

**Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 5/24/18**

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held May 24, 2018. Attending: Selectpersons Meghann Carter, Glenn Peterson, and Larry Young; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. Motion by Ms. Carter to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2018 meeting as written, seconded by Mr. Peterson and approved.

There was no public comment.

ROAD REPORT

Ms. Kellogg reported that a Better Roads grant for Streeter Rd was waiting for historical preservation approval, and the Town can expect to see the executed grant agreement in the next two weeks.

An email sent to Selectboards and Road Foremen reminds towns that under the MRGP, seed and mulch or stone stabilization is required for hydrologically connected roads starting this season.

The Kick-off meeting for the Town's Category A Road Erosion Inventory will be Tuesday June 5th at 8:30 am. Selectboard members, Road Foreman, and Doug Morton of NVDA will attend.

The Town is eligible for Grants-in-Aid funding again this year to bring one segment of hydrologically-connected road up to MRGP standards, and has been advised to focus on a segment with over 10% gradient. Mr. Pepin suggests a segment on Hinton Hill Rd; and Mr. Young said that Bowen Hill might be looked at as well. Maximum funds are \$7,200 of a \$9,000 project. To participate, the town must sign and submit the Letter of Intent. Motion by Ms. Carter to submit letter, and agreed by Mr. Young and Mr. Peterson.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Carter read a series of email updates on the Community Solar project. Building Energy was at the site that day and the next, and was scheduled to be back Tuesday through Thursday of the following week. They are focusing on electrical work, and interfacing with VEC. The project is on VEC's radar for final connection. To date, there are 296 of the 330 watt panels (higher wattage than the original 325s yielding a higher overall system size of 97.69 kW versus 97.5kW). Ms. Kellogg has details about how to purchase extended warranties on the solar inverters, but the Town has time to wait until project grant funds are received. A Project Budget Report form was signed and will be sent to USDA so the Town will receive grant funds in the amount of \$50,000.

NEW

The Town's PACIF grant for a safety work basket was approved, and the award is good for one year. Selectboard members agreed to table purchase of the equipment to a later date. The Shoulder Retriever grant request was denied.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

Ms. Kellogg informed the board that due to the Memorial Day holiday, Road orders will not be ready for review until 10:00am on May 29th.

Mr. Peterson spoke with Perry Hunt, Derby Selectperson, about highway compensation. Derby research 20 area towns and found the following wage ranges for highway employees: \$15.50–\$18.50 for crewmembers. \$19.50–\$21.50 for Foremen. Derby doesn't offer insurance but they allot \$9500 per employee per year that can be used to reimburse employees for health expenses. Board members concluded that Charleston is in the range of other area towns in terms of wage scale.

Seeing no other business or discussion, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Young, and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm. The next meeting is June 14th at 7:00 pm.

Approved this 14th day of June 2018:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston