

**Town of Charleston  
Selectboard Meeting 9/28/2023**

MINUTES

*THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.*

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Vice Chair Peter Moskovites.

Attending: Selectpersons Peter Moskovites and Tim Jenness; Road Foreman Wendell Hastings; Constable Mike Tynio; Resident Richard Lovelace; Jake Simpson of Simpson Dirtworx; Ed Barber of Newport Daily Express; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

Tim Jenness moved to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2023, meeting as written, seconded by Peter Moskovites, and the minutes were approved without discussion.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Richard Lovelace, resident of Tripp Hill Rd, is concerned about what to do if he or his wife have an emergency during a big snowstorm. He can't snow blow the road and can't find anyone to plow as needed within budget. He asked if there is an emergency number. VLCT gave him information indicating that it is up to town discretion on what to do with Class 4 roads. He raised the idea of how many people live in places where emergency responders can't get to them. Peter Moskovites said the town could not selectively plow Class 4 roads as it isn't policy to do so and wouldn't be fair. He thanked Mr. Lovelace for bringing up the idea of inaccessible residences and issues faced by older residents for board consideration.

With the Constable not yet in attendance, board members agreed to discuss final details of a contract with Simpson Dirtworx to crush gravel for the town. Mr. Simpson explained the system by which fuel prices can increase or decrease his price for services, and this was acceptable to board members. All parties agreed to a completion date of June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and the contract was edited to reflect this. Peter Moskovites moved to approve the contract as revised, with second by Tim Jenness and the contract was approved and signed by the Selectboard and Mr. Simpson. Mr. Simpson said if the town is interested in continuing a relationship with Simpson Dirtworx, he could work with the town on a schedule to bail gravel in the spring and crush in the fall. The Selectboard will consider this for budget planning.

Constable Mike Tynio has completed a two-week police academy course in Pittsford and said it was a good experience. Level II training involves 3 phases. Phases 2 and 3 involve field training officer hours and 10 various courses, some back at the academy. He has one year to complete 2 and 3 and will keep the board updated.

**ROAD REPORT**

Foreman Wendell Hastings said the crew is getting caught up on FEMA projects. JBL Hauling has started work on Dane Hill Rd—replaced one culvert and started ditching/stone. West Echo Lake Rd is complete. The crew started hauling winter sand this week and has about 30 loads to go.

Mr. Hastings received prices for a new Mack truck and dump body. The lead time on the truck is 4 months and 8 months for the body. He said the International truck has 3,000-4,000 miles and asked if the board favors selling the truck outright or trading it. He said the grader will require action because oil from the motor is getting into the transmission. A repair vendor thinks it's the main seal. He'll need the board to decide whether to invest in repair—which involves splitting the grader—or new equipment. The grader has 11,487 hours. The oil has been changed 3 times this summer.

A contract previously awarded to JBL Hauling and Excavating was signed by both board members.

An RFP for flood repairs on Fontaine Rd was reviewed. Motion by Peter Moskovites to approve the RFP to replace a culvert and repair a slope with a completion date of June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Tim Jenness and approved. Ms. Kellogg will work with Mr. Hastings to invite three proposals.

#### OLD BUSINESS

A contract with Simpson Dirtworx to bail and crush gravel was awarded earlier in the meeting. Contracts with David White Trucking for roadside mowing and sweeping, approved at the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, were signed by board members.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Vermont Electric Coop is updating their contact list and asked for the name and contact information for Charleston's contact in case of emergency—such as severe storm. Selectboard members asked Ms. Kellogg to give them contact information for the Foreman.

Three Selectboard orders totaling \$25,346.72 and two Road orders totaling \$19,461.93 were approved unanimously and signed by all members.

Seeing no other business, Tim Jenness made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Peter Moskovites, and the meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm. The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

Approved this 12th day of October 2023:

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Selectboard, Town of Charleston