

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 18, 2013, 6:00 p.m., Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members John Warshow, Chris Martin, and Helen Ducharme; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Fire Fighter Will Schwarz; Visitors Annette Lorraine and Richard Scholes (Town of Peacham)

At 6:05 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair John Warshow.

Old Schoolhouse Common: Will Schwarz notified the Selectboard that when the power went out on Monday, it caused problems for the Twin Valley Seniors because the elevator could not be used. Bobbi will check with the Building Superintendent to see if the elevator could be operated with a portable generator. The Board will continue to investigate funding sources for a generator for the building.

Fire Department Personnel: Will Schwarz approached the Selectboard about running background checks on applicants. He noted that other departments already do this.

Knox Box: Bobbi explained that the Town will be ordering a Knox Box for the Old Schoolhouse Common, and she wondered whether the boxes should be made available for out-of-town homeowners at their expense. Will explained that Cabot actually has it as a requirement in their zoning regulations. Will agreed to prepare a letter to go to all residents explaining the option.

George Jewett Road: Annette Lorraine and Richard Scholes came to ask the Board to have the road graded. They also asked permission to have volunteers cut brush and do some road maintenance. They would like to remove some stumps and rocks from the roadway to make it safer. They presented a traffic study that showed an average of more than 500 cars per day during the summer. John expressed concerns that pulling stumps and roots will loosen the embankment and make it less stable. Lorraine indicated that they would only remove one rock and stump on the curve below Jerome Thaler's camp, because it is very narrow at that point, and removing that stump would improve visibility. Mr. Scholes indicated that his car has been hit on that curve. John is also concerned that whenever a road is improved, people drive faster. Ms. Lorraine and Mr. Scholes don't believe that people will be going faster because the road will still be very narrow. John wondered if "Danger – One Lane Road" signs would help. The Board explained that the new grader may be too wide for the road, but it could be raked with the york rake. However, the class 4 roads are low on the priority list. John asked how they would feel about splitting the cost of some signs. They don't feel that signs would be effective. Chris shared John's concerns about undermining the banks. John asked about liability if the road is damaged as a result of removing the rock. Lorraine suggested that if they hire Scot to remove the rock, his liability insurance would cover any future damage resulting if the bank is undermined. The Board suggested that our Road Foreman should look at the job with Scot Abare, who has agreed to do the work. In the meantime, they filled out an application to cut brush and the Board will issue the permit, with conditions.

Old Schoolhouse Common: The Board gave permission for Jay Craven to show his latest movie in the gym.

The Board received a letter from Robert Haverick to have signs put up at the Old Schoolhouse asking people to clean up after their dogs. They will check into the cost of signs.

Cemetery: Bobbi received a report that someone has been driving over graves in the Eaton Cemetery.

Sheriff Patrols: The Board executed a contract for patrols in Marshfield. The Board will request patrols through Eaton Cemetery.

Bridge Painting: The Board executed the grant agreement for bridge painting.

Appointments: Chris moved to remove Les Snow from the Planning Commission and appoint him to the Development Review Board with a term to expire April 15, 2016. Helen seconded – all in favor. Chris moved to appoint William Ritke-Jones to the Planning Commission with a term to expire April 15, 2016. John seconded – all in favor.

Winter Sand: Dan Tetreault has received bids for hauling winter sand. The sand will be purchased from Gravel Construction. The bids for hauling are:

Gravel Construction: \$7.00 per yard, to Marshfield or Plainfield

Newton Transport: \$6.00 per yard to Marshfield, \$6.25 per yard to Plainfield.

John moved to buy the sand from Gravel Construction and have it hauled by Newton Transport. Chris seconded – all in favor.

Logs: Seth Kelley asked to buy the logs at the fire station for \$200 a thousand. Mark Fontaine has offered to take them and pay the mill rate, which should average more than \$300 per thousand.

Trash Complaint: Chris has talked to Dwight Duke, who denied that the cars on his SASS Ave property are unregistered and denied that the trash is his.

Trees in River: Tree Warden Ron Smith has met with Pat Ross, River Management Engineer and he has given permission for landowners to remove downed trees from the river.

Cookson: The Town received a complaint that the trash trucks are attracting bears in the Village. The Board asked Bobbi to write him a letter.

Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District: John moved to allow the Cabot representative to vote on behalf of Marshfield if our representative can not make it to the meeting, provided that we can revoke the permission at any time. Chris seconded – all in favor.

Excavator: The Board received a quote for a thumb for the excavator, \$1,250 for a mechanical thumb or \$2,450 for a hydraulic thumb. The Board approved the purchase of the hydraulic thumb if the Road Foreman agrees.

Executive Session: At 8:00, John moved to enter executive session to discuss potential litigation. Chris seconded – all in favor. The Board returned to open session at 8:15.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. They approved the minutes of the June 4, 2013 Selectboard meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the June 18, 2013 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
