

**Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 09/14/2017**

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held September 14, 2017. Attending: Selectboard Members Meghann Carter and Larry Young; Road Foreman Bernie Pepin; residents Mike Randall and Glenn Peterson; and board clerk Colleen Kellogg.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Called to Order at 7:05 pm. Motion by Mr. Young to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2017 meeting as written, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Listers will have the Grand List errors and omissions document ready for board approval at the next Road meeting.

Select person Dean Bennett's letter of resignation was accepted. Two residents expressed interest in the open Selectboard seat. Glenn Peterson has a construction background, including electrical work, culvert and other work for Three Town Farms, etc. Mike Randall also has construction background, worked on the Charleston Highway crew, and now works for Blue Flame Gas. The board will give voters until the 22nd to express interest, and then will call individuals to set up interviews.

Mr. Young asked about status of new office handrail. Ms. Kellogg will ask the contractor to try to complete it by October 1st.

OLD BUSINESS

Charleston's Community Solar Project has been issued a Certificate of Public Good. Tom Jensen is working on getting a final contract price and confirming the installer for early 2018.

Estimates show monthly savings from LED streetlights may not justify the installation costs. Motion by Mr. Young to table the matter until more information could be gathered, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

Charleston's Shelter Initiative is in a holding pattern. Next steps would be to seek a shelter manager among from among training participants, and to speak to the school about arranging a facility use agreement meeting. Red Cross is very busy now with hurricane response. Motion by Mr. Young to table the matter until Red Cross is more available and all three board members can confer, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

ROAD REPORT

Mr. Pepin reports that winter sand is put up. He will finish shaping the Dane Hill ditch next week. Ronald Moulton has been working as a temporary drive and finished up today, except in case of emergency. The school bus is stored at the Town garage yard again and will work fine this winter. Roadside mowing finished Monday.

Hudson Rd ditching and culverts are done, but Mr. Pepin is not happy with quality of work. Material over culverts was not compacted. He feels the job was bid low and the contractor blew through it, even when the Town took steps to help out, like having erosion stone trucked to the site. Mr. Pepin did not have the time he had hoped to oversee the work. He will meet with VTrans on Friday morning to discuss what can be done to stabilize culverts and bring the whole project up to acceptable standards.

Mr. Pepin would like a clear policy and notification process for dealing with fences, trees, etc. in the town highway right-of-way, so that maintenance and construction projects can proceed without added delay or cost to the Town. Ms. Kellogg will draft a policy for Selectboard review.

Discussion of plans to purchase a pickup with USDA grant. The board will review the budget in October once construction project reimbursement is better known. Mr. Young and Ms. Carter are generally in favor of purchasing this year, and are open to the possibility of using some Equipment Fund money to complete the grant match. If not purchased this year, the board must submit minutes to USDA with a record of this vote. Mr. Pepin recommends a 350 diesel, with extreme "V" plow. If money is there, Mr. Young suggests having Mr. Pepin look at trucks and report back.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

VLCT has been discussing a proposed policy coverage bill. Mr. Young asked if Charleston's planned arrangement to have an academy-training First Constable will meet requirements. Ms. Kellogg will ask VLCT.

Town recycling pickup by Darald Moulton is delayed one week in October.

Mr. Young agreed to contact Mr. Peterson and Mr. Randall to set up interviews for September 26th.

Bills and orders were approved for payment.

Mr. Young called Executive Session at 8:09 to discuss a personnel matter, ending at 8:13 with no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm. The next Selectboard meeting is Thursday, September 28th. There will be a Planning Commission meeting immediately preceding at 6:30pm.

Approved this 28th Day of September 2017:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston