

Town of Charleston
Selectboard Meeting 3/28/2024

MINUTES

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

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

Attending: Selectpersons Peter Moskovites, Tim Jenness and Terry Rollins; Road Foreman Wendell Hastings; Ed Barber of Newport Daily Express; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

Peter Moskovites made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2024 meeting as written, seconded by Tim Jenness. The minutes were approved as written.

Under Public Comment, the Chair read an email from resident David Bradshaw who recommends that the town choose a Mack when purchasing the next truck.

ROAD REPORT

- Wendell Hastings called the Mack dealer to start the town's owner and was told they cannot yet give a timeframe for getting a truck but expect to know more in October. Hastings said if the town buys in October, it takes 4 months to get the truck and 8 months to build the body, so the town would be looking at having a truck next August. He would be okay with an October purchase if the dealer will honor the quoted price. Selectboard members were in favor of placing the order. Mr. Hastings will work with the Mack dealer and board to confirm details and move an order forward.
- Mr. Hastings said he met with VEC, and they are not charging the town to replace a pole on Calhoun Rd. The invoice has been voided.
- The crew started grading today on Hudson Rd from 5A to Center School Rd. He hopes it will last. Hudson Rd and East Echo Lake Rd (near Tripp Hill Rd) need gravel, and he hopes to do this tomorrow. Fred Baraw will come in to run the grader, so the town will have two trucks hauling.

OLD BUSINESS

- Discussion of truck replacement was completed under Road Report.
- The Chair said the board needs to respond to Brownington's request for help to repair Chilafoux Rd. He suggests a site visit to look at the road and project, and all board members agreed. Mr. Moskovites will call to set up a site meeting with Brownington.
- Terry Rollins made a motion to adopt the town's Local Emergency Management Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Tim Jenness and approved.
- Signing of the Durgin Rd contract was tabled until the next meeting when the contract will be received back from JBL.
- A draft Selectboard Rules of Procedure document was reviewed. The Chair noted that it is based on Roberts Rules, by which Vermont boards operate, and which makes allowances for very small boards. Restrictions like no one speaking twice before all others have had a chance to speak once are not needed. Tim Jenness made a motion to adopt Robert's Rules as the rules of procedure using the document as a work in progress. The motion was seconded by Terry Rollins and approved.
- With the 2024 budget passed, the board Clerk asked to schedule a grant payment to CVFD to support their purchase of an ARGO all-terrain rescue vehicle, as approved by the board in January. The board agreed the Treasurer could issue the payment with upcoming bill payments.

- Regarding the April 8th Eclipse, Colleen Kellogg said the state emergency operations center has been activated and can take calls from towns about any issues. She said viewing glasses are still available at the town clerk's office. The Clerk's office will be closed that day.
- Under other old business, the Chair suggested a quarterly budget/expenditure report and will talk with the Treasurer about how best to do this.
- Under other old business, Terry Rollins asked the rules about ATV use on town roads. He said he has seen damage by some riders during mud season. Tim Jenness explained that all roads are open to ATV travel year-round, but legal trails are only open to adjoining landowners. The board confirmed that roads are now posted against heavy truck travel for mud season.

NEW BUSINESS

- Tim Jenness made a motion to approve Liquor and Tobacco Licenses for West Charleston Corner Store. The motion was seconded by Terry Rollins and approved by voice vote.
- Tim Jenness made a motion to reappoint Peggy Stevens as Charleston's representative to the NEK Broadband board and John Kellogg as alternate. The motion was seconded by Terry Rollins and approved by voice vote.
- A Certificate of No Appeal Pending to close the 2023 Grand List was received from the Listers for signature. Tim Jenness made a motion to accept and sign. The motion was seconded by Terry Rollins and approved.

Two Selectboard orders totaling \$13,998.75 and three Road orders totaling \$18,345.76 were approved unanimously and signed by all members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

- There will be a community forum at the Charleston School on April 1st at 5:30 pm to discuss the possibility of 7th and 8th graders attending the junior high.
- VLCT will hold a training on Open Meeting Law for Boards on April 17th.
- Echo Lake Protective Association's petition to the state to prohibit wake boats on Echo Lake is being sent to the state and a copy will be forwarded to the Selectboard.

Seeing no other business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:37 pm. The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Approved this 11th day of April 2024:

Selectboard, Town of Charleston