

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 4/13/17

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held April 13, 2017. Attending: Selectboard Members Dean Bennett and Meghann Carter; Solar Subcommittee member Diana Marckwardt; Highway employee Dwight Moulton; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg. Solar Subcommittee Chair Tom Jensen joined the meeting by phone.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

The minutes of the March 23, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

Ms. Carter moved for Executive Session to meet with highway employee Dwight Moulton, seconded by Mr. Bennett. Executive Session ended at 7:14pm. The Selectboard accepted the retirement of Mr. Moulton; his last day of work will be Friday, April 14th. Per the Selectboard, the Clerk's Office will get him information on his retirement and 457b accounts, and make sure he is paid for any remaining vacation or comp time.

The Selectboard will check with Bernie Pepin to see if he has any potential candidates, and will consider advertising the Driver/Laborer position. There was discussion about lengthening the probationary period so that a Driver's performance can be evaluated in all seasons.

OLD BUSINESS

Tom Jensen and Diana Marckwardt discussed a letter from the Vermont Public Service Board that lists issues to be addressed before a certificate can be issued, including environmental/wetlands concerns, line installation details, and alignment with local planning. Even though most of these have been addressed, it seems that the Town will need to engage an attorney and other experts to compile the information in a way that satisfies the PSB. Also, NorthWoods Stewardship Center staff are contacting Holly Anderson to get more information about needed wetlands information and what items must be addresses by a certified professional. Ms. Carter presented a list of wetlands consultants, with a recommendation for ArrowWood. Mr. Jensen recommends attorneys at Downs, Rachlin, Martin, who recently worked with Lyndonville on a CPG and requests Selectboard authorization to incur attorney fees to keep the application moving. Any expense would be rolled into the project financing, and would not exceed the voter-authorized cost. Mr. Bennett made a motion to authorize the Solar Subcommittee to spend up to \$10,000 in lawyer fees, with the understanding that any costs would be rolled into the project financing; seconded by Ms. Carter and approved. Mr. Jensen will make contact with DRM.

Review of paving estimates for Dane Hill Rd was tabled until estimates have been received from all vendors.

Cole Rd box culvert job was awarded to Alliance Consulting, and the award letter/acceptance agreement has been mailed.

Shane Morin has scheduled a site visit to Bridge #7 on May 1st at 9am. Stream Engineer Patrick Ross will be there to address permitting needs. Neither Mr. Bennett nor Ms. Carter is available, so the Road Foreman and Larry Young will be asked to attend.

Hudson Rd culvert replacement job was discussed, and the possibility of hiring out some of the work if the crew is backlogged. No action taken.

Mr. Pepin has proposed hiring Ron Moulton as temporary truck driver as needed through the summer season. Mr. Bennett made a motion to hire Mr. Moulton as a temporary driver for a period not to exceed three months at a rate of \$17/hour, with no fringe or benefits; seconded by Ms. Carter and approved. Per the Selectboard, the Clerk's office will schedule pre-employment drug testing, provide personnel policies and job duties documents, and prepare an agreement letter detailing terms for Mr. Moulton to sign.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2017 meeting schedule was reviewed. Due to Selectboard holiday travel, the regular Selectboard meeting on December 28th will be cancelled.

Sherman Allen has set the annual Cemetery Commission meeting for Friday, May 5th at 7:00 pm at the Town Clerk's Office. Ms. Kellogg will post the meeting warning and agenda.

Mr. Pepin has received negative comments from landowner Tom Worth about last year's Better Roads project on East Echo Lake Rd. He feels the work does not meet Better Roads standards and will contaminate his spring. The Selectboard noted that all work was approved by Better Roads. Ms. Carter said that NorthWoods has a grant to look at sedimentation in local waterways and design mitigation approaches. She will make information available to Echo Lake Protective Association and landowners.

The Selectboard would like Mr. Pepin to attend the District 9 Road Foreman's meeting covering the Municipal Roads General Permit. Ms. Kellogg will provide dates and info.

Ms. Kellogg requested Selectboard approval to once again leave a Town dump truck outside the Clerk's Office on Saturday and Sunday May 6th and 7th so that residents can drop off Green Up bags. Motion by Mr. Bennett to approve, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

In preparation for summer roadside mowing, Mr. Bennett suggests setting a meeting soon with Russell Guyer to discuss schedule and route. Ms. Kellogg will ask him to attend a Tuesday morning Road Commissioner meeting and will keep the board and Road Foreman posted.

ROAD REPORT

Selectboard has noticed poor conditions and “widening” on Bly Farm Rd and will ask Mr. Pepin to keep surface maintenance to the 22-foot travelled portion according to required municipal road standards.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

Bruce Melendy of NVDA will attend the April 27th Selectboard meeting to help the Town update the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) and discuss shelter planning. Mr. Bennett asked Ms. Kellogg to inform the School Principal and Asst. Principal.

Mr. Bennett announced that he will have to miss the April 27th meeting.

Bills were approved for payment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm. The next Selectboard meeting is April 27th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Selectboard, Town of Charleston