

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2022

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey

Guests Present: Kristen LaPell, Julie Smith, Terry Severy, Burleigh & Amber Griffith, Vic Ribauda, Kathryn Schenkman

Guests Present on Zoom: Orca, Martha Slater, Joan Allen, Nancy Woolley, Troy LaPell, Aaron Lavallee, Eric Phaneuf, Jeff Gephart, Greg Russ

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

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity

Prior Meeting Minutes: Doon moved to approve May 23, 2022 selectboard minutes. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Doon moved to approve the June 6, 2022 special selectboard meeting minutes. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Solar Array for LCS Control: Eric gave final presentation to the board for preferred site for a solar array for LCS Control. He noted they had been through the planning commission, who generally drive the process. July 1 will be the final date for the 45-day notice to file the full permit. The slightly revised site plan includes input from different parties. There are 4 rows for a 49.95 kw array. They will share a letter from ANR discussing wetlands and flood plain. They are satisfied with both not becoming an issue. Pat asked why the array is fenced in. Eric explained its for safety reasons. Doon moved to approve a letter of preferred site. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Discussion for Oak Lodge, Fiske and North Hollow Roads: Erica was not present. Doon shared her concern from an email to lower and post the speed limit on Oak Lodge and North Hollow Road, posting children at play signs and also to add a stop sign at corn of Fiske and Quarry Hill curve. The board said they would have to go through Two Rivers to change speed. Doon wanted to make it clear who the stop sign is for at the base of Fiske and Buttles Road. He said changing the speed limits is not something they are willing to do. Doon said the stop sign may be missing and will look to see if a new one will need to be placed Discussion to be continued.

Burleigh and Amber Griffith approached the board about their failed septic system to ask about a loan from the Town funds. Pat asked if it is from the Trustees. Frank said it is a loan that is an attachment to the deeded property and paid back to the town. The Griffiths have a couple options. They will need an engineered design to replace or install new leach field. The Griffiths are interested in replacing their fields. The town will need to investigate where the town has an emergency fund.

Greg Russ from White River Partnership spoke to the board about an update on the River Brook Drive culvert and their efforts on trying to replace it. He shared they received funding to get to the next level. He shared Cricket is applying for the permitting. They will reach out to adjoining

landowners. WRP received \$75,000 from US Fish and Wildlife Service to put towards this. They also had an opportunity to apply for an appropriation from congress through Senator Leahy's office. They applied and were accepted and then they found out the money is going through FEMA. The US Fish and Wildlife funds can not be used as a match, so they have withdrawn from that appropriation. They are continuing to look for a match and asked the town if they would be interested in working with them on a structures grant. The estimated costs for replacement are \$315,000. Doon asked when the next round of structures grants come out and that would be next April. Joan added that from time to time you can submit more than one structures grant request depending on funds and competition. Joan asked if Cooter has any projects for next year. She knows the Town line Road project would be for this year with construction happening next year. She noted that we have not received a cooperative agreement from Fish and Wildlife for a culvert replacement for one or two years. She was unsure of the status of that but may be another funding source. Greg noted the stream from that location does come off the Forest **Service** and will check into that. The board will review and need to find out what other projects are in the works.

Mascoma Card Processing Services discussion: Julie shared with the board Mascoma bank is providing to their municipal customers a new service for Credit card services. There would be no charge to the town. The cardholder would incur the fees. This would be a benefit for those who wish to pay for services in the office above and beyond the websites Payport service. This would allow for any purchases made in the office, other than DMV to be made through their services. They would provide the machine and all transactions would download that night. Julie had some questions she wanted to ask and was waiting for a call back. She was curious about detailed transactions interfacing with the system and the cost of the machine as a one-time fee of \$250. She will get back to the board.

Joan Updates: Joan noted that WRP is setting up a pre-construction meeting on June 23 with the contractor on the Town Garage storm water project. She said the start date for that project is July 18th. She said that phase 2 of the sidewalk projects are out and bids are due on Friday, June 24 at 3 pm. She noted there is no word yet on the structures grant through VTrans on the Town Line Road project but should be coming out sometime soon.

Utilities Updates: Terry noted they will not be replacing the valves as they hoped. The costs for new are \$3,000 apiece and there is a total of 14 to replace. He said they will need other hardware on top of that. He estimates the costs to be over \$50,000. Purchasing the valves is put on hold for right now. He said the ones we have are working well this year.

Energy Coordinator: Jeff announced they are working at the farmers markets and trash and recycling days and work in Stockbridge as well to connect tri-town residents with resources to improve their homes as well as transportation and energy for weatherization.

Old Business: Master Financial Policies: Julie noted she would like to break the policy down into the 13 different sections and approving them in smaller segments. She said she is working with Nancy and Lois in editing and preparing for board approval.

Board spoke about installing the doggie bag dispensers to put around town. They said they would use the ARPA funds for purchasing.

Doon asked if the portlet could be unlocked at the Fire House.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith

Executive Session: Real Estate- Entered executive session at 7:00 pm. Collected information.
No decision made. Exited executive session at 8:00 pm.