

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 03/25/2021

MINUTES

Attending: Selectpersons Peter Moskovites and Patrick Austin; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg. Town Clerk Teri Gray and Animal Control Officer Sarah Jenness attended remotely

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Peter Moskovites, Chair. Motion by Mr. Moskovites to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2021 meeting as written, seconded by Patrick Austin and unanimously approved. There was no public comment.

Business began with a proposed job description for the newly appointed Animal Control Officer. Mr. Austin noted that the document focused on responding to dogs and suggested it be expanded to other domesticated animals. Ms. Jenness agreed as she gets calls about other pets, fowl, horses, etc. Ms. Jenness asked how to handle dogs that are refused by the shelter, or animals that need medical care. Board members agreed that if a dog is destroyed in accordance with the ordinance, the town would pay. Board members also agreed that if the ACO picks up an injured animal, it will be up to her to determine if the animal needs to be stabilized by a veterinarian, in which case the town would be responsible for the cost of minimal care. Mr. Austin moved to adopt the proposed Animal Control Officer job description edited from “deal with domesticated dogs” to “deal with domesticated animals,” seconded by Mr. Moskovites and unanimously approved.

Ms. Jenness said her husband may be interested in one of the Constable positions. He will review information from VT Criminal Justice Council and join a Selectboard meeting if he is still interested. Mr. Austin noted that a candidate would first be appointed to the office before training would begin.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Moskovites shared his observations of the current roof: rafters 4 ft on center, purlins 2x6, no strapping, no screws pulling out, no closure material around the ridge cap so daylight is seen, chimney is not flashed and there is daylight around it, and the roof is bare steel and subject to condensation. Mr. Austin proposed hiring a professional to perform an inspection and provide a detailed written plan for how to fix—determining if repair or replacement is needed. The assessment would be used to inform a request for bids. Board members agreed to authorize Mr. Austin to hire roofing contractor Mike Sykes to perform this inspection, with board member(s) present. Mr. Austin will proceed with this.
- Regarding plans to pave and upgrade Center School Rd, Mr. Moskovites said a site visit with VTrans technicians is scheduled for Tuesday, March 30th at 12:30, after which more will be known about the job and bid process. With seven Center School Road segments not meeting standards, board members agreed that Grants-in-Aid assistance should be directed to this project. The Road Foreman will be informed of the March 30th meeting.
- Doug Morton will meet with Charleston about the next Grants-in-Aid project on Wednesday April 14th at 10am.
- The Municipal Road General Permit requirements were discussed briefly, including total segments in need of work, and expected progress this year. Ms. Kellogg will share links to online resources with board members.
- Appointment of Fence Views was left off the previous agenda in error. Mr. Austin moved to appoint Blair Moulton and Darald Moulton, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and approved

unanimously. Neither Ms. Gray nor Ms. Kellogg were aware of anyone interested in filling the third seat, but interested voters can contact the Selectboard.

- Board members reviewed results of VT Emergency Management's review of the town's Hazard Mitigation Plan, as well as corresponding edits proposed by OPH Consulting. Mr. Austin moved to accept all edits, second by Mr. Moskovites and approved. Revisions have been submitted.
- Efficiency Vermont Offers assistance to upgrade streetlights to LED. Net cost to the town will be \$2,250, which can be paid over 32 months. Mr. Austin moved to proceed with the upgrade agreement, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- An estimate from David White for pavement sweeping was reviewed, along with a corresponding contract. Mr. Austin moved to approve the proposal with work to be completed by July 1st, as well as the contract, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and unanimously approved.
- A draft contract for roadside mowing, including proposed dates, was reviewed and discussed. The Road Foreman can provide more information about pricing at the next meeting, so contract approval was tabled until then.
- Mr. Austin moved to approve a liquor license for Scampy's store, seconded by Ms. Moskovites and unanimously approved.
- Kingdom Games will hold the annual Echo Lake Swim on August 10, 2021 and requests Selectboard approval of a "marine permit." Mr. Austin moved to approve the event, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and unanimously approved.
- Mr. Austin moved to approve ATV travel on the Charleston roads opened last year, with the addition of Durgin Rd from 105 to the Morgan town line, to be effective annually from May 15th to October 1st. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moskovites. There were no concerns resulting from last year's one-season pilot. Motion unanimously approved.
- Mr. Moskovites said he took a look at landowner signage on Hinton Hill Rd but does not see the town as having any authority to take action. Mr. Austin agreed, and the matter was dismissed.
- Building Energy responded to a problem with an inverter at the town array. The unit is destroyed and will be replaced under warranty. At the same time, it was observed that a bullet or small object has broken one of the panels. The town has notified insurance of a potential claim and is waiting on a replacement estimate.

Six Highway and Selectboard orders totaling \$19,190.92 were approved unanimously and signed by both board members.

Under informational items, the Clerk shared VT Criminal Justice Council literature about Constable training and duties. Also, it was noted that vandalism on highway signs in the Echo Lake area has been reported to Vermont State Police.

Seeing no other business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm. The next meeting will be held Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Approved this 6th day of April, 2021:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston