

SELECTBOARD MEETING

Richford, Vermont

October 6, 2014

Chair Linda Collins called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM with members Tim Green, Wayne Hurtubise, Chris Martel and Norris Tillotson present. Also present were Laura Ovitt, Alan Fletcher, Leah Britch, Neal Lovelette, Gloria Spencer, John Nutting, John Libbey, Rowena Brown, Deb Hebert, Tina Lamos, Karen Cangelosi, Sheila Record, Sonia Holmes and Darlene Gregoire.

Leah Britch discussed the ditching done by the town on the Guilmette Road, saying this will cause flooding at her property and at her neighbor's property. Wayne Hurtubise said there should be no more flooding now than last spring. Ms. Britch asked the board to ditch the remainder of the property. John Nutting said Ms. Britch needs to apply for a driveway permit for every crossing. She should be able to avoid problems by using sandbags. Ms. Britch said her attorney advised her to document everything in the spring. Ms. Britch left at 7:24 PM.

Alan Fletcher discussed changes in employee health insurance premiums for 2015. Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to approve the new insurance rates. The motion carried. Alan and Sheila Record left the meeting.

John Libbey discussed the driveway paving being done by ESI, saying it was not done well because the car now drags. The board advised John to contact Gary Denton.

John Libbey, on behalf of the Beautification Committee, discussed issues at Memorial Park, citing broken electrical outlets and dog feces. He provided photos of the damage. He asked that the park hours be changed to "dawn to dusk", and that dogs be banned.

Chris Martel reported repairs are needed at Davis Park. Money is available in the Jacobs Park Fund.

Tim Green reported vandalism at Davis Park involving the NFCT kiosk and the gazebo. He said the sign should state bikes, skateboards and pogo sticks are not allowed. The flag light is not working.

Linda Collins said the board will deliberate later in the meeting.

Tina Lamos discussed the paving project, referring to the "no parking" in front of commercial buildings.

John Nutting said the "no parking" is not enforceable without signage, and needs to be addressed with the head engineer. Deb Hebert reported the contractor told her they cannot leave the "do not block driveway" sign at her property. She was advised to place the sign on her property.

Tina Lamos discussed the town trash service, saying she is billed for vacant properties. She wants to have a locked dumpster, saying that she and her husband will pick up trash at their properties to put in the dumpster. Karen Cangelosi reported the dumpster would require a state permit and DRB approval for change of use for a 'dump site'. Tim Green discussed new state trash regulations to take effect July 2015. Tim and Tina will meet to discuss the issue.

Darlene Gregoire gave an update on REAC's property at 111-113 Main Street. RFPs were sent to nine contractors. Only one partial bid was received. She said the soil pile will be removed in the next couple of weeks, and the remainder of the project will be rebid in the spring. Karen Cangelosi reported REAC will need to amend the zoning permit.

Motion made by Chris Martel, seconded by Tim Green, to approve the minutes of the Sept. 15 regular meeting. The motion carried.

Neal Lovelette and Gloria Spencer left the meeting.

Wayne Hurtubise reported a "utility relocation order" needs to be executed to move the utility pole from the Town ROW to Hurtubise land. Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise, seconded by Tim Green, to execute the order. The motion carried.

Tim Green reported that Pam Parsons, on behalf of NOTCH, would like to pay the highway department to re-paint parking spaces at Main Street Mill. Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Chris Martel, that – time permitting – the highway department will repaint parking spaces. The motion carried.

The board determined there will be no holiday lights in the park due to vandalism.

John Nutting reported the board may want to look at bidding-out park mowing, or replacing mowing equipment. The board will discuss at budget time.

Chris Martel discussed existing multi-year contracts, and the proposed sheriff contract, saying the proposal is not out of line with current practices. The Sheriff has submitted a 3-year contract with an amendment for 2018/2019 with no increase for the 4th year. Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Chris Martel, to accept the multi-year contract and the amendment. The motion carried with Norris Tillotson abstaining.

Laura reported the Local Emergency Operations Plan has been updated. Executing the plan will reduce the amount of matching funds required for FEMA projects. Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Norris Tillotson, to approve the updated plan. The motion carried. Laura was directed to contact Devin Lumbrera regarding selectboard certificates for completing the ICS 100 training.

Laura reported the fire department grant application for radio equipment has been approved.

Norris Tillotson reported Hartigen was in town today reviewing storm water seepage into the sewer lines. He said there was some build-up in the grease trap line at 101 Main Street – the owner is addressing the issues.

The trusses for the sewer plant roof were delivered today. Work will begin at the end of the month.

John Nutting requested that water/sewer contact numbers be included with water bills.

Laura discussed the close-out for the water intake repairs.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Linda Collins, to change the hours at Memorial Park to “dusk to dawn”. The motion carried. An ordinance amendment will need to be prepared.

Karen Cangelosi reported there is a zoning violation at the Britch property. She was advised to proceed with enforcement action.

Karen discussed parking on Hamilton Place. Chris Martel reported that, if the tickets are not paid, the vehicles will be towed. Laura was directed to get contact information for TDI to do the towing.

Linda Collins discussed a barn quilt project. Motion made by Norris Tillotson, seconded by Chris Martel, to allocate up to \$200 for the barn quilt. The motion carried.

Darlene Gregoire reported soil from Keith Smith’s property has passed the sieve analysis test for the 111-113 Main Street project. She said REAC would like to purchase the soil through the town, and asked if the highway department would be able to haul the soil.

John Libbey reported the beautification committee paid for the new sign at the library. The board thanked the committee.

Chris Martel reported the animal control officer has been very busy, and is earning her pay.

Linda Collins reported that it is possible that one of the dogs involved in the Whitfield vicious dog complaint has been returned to the breeder. A court date regarding that complaint is pending.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Laura Ovitt
Administrative Assistant