

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2024

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey

Guests Present: Kristen LaPell, Julie Smith, Nancy Woolley, Orca Media,

Guests Present on Zoom: Orca, Martha Slater, Troy LaPell

Doon called the meeting at 6:00p.m.

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Pat moved to approve the meeting minutes from the Selectboard Meeting held on July 08, 2024. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

ONX offroad dirt bike trail network, sign request: Beth Kennett requested signs for slowing down on Liberty Hill Road for the trail for motor bike club passing by their farm rather fast. Trail system is very similar to the VAST trail system. This trail system is very complex system for motorized bikes. This trail system follows across country. She explained once they come down off the top, they hit the straight and take off very quickly. Asia said on the Rochester side there are no signs so those traveling on this trail have no indication they are approaching a farm with no warning. The board said they will speak with John, road foreman to install appropriate signs on Liberty Hill. Frank figured it would cost about 1K for each of the signs.

Appointment for Valley Rescue Rep: Kristen LaPell was appointed for the Valley Rescue Rep.

Set date for High School acquisition vote on November 5th: The board formally set the date of the acquisition for the high school building to be held on Election Day, November 5th by Australian Ballot. The board will be holding 2 more informational meeting prior to the vote. Dates will be decided on and announced later.

Park Use Application White River Valley Player's annual Harvest Fair Saturday, Sept 7 10-4: Doon moved to approve the park use for the 35th annual Harvest Fair. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved

Park Use Application Rochester Farmers Market Touch-a-truck event August 2 from 4-5:30 pm: Doon moved to approve the farmer's market Touch-a-truck event held on August 2. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted. Asia said this event will be a fund-raiser for the Rochester Farmers Market. There will be various trucks, such as fire trucks, tractors, Valley Rescue ambulance, and a town truck.

Appointment for Zoning Administrator: Doon is handing it off to Pat Harvey. Doon moved to appoint Pat Harvey as the new Zoning Administrator. Frank seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

Larry spoke to the board about implementing the VT-Alert process for our municipality as a notification alert system for the Town of Rochester. The board has asked to add this to the next agenda so they can formally adopt the VT-Alert system.

Library Update: Frank spoke with Bread Loaf Construction about the siding on the library and will come over to take a board off. He said they will come over for a cost not to exceed \$2,500 to assess the situation for repairs.

Frank would like to have the siren removed. He asked Pat for use of the lift and get that down. He would like to have as a back up emergency. The new location is undetermined at this point.

Highway Updates: John received bids for a new pickup for the Highway Department.

Energy Coordinator: Jeff provided 3 options for wording to be included in the mowing contracts that will be going out to bid in August. Jeff asked if the Energy committees could be included with contact information on our website.

Public Comment: Landel Conchran introduced himself as a selectboard member on the board in Huntington since 2018 and he is running as a senate candidate for the district. He said the two towns in the Addison district that are not in Addison County and that is Rochester and Huntington. He is looking to help with the affordability issue in Montpelier. He is currently on the August 13th primary on the Republican ballot. His goal is to work with all the members of the general legislature assembly to get to a point where under the goals we all seem to agree on in a way that does not forget affordability and raise taxes at a level we are seeing here. He hopes to get the support on August 13th. He can be found on his website at landelvt.com.

Julie reminded us that the school vote will take place tomorrow night at the Stockbridge school at 6 pm.

Nancy asked what plans the board will be having for handouts pertaining to the next two informational meetings on the high school acquisition and suggested that we include one with the town's total debt level.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56pm

Executive Session: Board entered executive session at 7:00pm. They set the dates for the two informational meetings to take place on September 10th and October 29th. Board exited executive session at 7:45pm

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Smith