

**Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 4/12/18**

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held April 12, 2018. Attending: Selectboard members Larry Young and Glenn Peterson; Orleans County Sheriff Candidate Jennifer Harlow Jacobs and her husband David; Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg; and Chair Meghann Carter joined by phone.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. Motion by Mr. Young to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2018 meeting as written, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Harlow Jacobs is running for Orleans County Sheriff and introducing herself to towns. She works as Special Investigations Detective with the Newport Police Dept. and serves on a statewide task force on internet crimes against children. She is passionate about working for the community's most vulnerable people. 22 years an officer and 19 as a full-time level 3 Vermont officer, she is a Police Academy and Domestic Violence instructor, teaches rape self-defense, and an advocate of community policing. She hopes to be a "working sheriff" and to broaden and expand the patrol area, increase the number of qualified officers, and be a resource for towns as requirements increase to have their own police force, even helping to leverage government grants to bring money into local communities. Asked about prevention programs, Officer Harlow Jacobs said she is active in area schools, works with campus officers, and believes that getting into schools early and offering children security and positive relationships with officers is key to opioid prevention. Also works with youth advocates at Umbrella to teach about technology safety and healthy relationships.

ROAD REPORT

Ms. Kellogg reposts that grant applications to PACIF and ERP for a highway Shoulder Retriever and Man Lift will be ready for signature Tuesday. While the lift purchase will have to wait due to unforeseen grader repair expenses, the Selectboard was in agreement to leave it in the grant for possible purchase in 2019. Mr. Pepin plans to use the lift to provide a safe work platform for cutting high limbs and brush. Regarding the Hudson bridge replacement happening this summer, Ms. Kellogg presented landowner notification letters and agreements for work outside the right-of-way, which were signed and will be mailed.

Mr. Young noted that the Grader Operator has done great work recently on road shoulders. The grader has been repaired and is back on the road—seals were put on tandems and shims were put in.

Mr. Young researched the process for restricting roads during Mud Season. To close or restrict a road, the Selectboard must pass a resolution, post in two public places, and install signage on each end. Information will be kept on file for next year if roads need to be restricted to residents during mud season. Incautious drivers and "mudders" have been making travel difficult on Town Farm Rd.

OLD BUSINESS

Diana Marckwardt attended the School Board Meeting the night before and will be working with Atty. Bill Davies to draw up the net metering agreement. Russ Flanigan of Building Energy is planning to come to Charleston for one last site planning visit next week and Glenn Peterson will attend to nail down location and highway department concerns.

Ms. Kellogg reports that Second Constable Crystal Langmaid has returned employment paperwork and been assigned an officer number and ticket books. The Town can now give out her number. She has her own dog kennels, so the board asked that the Town's kennel be picked up and stored in the highway yard.

NEW BUSINESS

The Town received final notification from Vermont Department of Taxes of the redetermined Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), 106.40%, which advantageously affects Charleston's Education Property Tax Rate.

Charleston School and Echo Lake Protective Association sent letters to notify the Selectboard of fundraising runs on the Echo Lake Roads—the School on May 5th and ELPA July 1st. Both events will last about an hour and off-road parking is provided. The Selectboard raised no concerns about either event, and Ms. Kellogg will notify the groups.

Mr. Young ran into Luke Willard, head of Barton Ambulance, who is willing to submit a quote if the board is interested. He might also be willing to split the town and cover East Charleston. Mr. Peterson and Ms. Carter agreed they would like to see a quote from Barton and other local services in the fall. The board agreed to meet with ambulance services and seek quotes in September-October to leave plenty of time for decision and budgeting. Ms. Kellogg will follow up in the fall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A note was received from NEK Council on Aging thanking the board and town for Charleston's appropriation support.

VLCT and PACIF will hold a Risk Management Workshop for Highway Supervisors in May. Board members agreed to send Bernie Pepin.

Seeing no other business or discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. The next meeting is April 26th at 7:00 pm.

Approved this 26th day of April 2018:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston