

**Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 7/11/19**

MINUTES

Attending: Chair Glenn Peterson, Selectpersons Larry Young and Peter Moskovites; Road Foreman Bernie Pepin; Resident Steve Gratton; Avis & Terrance Drouin; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chair, Glenn Peterson.

Motion by Mr. Peterson to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2019 meeting as written, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and approved as written.

The Drouins are interested in purchasing several used culverts from the town. They agreed with board members on a price of \$15 for the largest and \$10 each for the smaller. They will pick them up Monday and leave a check for the Town Clerk.

Under public comment, Mr. Peterson moved to accept a copy of a letter from Linda Studer to the state Transportation Board opposing the renaming of VT Route 105, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and accepted with no further discussion.

Motion by Mr. Moskovites to accept a letter from Terra Verge reporting that her neighbor's trash continues to end up on her property—some of it is a health hazard—seconded by Mr. Young. Ms. Verge has reported it to the town health officer. The board agreed to take the matter under advisement, but without an acting constable, they did not feel there was anyone aside from the health officer to enforce action. They will send a letter to Ms. Verge.

ROAD REPORT

Steve Gratton of ELPA measured road width around Echo Lake, and only one area is wider than the standard 22 feet. Near 1465 West Echo Lake Rd, it widens toward the lake to as much as 27 feet, and this area is a concern to state DEC officials. Mr. Pepin suggests he visit the site with the Selectboard to see what is possible, and all agreed.

Mr. Pepin reports that roadside mowing will begin Monday. Mr. Peterson said the vendor was instructed NOT to mow the lake side of the road in areas where one can see the water. For clarification, Mr. Gratton agreed to stake the start and end of the stretch of West Echo Lake Rd where mowing is to be avoided.

An updated report of Class 4 repair expenditures was presented to the board. Following up on recent work to Town Farm Rd, the need for ditching in the worst spot was discussed. Mr. Young made a motion to approve the town ditching work that is needed, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and approved. The work will be done and the outcome evaluated in spring.

Mr. Moskovites suggested the board review Class 4 maintenance policies at a later date, seconded by Mr. Young, and the matter will be taken up at the July 25th meeting. Mr. Young said that if the town invests in Class 4 Roads, he would like to see them closed during mud season to prevent damage. Mr. Pepin said that tailings—stone that results from screening winter sand—could be useful on some Class 4 roads and also that increased maintenance would ideally require that Class 4 roadsides be mowed about every 5 years.

An email from Amy Wagner was received, detailing a hole in a culvert on Winape Hills Rd that presents a safety hazard. Mr. Pepin said he is not ready to replace the culvert but will install some material to make the area safe and passable.

OLD BUSINESS

Katherine Bastien's request that the town open an investigation with VTrans into a possible reduced speed limit on Route 105 had been tabled from a previous meeting. Mr. Moskovites moved that the Selectboard not take any action at this time, seconded by Mr. Peterson and approved. A letter will be sent to inform Ms. Bastien.

Mr. Young moved to adopt new Vermont Road and Bridge Standards, seconded by Mr. Peterson and approved.

In order to prioritize replacement of a culvert on Crawford Hill Rd that has been the site of heavy stormwater, and also to accommodate the town crew's maintenance schedule, Mr. Young moved to forego replacing a large culvert on Ten Mile Square Rd this year, which likely means foregoing a Better Roads grant, second by Mr. Peterson and approved. Ms. Kellogg will contact state officials about delaying their design work and explore extension possibilities regarding the grant.

NEW BUSINESS

Resident Pat Austin has requested that the Selectboard approve use of side-by-side ATVs on town roads. Derby's ATV ordinance was presented for reference. Mr. Moskovites said that such matters should happen by voter petition and an article at Town Meeting. Board members agreed they did not wish to take action on this issue. Mr. Peterson will contact Mr. Austin.

Board members reviewed the Information for Charleston Property Owners tax bill insert, and approved with no changes.

Ms. Kellogg said the Town Clerk invites suggestions for next year's Town Report cover—a photo or dedication.

Ms. Kellogg will miss the next board meeting, and Mr. Moskovites will take minutes.

A year-to-date Budget Report from the Treasurer was accepted.

Mr. Moskovites called for executive session to discuss attorney communication, seconded by Mr. Peterson, beginning at 8:18 and ending at 8:28. Board members agreed to visit the Davis Farm on Tuesday.

Bills and Orders were approved for payment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

The Town's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan expires in February 2021.

Seeing no other business, there was a motion by Mr. Young to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Moskovites, and the meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm. The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 25th at 7:00 pm.

Approved this 25th day of July, 2019:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston