

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 7/22/2021

MINUTES

Attending: Selectpersons Peter Moskovites, Larry Young, and Patrick Austin; Highway Foreman Bernie Pepin; 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 6:03 pm by Peter Moskovites, Chair. Mr. Moskovites moved to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2021 meeting as written, seconded by Mr. Austin and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A letter was received from resident Bonnie Hopkins, who is looking for Selectboard help to resolve rubbish pickup difficulties. Available vendors do not drive down her road. Mr. Austin is happy to speak with her and asked the Clerk to put her in touch with him. He said that there are currently two companies that serve her area, Myers and Casella, but neither can drive down her private road because there is no place to turn around. Selectboard members agree there is no lack of available service.

ROAD REPORT

Mr. Pepin is checking in with the crew each morning and checking roads to help prioritize grading. He hopes to get authorization soon to return to work part-time. The new loader is having an issue with turning, so that will be looked into. The winter sand pile is almost done.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Austin spoke with Mark Gray of Gray's Paving, who is concerned that the area of Center School Rd that was excavated was too small to fix the heaving issue. The crew will reevaluate on Monday to see if more can be done soon in preparation for paving in August. Gray's would like the new material to settle for a month.
- Mr. Pepin has called Clark Jeffers. He will arrange to look at the Barton pit and provide pricing and recommendation on digging gravel from the floor. Mr. Pepin will also make arrangements to look at the work with Kingdom Gravel.
- Selection of the next Grants-in-Aid project site was tabled. When Mr. Pepin is back to work, he and Ms. Kellogg will review sites and make a plan.
- There was no update yet on the Mad Brook Rd project. Ms. Kellogg said that the program coordinator Alan May would like the highway department to check in before work begins.
- Board members are generally in favor of proceeding with insulating the garage roof and fixing the ridge cap. Mr. Austin agreed to contact Fred Sykes to see if he might still be available to do the work.
- Mr. Moskovites stopped at the Rice property in West Charleston Village, but has not yet found anyone home.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Gray said she is still waiting for the Grand List to be finalized in order to calculate a property tax rate for 2021. The board will probably need to call a special meeting to approve the rate so that tax bills can be issued.
- Mr. Moskovites is willing to take minutes for the August 12th Selectboard meeting.
- The town received a health complaint through Derby Barracks Commander Lt. Munson. The board asked the Clerk's office to follow up to get more information.
- With no Zoom participation in recent meetings, Mr. Moskovites suggests offering the option upon request. All board members agreed. Agendas will specify to call ahead if this option is needed.

Six Highway and Selectboard orders totaling \$17,705.86 were approved unanimously and signed by all members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

- Mr. Moskovites will be the Selectboard representative at tax sale on July 29th.
- Chittenden County-based Opportunities Credit Union is offering a financial workshop. The Selectboard is not interested in hosting this at the town offices.

Seeing no other business, Mr. Austin moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by the Chair, and the meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm. The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Approved this 12th day of August 2021:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston