

Approved

Minutes of the March 27, 2012 Select Board Meeting

PRESENT: Bill Callnan, Mary Just Skinner, Matt Dwire, Cindy Carlson, Mary Alexander, Peter Hood, Steve Martin, Paul Cerminara, Dave Shepard, Bill Rossmassler, Angelo Napolitano

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm

Steve Martin, Road Commissioner

Motion: Bill moves to go into executive session for personnel reasons. Mary Alexander seconds, motion carries. **Motion:** Bill moves to come out of executive session. Matt seconds, motion carries. Board comes out of executive session at 5:50 pm. No action taken.

Paul Cerminara, Road Foreman – Steve Martin, Road Commissioner

Paul gives the Board an update concerning the status of the roads. Steve and Paul are discussing options to improve drainage along the worst portions of the highly travelled section of the roads. Steve has put together a preliminary estimate to improve and repair 1 mile of road at today's standards for approximately \$1.2 million. To meet State standards, guard rails would have to be installed along the Center Road. Steve will put together an estimate of paving costs for the same 1 mile of road. The Board discusses using some of the resurfacing budget to do improvements. The Board discusses holding a public meeting about the condition of the roads this mud season as part of a Board meeting. Angelo Napolitano states he has spoken to Tony Klein, State Representative, and was advised that the State will not get involved with any road concerns until the Town experiences a failed policy. Angelo Napolitano has advised the Town Clerk's that the Department of Agriculture has federal funds available for other projects. The Board thought the Local Roads program might offer some assistance. Both Paul and Steve state that this mud season is, in particular, worse than usual due to the unusual winter conditions and the sudden higher than normal temperatures in mid-March.

Dave Shepard, Bill Rossmassler - Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission would like to know if the Town would be interested in purchasing the remaining property owned by Cynthia Steed. Cynthia owns about 33 acres, which could or could not include a small camp she owns. The property abuts the Town Forest. It is the sense of the Conservation Commission that the purchase price would be approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000. Purchasing this property would provide better access, from a trail standpoint, to the Town Forest. Bill Rossmassler is researching potential funding, but it is not a good time for Conservation funding. Bill does feel small grants can be written, and is not concerned about funding. The Board would like to know what the advantages are to the Town Forest to purchase this property, in addition, to the

improved access. The Board is concerned about taking property off the grand list although the loss of tax dollars is less than \$1,500.

The Conservation Commission is working on the Timber Management Plan for the Town Forest. The abutting property owner has been asked for a right-of-way to bring timber from the Town Forest to the town gravel pit.

The Conservation Commission suggests creating an access path to the river and do some planting around the entrance sign at the Walter Kelley Recreational Park. The Board is in favor of this.

Other Business

All orders are signed.

The Board discusses the following goals:

Capital Improvement Plan

Town Plan – Planning Commission

Energy Improvements – Town Garage

Semi-annual updates from: Zoning Administrator, Constable, Health Officer, Planning Commission

Review highway and class 4/trails road policy and reclassification of 'private' roads

Update dog ordinance and enforcement re: unlicensed animals

Determine future of the “Old Fire Station” and former “Morse Property”

Review fire department structure and administrative assistant position

Town Report – method of production and mailing

Enforcement of “public nuisance” properties - Enforcement of 'junk' ordinance

Review Road Crew compensation

Plan public meeting concerning “mud season” and improvements to the roads.

The Board will finalize its goals at a future meeting.

The Board discusses their position on purchasing Officers and Directors coverage for the Welch Park Association. The Town representative has to vote at an Association meeting. It is the sense of the Board that the Town should vote yes to purchase the insurance.

The Board discusses whether the Fishing Derby is a Town sponsored event. The Board states it is not a Town sponsored event and the Recreation Committee should make a formal request to the Board if it feels that the Town should sponsor this event.

The financial reports for March 2012 were reviewed and discussed.

The Town Highway Structures Grant application is signed.

The Hazard Mitigation Grant application on behalf of John Milone is signed.

The Amendment to the FEMA 4022-DR-VT grant application is signed. This is for damage on Lower Sunny Brook Road.

The Project Completion and Certification Report for FEMA-4022-DR-Vt for Lower Sunny Brook Road is signed.

The Washington County Sherriff's Department has committed to spend 3 hours per week for speed enforcement from April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013.

Motion: Mary Alexander moves to approve the Liquor License for the Red Hen Bakery. Mary Just Skinner seconds, motion carries.

Meeting adjourns at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Carlson

Select Board Assistant