

**Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 6/24/2021**

MINUTES

Attending: Selectpersons Peter Moskovites, Larry Young, and Patrick Austin; Planning Commission Chair John Kellogg; Town Clerk & Treasurer Teri Gray; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by Peter Moskovites, Chair.

Pat Austin moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2021 meeting as written, seconded by Larry Young and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Kellogg has been attending meetings of the NEK Communications Union District as Charleston's appointed representative. Unlike other recent Vermont efforts to bring broadband to the area, this is a collaboration of 47 area towns and not a commercial venture. He is optimistic because they have a well-thought-out plan with knowledgeable professionals involved, and the state has promised COVID funds. They plan to piggy-back on existing networks and make service available to all household in the NEK over several years. There is no cost to participating towns; customers will pay a monthly fee.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Austin spoke with Mark Gray of Gray's Paving to make sure the Selectboard is in the loop about scheduling Center School Rd paving work. They discussed the need to dig and fill with gravel a problem spot (lump) near 105, and that it should be done and sit for a good month before paving. JBL will finish ditching on that road next week, so Mr. Austin will coordinate with Kiki to see about having JBL fix the trouble spot, too. Mr. Young said that if the lump is wet when it's dug there could be water unable to drain, and underdrain may be needed. He said compaction will be needed there, too. Dig Safe has cleared the area for JBL ditching work next week.
- The schedule for completing a Better Roads project on Mad Brook is uncertain due to Foreman's medical leave. Ms. Kellogg will inquire about whether a deadline extension is possible.
- There was no update on the Garage Roof repair since no estimate has been received yet from Shover.
- The Foreman was to get prices for harvesting gravel from the pit floor. The matter was tabled until a later meeting.
- There was no update on Bly Farm Rd.
- Teri Gray submitted the town's request for ARPA funds as the authorized representative. It is estimated that the town will receive \$104,269—half of that in the next month. Ms. Kellogg will provide board members with more information about eligible expenses and how spending and funds allocation must be carried out. Board members wondered if current needs like Garage roof and furnace might be eligible expenses.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Solar Subcommittee has received estimates to replace a broken solar panel--\$1500 for a new panel and \$1000 for a gently used. Insurance will pay for anything beyond the \$1000 deductible. Mr. Austin moved to authorize purchase and installation of a new panel, seconded by Mr. Moskovites and approved unanimously. There was some question of how soon a new panel can be located; Ms. Kellogg will report back to the board if there will be a significant delay.
- A Selectboard representative is needed for the town Tax Sale at 9:00 am on July 29th. This will remain on the next agenda to identify a board member closer to the date.
- Selectboard members have received calls about a camper set up at the Rice property near the West Charleston Post Office. There is concern about whether it's in the state highway ROW and about how it discharges. Mr. Moskovites moved to contact VTrans about any ROW issues, seconded by Mr. Young and unanimously approved. The Chair will call Jason at the District 9 office.
- Selectboard members have received calls and messages from resident Scott Scelza who is asking for a townwide speed limit of 35 MPH. Two board members told him that the Selectboard would need to see wide support from townspeople to consider this and encouraged him to circulate a petition that would bring the matter to town meeting.

The Chair called for Exec Session to discuss attorney communication and a personnel matter, and session began at 7:04 pm. Executive session ended at 7:28 pm with the following action: Mr. Moskovites will contact the VLCT HR specialist for more information about employee medical leave.

Mr. Austin moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Moskovites, and unanimously approved, with adjournment at 7:34 pm. The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Approved this 8th day of July 2021:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston