

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 08/11/16

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held August 11th, 2016. Attending: Selectboard members Dean Bennett, Meg Carter, and Larry Young; Solar Subcommittee members Diana Markwardt and Tom Jensen; and Dailey Memorial Library representative Irene Degasse.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes of the July 28th, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Barb Whitehill of the Dailey Memorial Library will be retiring this year after over 20 years of service. As a tribute to her dedication to her community, the Dailey Memorial Library is starting a Little Library program which involves the placement of small free-book boxes in each town in the area. These small wooden boxes, built by Tom Rooney, can hold several dozen books, which will be made available for borrowing or keeping by anyone who wants them. The Little Library will be placed somewhere within the town to be visible and easily accessible to as many community members as possible. Irene is seeking advice from the Selectboard for where this Little Library can go within the Town of Charleston. The Selectboard will deliberate and talk to community members before deciding where the box would best be able to serve the community.

The Solar Subcommittee was not awarded the \$230,000 grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission. There is \$20,000 in the budget for the solar project which has been allocated for the preparation of the future site of the solar array, which will cover the cost of bulldozing, bank seeding, and anything else that needs to be done to the site before the array can be installed. The next item on the To Do list for this project is to determine exactly where in the gravel pit the transmission line poles should be located. Also, as the project goes forward, the Town Selectboard and School Board need to determine how the payment of electricity bills will work, as the Town will be receiving credits from VEC when the net metering is approved and under way.

The FEMA grant for the Hudson Road Project has been approved. There is 10,000 yards of gravel set aside in the gravel pit for the Hudson Road project, which will cover the Town's portion of the FEMA grant match. There is some concern that the Town road crew will not have sufficient time to perform their annual maintenance and repairs if there is too much to do for this project. Fortunately, this grant has funds in the budget to hire out much of the work, so the Town crew should have time to complete the necessary repairs to the rest of the town roads. The work for the FEMA grant does not need to be completed until 2019. Further discussion on this has been tabled until the Selectboard Clerk and the Road Foreman are present to provide input.

New Business: The road crew needs a good way to cut roadside berms further while they are doing their grading. Suggestions include harrows, a rototiller, and a Harley rake. Further discussion on this has been tabled until the Selectboard can do some more research.

Roadside Mowing: The Echo Lake road has been done, and the rest will be completed as soon as the hired mower has finished his work in Irasburg.

The Town Clerk will send a letter to Randy Longe concerning the landscaping and lack of proper drainage on his road which causes town culverts and ditches to fill with sediment.

Adjourned at 7:50 pm. The next Selectboard meeting is August 25th, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

Selectboard, Town of Charleston