

**Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 9/24/15**

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held September 24, 2015. Attending: Dean Bennett, Larry Young, Bernie Pepin, Diana Marckwardt, Ted Taft, Mike Ouellet, and Colleen Kellogg

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm. Minutes of the September 10th meeting were read and approved as read.

Solar Subcommittee member Diana Marckwardt reports that the town may seek a USDA Community Facilities Grant for 55% of the cost of erecting a solar array in the town pit. The subcommittee will solicit three bids; the low bidder will apply for a Certificate of Public Good.

Resident Ted Taft said he plans to dig out and reposition a road culvert near Jason Colburn's property. Since the culvert has been identified for replacement by the Highway Department, the board voted that the town will purchase the required larger culvert, supply gravel, and pay half of the excavation costs to save money on the project overall. Bernie recommends closing road.

Mike Ouellet provided pricing and information for a heavy-duty low-bed trailer and will provide a quote for a Volvo Excavator, including an option to purchase a leased excavator with low hours; will get it up to Charleston for a try-out. A "municipal lease" involves five payments, and then the town owns it. Most machines don't need much investment until 6-8000 hours. Service is provided by four mobile full-service truck units, and certain attachments are available for rent. Motion to order the trailer, seconded and approved.

Quote for a new Mack 10-wheeler truck was reviewed. Bernie's experience with performance and customer service on the current Mack has been excellent. Signing would initiate order, but the town wouldn't pay until the truck is ready next year. Motion to sign purchase agreement, seconded and approved.

Total amount for truck, excavator and trailer will be around \$316,000. Reviewed favorable loan rates from Community Bank and will get comparison quotes. Purchasing an excavator and trailer will save hired services budget, and the new truck will reduce parts and repairs costs. Foreman plans to use the old 6-wheeler only in winter. Motion to sell the other 6-wheeler with proceeds used toward the loan payment seconded and approved.

Review of current Road Policies adopted in 2008, and discussed revisions to Class 4 policy, clarifying passability, and removal of language permitting the hire of the town equipment for private work. Colleen will prepare revised policy for review and adoption at next meeting.

Motion to appoint Meghann Carter to fill the open Selectboard seat until Town Meeting, seconded and approved.

Discussion of water runoff off Crawford Rd.

Motion to increase Highway Crew member R. Margolla's hourly rate by \$.50 per the terms of his hiring, seconded and approved for next week.

Meeting adjourned 8:52pm. The next meeting is October 8, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Selectboard, Town of Charleston