

**Town of Charleston  
Selectboard Meeting 4/11/2024**

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; and Selectboard Clerk Colleen Kellogg.

Peter Moskovites made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2024 meeting as written, second by Tim Jenness. The minutes were approved as written. There was no public comment.

**ROAD REPORT**

- Wendell Hastings said roads are about the same but drying out. He's seeing big issues with the Truck 2 (Mack) suspension, which will cost \$2900 per side to fix. Parts are coming from OH and should arrive Mon-Tues next week. The process to repair damage to the International that occurred during a plowing accident has begun but will wait until August or September so the truck remains available to apply summer chloride. Due to a large volume of sta-mat to be purchased in 2024 for FEMA (100 lds) and grant projects (25-30 lds), Hastings will pursue a volume discount. Ms. Kellogg will contact a property owner to make sure obstacles are removed from the road ROW before grant work begins.
- Hastings and board members discussed prospects for purchasing a new Mack truck, including the local dealer's inability to quote a price until August and the possibility of purchasing out of state. Since no payment is required until a truck comes in, board members were unanimously in favor of ordering a truck through the Vermont dealer to get in the queue. Mr. Hastings will keep this moving.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- [Truck replacement was discussed during Road Report.]
- Brownington's estimate to repair Chilafoux Rd, dated March 11, 2021, was received by the Selectboard. The Chair contacted the Brownington Selectboard Chair to let her know Charleston was still looking to work with them, and he has driven up to inspect the site. He sees the two towns as comparable in terms of road mileage and highway budget. He asked for board member approval to discuss options with the Brownington Chair, including possible modest support and how the road would be handled going forward, and report back to the full board for further discussion.
- A contract with JBL Hauling to repair Durgin Rd, approved at an earlier meeting, was signed by all board members.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Charleston's Road Policies document was provided for reference to all board members and the Foreman. The Chair pointed out that the Town can restrict roads during mud season. He would like the board to be able to be responsive to aggrieved tax payers, consider being proactive to close certain roads at times on a temporary basis, but enforcement is a challenge. Terry Rollins asked for the ATV use policy; town highways are open to ATV use subject to Vermont DMV law. He said the few people he sees damaging his road are likely not licensed or insured. Tim Jenness asked Rollins to call him anytime he sees riders damaging roads; he is happy to talk with them.

- Peter Moskovites moved to sign a letter of intent to participate in the FY2025 highway Grants-in-Aid program. The motion was seconded by Tim Jenness and the matter approved.
- Year to date Revenue and Expenditures reports were received from the Treasurer. Stand-out items included \$169,000 in FEMA reimbursement and \$31,000 in highway parts & repairs expenses.

Two Selectboard orders totaling \$27,911.93 and two Road orders totaling \$13,237.81 were approved unanimously and signed by all members.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

- Board members received materials from the Declaration of Inclusion project and an email offering a presentation on the subject. They suggested adoption should involve a town meeting vote if there is interest among residents and taxpayers. They have not yet heard from locals on the subject.
- A copy of a petition submitted by Echo Lake Protective Association to Vermont DEC to prohibit wake boats from Echo Lake Rd was received by the Charleston Selectboard, which voted on September 23, 2023 to support such a petition.

Seeing no other business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:04 pm. The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Approved this 25th day of April 2024:

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Selectboard, Town of Charleston