

**Town of Charleston  
Selectboard Meeting 7/26/18**

MINUTES

A meeting of the town Selectboard was held July 26, 2018. Attending: Selectpersons Meghann Carter, Glenn Peterson, and Larry Young; Road Foreman Bernie Pepin; Sam Perron of NorthWoods Stewardship Center; Residents Ron Roy and Laura Plourde; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Roy and Ms. Plourde are new residents and attended to learn what's going on in town.

Motion by Mr. Peterson to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2018 meeting as written, seconded by Ms. Carter and approved.

Sam Perron of NorthWoods Stewardship Center thanked the town for hiring Northwoods to update the Town Forest Management Plan. He plans to conduct field work while leaves are still on in September, process data and compare to the last plan in October-November, come up with ten-year recommendations, and run them by the board at a later meeting. The plan and maps would be finalized, approved and signed by the board in time to submit to the county forester by April 1, 2019. Asked if a harvest would be needed, Mr. Perron said it had been recommended for 2017, but there is a three-year window. Field work would help him and the Town determine if it's needed by 2020. Mr. Perron said he hears that road work is needed to access the parcel. Mr. Pepin and Mr. Peterson believe there is an access other than Town Farm Rd, perhaps via Perkins Lane in Westmore, and Mr. Perron said he can research right-of-way and other property issues as needed. The board confirmed that existing goals of 1) income, 2) overall health, 3) recreational, and 4) compatible educational activities still hold, and said the property is used for hunting but ATVs are prohibited.

ROAD REPORT

Mr. Pepin reports that the FEMA work on Hudson Rd is more than half done. The Streeter Rd Better Roads project is on hold, and the Town will apply for an extension in May if needed. He installed the new security gate at the Charleston pit today. Roads are generally decent. The grader operator is on vacation this week. The mowing contractor has begun—he's been around Echo, and Mr. Pepin is happy with the work and promptness.

The Town received Authorization to Discharge Stormwater from the state—the first part of the new Municipal Roads General Permit. A flier announcing August road closures on Hudson Rd and Durgin Rd was reviewed and will be posted.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Kellogg said that the Town's Solar Net Metering Agreement had been finalized, net metering credits were being applied, and the gate and legal services had been paid for. Hap Eliason is getting an estimate for a fence and will report back.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Town Clerk submitted 2018 Property Tax Rates and public notices for review. Motion by Ms. Carter to accept and sign, second by Mr. Peterson, and approved and signed.

Bruce Melendy, NVDA, sent over a draft of Charleston's 2018 LEOP for review. After reading, board members noted changes were needed to reflect Charleston's current equipment—sold one dump truck and acquired a pickup with plow. Ms. Kellogg will request the edits. Ms. Carter moved to adopt the plan pending indicated changes, seconded by Mr. Peterson and approved.

The Board reviewed and approved an information sheet that will mail with tax bills.

Mr. Young called for executive session to discuss personnel/HR matters, seconded by Ms. Carter and Executive Session began at 7:34 pm. Executive Session ended at 8:08 pm with the following action:

(1) Having discussed an employee request for health insurance coverage, the board authorized Ms. Kellogg to explore options and present a range of options and budgets to the board as quickly as possible. Since it's a road finance matter, they will review any information Tuesday morning.

(2) A request from the Listers to increase compensation for reappraisal work was reviewed. There was interest in conserving the Reappraisal Fund, and board could not agree that a three dollar per hour increase was justified. Members did agree on a \$1.00/hr increase for each Lister, and Ms. Kellogg will inform the Listers and Treasurer.

(3) Ms. Carter shared with the board that she will not be able to run in March for another Selectboard term. The board hopes that Charleston voters will consider serving.

Bills and Orders were reviewed and approved for payment.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

PACIF will have a new Law Enforcement Consultant at the end of this year.

Mr. Peterson said that Jason Sevigny of VTrans will come to the office Tuesday at 8:00 am to talk with the Selectboard.

Ms. Carter will be out of town for the Tuesday August 7<sup>th</sup> Road meeting and August 9<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting.

Seeing no other business or discussion, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Ms. Carter, and the meeting adjourned 8:11 pm. The next meeting is August 9th at 7:00 pm.

Approved this 9th day of August 2018:

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Selectboard, Town of Charleston

Road Report