

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members Laurie Colgan and Chris Martin; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Road Foreman Dan Tetreault; Firefighters Tim Maclay and Tim Morris; Dan Currier (Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission); Anne Miller and Nick Seifert (Energy Committee); Rich Phillips (Stranahan Stewardship Committee); Rebecca Wigg and Jonathan Williams (Cabot Road residents)

At 6:02 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: none

Fire Trucks: Tim Maclay explained that the Fire Department would like to spend \$12,000 to refurbish the 1937 fire truck. It is the first motorized vehicle the department owned and is used primarily for parades but it can also be used for grass fires. The refurbishment of the pumper is complete. The refurbishment of the tanker will not cost as much as the pumper did, possibly \$80,000 and it won't be for a couple of years. The fire department equipment fund has approximately \$100,000 in it now and we add \$15,000 per year. The Ed Duke Fund has approximately \$10,000 in it. Laurie asked whether the job would be put out to bid. Tim Maclay will check around to see what businesses around have the space to put the truck inside and the experience to work on an antique vehicle. Laurie suggested paying for half of it from the Ed Duke fund and half from the Fire Department Equipment Fund. Chris agreed.

Marshfield Dam: Chris asked whether anyone from the Fire Department has visited the dam recently to see the issues being brought up by the Plainfield Hazard Mitigation Committee. The Fire Department has not. Chris will let them know when a meeting is planned with Green Mountain Power.

Cassady Road: Allen Banbury hired someone to do a plan for his road, which is Class 4. Dan Currier noted that some of the work is eligible for the Grant-In-Aid program, but gravel is not eligible. Chris asked Dan C. where the project would fall in relation to other projects in town; Dan C. stated that it is high on the list for erosion but very low on the list when ranking by the number of people benefitted. The work on Maple Hill Road ranks high for the number of traveling public but not as high for erosion. He noted that the work has to be done by next June, so the road has to be ready to work on in the spring, and some Class 4 roads are not dry enough to work on in the spring. Dan T. stated that Allen Banbury admitted that his loggers caused damage to the road and

bridge. Dan T. noted that some of the other sites that have been identified will be completed this fall. Laurie asked whether Allen would be responsible for paying for any of the gravel since it was his logger that caused the damage. Dan T. noted that he will have to rent a small piece of equipment for the Cassidy Road job because the grader is too large to cross the bridge. Dan C. noted that the amount of gravel being suggested in the Cassidy Road plan is more than is necessary. Bobbi asked whether the Town could put in a claim against the logger's insurance company for damages; Dan C. will research how that can be done but he noted that we would probably need photos before and after the damage. The Board agreed to do the work on Cassidy Road and Maple Hill and possibly other sites, and apply for as much reimbursement as we can under the Grants-In-Aid program.

Dan C. suggested in applying for a Better Backroads Grant to do a full inventory of town sites to do an erosion map, to be used for planning future work.

(clerk's note – see October 17, 2017 minutes for more information)

Cabot Road Safety Audit: Dan C. explained that the draft report has been issued. Concerns and recommendations were divided into short, mid, and long-term recommendations. Safety concerns included youth on minibikes in the road (recommendation: education/enforcement), pedestrians walking with no sidewalks (recommendation: sidewalk feasibility study), and speeding. Recommendations for speeding include better signs such as the electronic speed signs and signs indicating that traffic is entering a village. Bobbi noted that a speed study was done several years ago; everyone agreed that people are driving faster since the road has been repaved. Another recommendation is to paint the white lines on the edges of the roads. A long-term solution is to ask VTrans to change the intersection with Route 2 from a Y to a T. Dan C. suggested looking at a transportation enhancement grant to fund a design/feasibility study.

Cabot Road Reclassification: Dan C. has been working with the Town of Cabot on a request for VTrans to reclassify the road from Class 2 to Class 1. If it is reclassified, the Town would get more money. The Town would no longer be eligible for paving grants for Cabot Road but the State would be responsible for paving. We would get a little bit more money in highway aid each year. The road is currently up to the Class 1 standard and we would not be required to do any additional maintenance or widening. Jonathan Williams noted that VTrans is trying to get towns to reclassify roads from Class 1 to Class 2, so he wonders whether it is worth asking. Dan C. agreed that it might not get approved by VTrans. Chris moved to sign the letter of request. Laurie seconded – all in favor. Walden has signed it and Dan C. expects Cabot to sign it next week.

Jonathan Williams offered to help with any grant applications that the town writes.

Hydroseeder: Dan Tetreault obtained a quote for a hydroseeder, which has been recommended by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission as a better way to do erosion control. The Town currently uses grass seed and mulch hay but the grass doesn't always take hold because the soil is poor. The hydroseeder is less expensive to operate because it can be operated by 2 people whereas 3 people are needed to use grass seed and the hay mulcher. The prices are between \$4,395 and \$5,395. If we bought a hydroseeder we could sell the mulcher. The Board will consider this in the 2018 highway budget.

Johnson Road: Dan T. met with a homeowner on Johnson Road and worked out a solution to the problem of water running down the driveway.

Stranahan Town Forest: Rich Phillips let the Board know that they would like to spend up to \$600 for a small brush cutter. The Board approved. He notified the Board that they have agreed to have the bike club build a trail from the Jake Martin parking area to the moon field. The location of the trail has not been precisely laid out but the concept was approved in the original management plan. The trail will be brush hogged several times per year.

Marshfield Dam: Nick Seifert explained that Michael Billingsley shared his concerns about the dam with the Energy Committee and is looking for support in his efforts to get Green Mountain Power to address the concerns. Michael is trying to arrange a meeting with GMP and Nick is asking the Selectboard to let GMP know that the Selectboard wants to be involved in the meeting. Chris stated that he will go to the meeting and will ask someone from the Fire Department to go as well.

VLCT Insurance Renewal: The Board reviewed the values on the buildings and contents. Bobbi will ask VLCT to do a review to see if we have adequate coverage.

Vacancies: The Board received notice that due to time constraints/personal issues, Jill Wilson resigned from the School Board, Liza Earle-Centers resigned from the Library Board of Trustees, and Rain Banbury resigned from the Stranahan Stewardship Committee. James Barlow resigned from the Board of Listers (to accept a position on the Selectboard).

Davis vicious dog order: Chris has inspected the fence that Vivian installed, and it does not meet the specifications of the order; the order specified metal fencing and what has been installed is

plastic snow fence. The Board questions the adequacy of the fence. Chris will ask the Constable to send her a follow-up.

Review and Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the minutes of September 19th.

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 October 3, 2017 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
