

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 07/27/17

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held July 27, 2017. Attending: Selectboard Members Dean Bennett, Larry Young, Meghann Carter; Road Foreman Bernie Pepin; Solar Subcommittee Member Diana Marckwardt; and Resident Jeff Roussell.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Meeting Called to Order at 7:00pm. Motion to approve minutes by Ms. Carter, second by Mr. Young.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Selectboard received the following complaint from Jeff Roussell about a dog living at Pierre Capron's mobile home, which is repeatedly loose on Roussell's property. Mr. Roussell has contacted Second Constable Brown four times, but feels that Mr. Brown is lenient. Mr. Roussell wants the dog officer to enforce the dog ordinance—give the owners a ticket and make them keep their dog in their own yard. The Selectboard will ask Mr. Brown to come to a meeting and ask him to take the dog's family to task on a) keeping the dog on their property and b) getting it licensed.

Discussion about Hudson Rd, where Mr. Roussell is concerned about silt entering his fields. The Town plans to narrow the traveled portion of the road to 22', improve ditching all along Hudson Road, replace a 15" culvert under the road with an 18", and restore the crown.

OLD BUSINESS

To finance up-front legal/permitting costs for the Community Solar Project and a 10% down payment for panels and installation, Community National Bank has offered a \$50,000 line of credit at 1.5% interest for 1 year. Unless the down payment is made before July 31st, the project will cost at least \$5,800 more than estimated for the solar panels. The Board has decided not to sign the loan or make the down payment yet due to uncertainty around the Certificate of Public Good (CPG). Once the CPG comes through, the board is willing to sign for the line of credit.

Bids so far for the FEMA project to install ditches and 11 culverts on Hudson Rd are within the FEMA budget: Dan Pepin @ \$21,300; JBL Hauling @ \$34,565; and Mario Paul Excavating will submit a bid by July 31st. Motion by Ms. Carter to award the job to the low bidder, seconded by Mr. Bennett and approved. Final bid review will take place during the Road Commissioner's meeting on August 1st.

NEW BUSINESS

The diesel supplier for Town Garage and School is requiring Charleston to install cement pads with containment barriers around the diesel tanks in order to refill them, according to state regulation. Town must get the pad poured ASAP. Motion by Mr. Bennett to contact Mike Green and Tracy Degre for costs, seconded by Mr. Young. The Assistant Town Clerk will let the school know of the requirement and their responsibility for 1/3 of the cost of the pad since their diesel tank covers 1/3 of the pad (500 gallons to the Town's 1000 gallons).

Information about a grant program to upgrade diesel vehicles was reviewed. The options available don't apply to the Town and the matter was dismissed.

Mr. Young and Mr. Pepin met with Doug Morton and Frank Maloney of NVDA to discuss state Grants-In-Aid assistance to bring a section of Crawford Hill or Dane Hill Rd up to current water quality standards for hydrologically connected road segments. The program would provide \$7500 and the Town's match would be \$1500. Adjacent landowner, Monte Kennedy, whose logging and ditching has created an erosion problem was invited but did not attend. Mr. Morton advised that the Selectboard can be held accountable for any water quality concerns that arise from a situation within our right-of-way, and some towns have billed landowners for maintenance costs in their tax bill. The Selectboard will instruct the clerk to find out if the parcel is in current use, contact the county forester to see if landowner activity is aligned with a management plan, pull together a paper trail on road maintenance costs and communications with the landowner, and contact VTrans Engineer Shane Morin to assess needed restoration.

ROAD REPORT

Roadside fencing is still up in the area where the Road Crew will be working. Fencing must be taken down and moved by the landowner or the road crew will take the fence down and will not put it back up. Mr. Pepin has told contractors that if anyone has an issue with what they are working on, tell them to call the Town Garage or Selectboard.

Mr. Pepin wants to rent a screen from Clark Jeffers for \$1,400 for two weeks to process winter sand. Motion made by Mr. Bennett to approve, seconded by Mr. Young.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

Bills were approved for payment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. The next Selectboard meeting is August 10th, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Ms. Kellogg will be away and Ms. Carter agreed to take minutes.

Selectboard, Town of Charleston