

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 4, 2020, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Laurie Colgan; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors: Anne Miller, Phoenix Mitchell, Mitch Osiecki (Zoning Administrator)

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: Railroad Bed research, air exchange unit, energy walkthrough

Public Comment: none

Review and Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the minutes of January 21, 2020.

Hitching Post: Anne explained that the RAMP transportation committee would like to see more carpooling. Phoenix Mitchell has developed an idea about how people who want to give rides can connect with people who need a ride. He developed an actual 4 x 4 post with a flag, engraved and designed to be recognizable. Someone needing a ride can put the flag up to be visible to people who are going that way. It's very simple and direct. They currently have posts so far in Montpelier, Middlesex, Worcester, and Northfield. He would like to have a post at the Old Schoolhouse Common. He sees this as a way to build community as well as sharing rides. VTrans is providing funding, up to \$500 to defray the cost of installing the post. The post would be near the bus shelter at the end of the driveway. Rich moved to approve the application. Laurie seconded – all in favor.

Zoning: Mitch Osiecki updated the Board on current zoning issues. Many of the issues have to deal with people using campers as dwellings. He indicated that people haven't always been granted Certificates of Occupancy but they are required by the Zoning Regulations. According to law, the Certificate of Occupancy is also to be conditioned on an energy certificate being filed.

Tabulator Use: Bobbi informed the Board that the Secretary of State will pay for the use of the tabulator for the Presidential Primary.

Board of Civil Authority Meeting: There will be a meeting of the Board of Civil Authority and volunteer election workers on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. to go over the election procedures and rules.

Energy Improvements: Rich Baker, Rich Phillips, Diana Batzel, Bobbi Brimblecombe, and Paul Grenier from Efficiency Vermont visited the Town Garage and the Old Schoolhouse Common to see if there are improvements that can be made to the building that could be paid for with incentives. The Town Garage is in good shape but at the Old Schoolhouse Common there are problems with the pellet boiler and with the zone valves sticking open, wasting heat. The

thermostats are old and could be replaced with programmable thermostats. The electric hot water heater could be replaced with a heat pump. Paul is going to check to see if any of this work would qualify for the incentives. He indicated that he would be willing to look at the Fire Station in the future but in a building that is so rarely occupied, the savings from any improvements would be minimal. The group also noted that the water has to be left running in the basement because the pressure of the incoming water is so high that it blows the pressure relief valve on the hot water heater.

Railroad Bed: Rich Baker has researched the history of the Railroad Bed in the vicinity of Turtlehead Pond. He has found evidence in the town records that the town adopted the Railroad Bed as a Class 4 road from the former Depot to the boundary of the Groton Forest Road. This occurred in 1993. It isn't clear what happened to the old Bailey Pond Road that was between the Railroad Bed and the pond. Rich is going to meet with VTrans to go over the records and verify how and when the map was changed.

Air Exchangers: The first unit has been installed in the Town Clerk's office. Chris has met with the installer to plan the work in the lower offices, and the work will require boring through the concrete wall.

Road Policy: The Selectboard adopted a Class IV Road Policy.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the February 4, 2020 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
