00 in their letter submitted with their bid package.

Frank spoke with Chris Bump about the paving project and if they were still going to move forward with that project. He said it was still a go. He said they are planning on starting around the first of April, weather dependent. He said they will start with replacing the culverts in Stockbridge and moving to the village of Rochester by June 1st. He said they would like to meet in April with the paving engineer, Chris Bump from VTrans, Terry as the utilities operator to discuss the plans for the town's share to even out the paving in the village.

Frank shared he requested a notice to Two Rivers for a traffic study on Bethel Mountain Road to lower the speed limit down to 40 to coincide with the Bethel side so it will be consistent all the way through and possibly deter truck traffic with the lowered speed limit adding time to their route to choose a different route.

Terry shared the fire house received their air compressor a couple weeks ago and have it set up. Terry said it was impressive. The guy who set it up took a couple hours to train. Doon asked how long it takes now to fill up a tank. Terry said it takes 3 or 4 minutes and can fill 3 at a time.

Terry shared the fire department will be doing the Easter Breakfast this year on April 17th. There will be a bunny available.

Julie announced dog licenses are due April 1st. She shared there will be a rabies clinic at the Hancock Fire Department on March 23 from 5-7 pm and she will be there to do the licensing as well.

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Smith