

**Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 3/28/19**

MINUTES

Attending: Selectpersons Glenn Peterson, Peter Moskovites, and Larry Young; Residents Jeff Roussell, Lynwood Crown, and Alex Glover; Lister Jean Wilson; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Meeting called to order at 6:56 pm by Mr. Peterson.

Motion by Mr. Young to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2019 meeting as written, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Roussell reports that the grader operator hasn't been grading properly in front of his house and on a recent occasion dropped the grader blade creating a rut and spreading dirt onto his grass. He complained of water running down his driveway and showed a video of the road condition. He believes the grader operator's behavior is deliberate and personal, and asked that something be done. Mr. Moskovites said the board has noted Mr. Roussell's concerns and will respond by the next Selectboard meeting.

Lynwood Crown presented photos of a fence along Taylor Farm Rd that has been damaged during snow removal. He also complained that the road—a Class III—has not always been plowed this winter. When the Road Foreman explained that there hasn't been sufficient turn-around area most of the winter, Mr. Glover said he is willing to do site work to improve the turnaround. Regarding the fence, Mr. Peterson will measure the site with another board member to determine if the fence is in the ROW. Regarding plowing, Mr. Moskovites asked that the Road Foreman be notified when the turnaround work was done so that he can make sure it is workable for next winter. Mr. Crown and Mr. Glover agreed.

Head Lister Jean Wilson gave an update on reappraisal. Listers plan to complete remaining visits in April, finish data review and Current Use updates in May, and at the end of May distribute change of appraisal notices to all property owners including previous, new, homestead, and housesite values for every property in town as well as information on the grievance process. Grievances will take place in June—starting with informal hearings to sort out questions or inaccuracies, and then formal grievances. Overall, the process is going well, and keeping it in-house has been much better than hiring an outside firm.

ROAD REPORT

A review of Maxwell v. Davis was tabled until the end of Road business.

Mr. Moskovites said he does not have the expertise to perform Road Commissioner duties and does not wish to be appointed an Acting Road Commissioner, as is the recent custom for all Selectboard members. All board members were in agreement, and Mr. Peterson and Mr. Young will continue as Acting Road Commissioners, but the appointment will not extend to Mr. Moskovites.

Mr. Peterson has information from VTrans about how to fill/repair the crack on the Durgin Rd bridge abutment and will perform the work as soon as the weather breaks. Ms. Kellogg will register Mr. Peterson and Mr. Pepin (weather permitting) for a bridge maintenance workshop in Derby on April 9th.

Motion by Mr. Moskovites to give Ms. Kellogg the go-ahead to purchase a tablet PC budgeted for the highway department, seconded by Mr. Young and approved. It will come in under budget.

Mr. Moskovites called for executive session to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and executive session began at 7:56 pm. Session ended at 8:19 pm with no action taken.

Regarding highway equipment, Mr. Pepin has determined that fixing the radiator on the Volvo loader and putting pins and bushings in the bucket lift arm should put the equipment in pretty good shape for a couple more years, and delay purchase of a new one. At around \$10,000, this expense will likely exceed the repair budget for 2019, and he requests authorization to spend up to \$10,000 in Road Equipment funds if needed to complete the repairs. Motion by Mr. Young to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Peterson and approved.

Regarding the matter of Maxwell v. Davis, Mr. Moskovites referenced a letter from Mr. Dunleavy, Senior Asst. Atty. General for VTrans. Mr. Moskovites is concerned about residents' access and is interested in further legal help for the town if free assistance is available. He will bring any information back to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

Delinquent Tax Collector Grace Frizzell notified the board that she plans to turn over all unpaid balances as of June 1st to the town attorney for Tax Sale, as done in previous years, and will notify all affected taxpayers in her next statement mailing. The board had no concerns.

Ms. Kellogg announced that the Town has received a request for Abatement of Property Taxes from Arlean Hillis LaBounty and has tentatively scheduled the hearing for April 24th. The board had no concerns about the date, and Ms. Kellogg will work with the Town Clerk on scheduling and notification.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Peterson moved to appoint Nancy Rice to fill the Cemetery Commission seat left open at Town Meeting, seconded by Mr. Young and approved. Ms. Rice is appointed for five years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

County Forester Jared Nunery notified the town by email that the Town Forest Management Plan Update has been approved.

Seeing no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:49pm. The next regular meeting is April 11th at 7:00 pm.

Approved this 11th day of April, 2019:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston