

SELECTBOARD MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Those attending: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Bernie Shatney, Jack Daniels, Don Mitchell, Alison Hogan, Stephen Hogan, Steve Godin, Rich Hourihan, Jill Hourihan, Daria Babbit, Michael Taub, Sjon and Elisha Welters, Gary Gulka, Steve Cox, Bobby Searles, Mathew King, Irv Robbins, Norma and Ted Birmingham, Jeff Haslett, Janet Westervelt, Johanna Thibault, Andrew Gilbert, Sandy Pond, Karen Deasy, Michelle Leclerc, and Betty Ritter

1. The meeting was called meeting to order at 6 p.m. by Michael Hogan.
2. Approve Agenda – Jack 1st, Fred 2nd. Mike added other business CCIF. Motion passed.
3. Approve Minutes of July 2, 2018 - Jack 1st, Fred 2nd. Motion Passed.
Approve Minutes of July 10, 2018 Road Reclassification – Fred 1st, Bernie 2nd. Jack recused himself because he was not at the meeting. Motion Passed.
4. Public Comment:
 - a. Bobby Searles is wondering if the Danville Hill triangle is on the agenda. There will be an update.
 - b. Steve Godin frustrated about response for an ambulance to his residence. It took 55 minutes from Barre Town for the ambulance to get to his residence. The Walden ambulance couldn't do anything when he arrived. They had to wait for Barre Town. Jack will talk with the Cabot and the Barre Town ambulance. Irv Robbins also had the same problem and had to make a choice to drive himself or wait for the ambulance. He drove himself.
 - c. Jeff Haslett would like to know where the concept of the Danville Hill triangle project. Karen said Vtrans recommend that the town re-look at the area for the traffic pattern. Jeff researched with Vtrans on who has recommended the triangle project be looked at. Karen talked to highway safety project was Patty Colburn who worked on this program. She is transportation planning and design. It was a verbal request not in writing. Jack said this is not a project that we will do and that will not be done. The Danville Hill triangle project will take years to design and the process. Mike said this is going to be a long term project and Bobby Searles will be involved. It will be discussed only. Richard Hourihan said this was voted down years ago. They would like the town to have a voted on. Fred is wondering why we are thinking about it. Fred doesn't even know that we have this on the agenda. Bobby says if it's not moving forward why is it talked about at every select board meeting. Jack said nothing is going to happen this year and it will take many years. Steve Cox thinks the general census from the people here and a couple on the select board that it shouldn't be even talked about.
 - d. Janet Westervelt had comments on the end of Whittier Hill Road.
 - e. Jeff would like to have the water well for the ramp put in minutes for discussion. Jeff would like it on the agenda for the next meeting regarding the accidents that have taken place in this area.
5. Discuss and Adopt the Commercial Public Assembly Ordinance – Mike would like to adopt this and would like to know if there are any comments on the Ordinance. Richard Hourihan said that is was passed that agriculture is exempt. Steve Cox is wondering what why this ordinance was brought up. Mike informed him that it was due to Judy Pransky's Manifestivus. Jack said at the time the Manifestivus came up they receive an Unconditional Use Permit. Jack explained to Steve Cox why the town developed the Ordinance. Johanna commented that the events at the Den are not paying to go in just for the project. Sandy Pond is wondering what the fine would be if they didn't get a permit. \$200 for the first offense. This ordinance is to protect the town and the community. Bobby was wondering if the commercial property that gets a liquor license would be exempt. They have to follow the liquor license safe guards. Jack would like to add under definition. You don't apply for an entry fee then you wouldn't apply for the ordinance. Steve was wondering if Hardwick has a similar ordinance. Mike doesn't know. Jack would like to table the ordinance for one more meeting and have people look through this thoroughly. Andrew Gilbert is saying that this is an ordinance for safety not an evil plot for the businesses. He said they are not trying to be anti-business. Bernie would like to have a meeting with the people who are here. Any comments please email Betty. Fred said the only reason the

select board got involved because of people complaining with the noise during manifestivus.

6. Cabot Trails Working Group-Town Highway 38 – Andrew Gilbert had a few residences on the concerns and access to Highway 38. Steve and Alisson Hogan have been the tenants of the property of three years now. It has not been taken care of and lots of damage and grossly misused for many years. There are bullet holes everywhere and broken glass, trash and general disuse of the property. This road has been discontinued since 1957 and has not been on the map for many years. Janet Westervelt wanted to know if the old road has been reviewed with the state. Andrew wants clarification if the road is a legal right away. Mike would like to state what the town attorney said it's not a town highway and would suggest the board work with the residence. The select board organized the Trails Group to work with the landowners on this issue and other future roads. Andrew wants clarification on the status on the roads. Richard Hourihan commented on the trail and how hazardous it is. Ted Bermingham is wondering when the town gave up the trail. The town has the road given up 1957 and came off the highway maps in 1958. Sjon Welters has used that road for decades and discussed his issue with the gate put up and is wondering whose property this trail on. Elisha Welters discussed her issue with walking on the trail. Mike said we had an opinion from the town attorney and that is what we are going to go with it. Alisson stated that she doesn't mind if people walk on the trail. Jack would like the trail group to work with the land owners. Andrew Gilbert has been doing a great job. Sjon would like to be a little more open to the neighbors who are walking on the trail. Fred raised the question as to what each person would do if there was a trail on their property and it was littered with trash, etc.
7. Sawmill Project – Karen is discussing the removal of the dam at the Sawmill. About the removal and the whole process. Jack is wondering what the time line is. Karen suggests the sooner the board decides the better. Fred asked what the town will have to pay. Will the dam being taken out help people with their flood insurance? Karen said it could potentially help them. Irv Robbins would like a fixed amount that the other organization who might be able to contribute. Don Mitchell contributed on the other issues with the river. Jeff Haslett commented on making investments today and with interest rates unpredictable, it behooves us to move on this quickly. Steve Godin is wondering if there is any historical value left at the Sawmill. Karen said there are a few things that have been sitting there for many years. Jack is wondering about the funding source. Mike said that we haven't budgeted the money but maybe there could be organizations to contribute. Mike would like to know when to get back to CDBG. Karen said as soon as possible. Mike said if the town doesn't happen the building and the dam will fall in and more damage can be done to owner's property. The wastewater could match the purchase price because part of the pump is on that property. Jack made a motion that we purchase the property with the CDBG funds with the project not to exceed \$140,000.00 for option E phase 1 with a second by Mike. Fred is wondering what the town crew could do to meet the funds. And what would the town's people be responsible for and what would happen with the property? Karen said no one can build on it because of the flood plain. Fred asked if the flood insurance would be lowered because of the dam removal. Karen said yes. Mike is concerned about the wastewater plant if the dam is not removed. This will be purchased thru grants and other organizations. Don Mitchell thought about hydro for running the wastewater treatment plant. Gary Gulka said the Conservation committee is confident on the dam removal. Irv would like to see a certain amount of money for the purchase proposal and the removal. \$140,000 is for the purchase of the property and removal of the building. Bernie abstained. Motion carried with three yes and one abstain.
8. Recent Road Reclassification – Mike discussed last week's meeting. We will make a formal opinion in the future with the town attorney Mike Tarrant. Karen reviewed last week's road reclassification. Karen talked to the lawyers that that the easement is in the findings not using the residence name. That would be the easement. A discussion was made by Irv Robbins and Andrew Gilbert stating that why would we be closing roads when we want businesses to come in. There will be a meeting on August 7th to review the findings on Road Reclassification at 5:00 p.m.
9. Old Route 2 status – Karen started drafting a report and she will contact Dan from Regional planning to get his plan and give the plan to the state. Mike will state that it was a very good meeting and JA McDonald and

the State were surprised of the outcome and how good it was to work with them. Jack is wondering what the time line will be. The sooner we can get JA McDonald to commit the better. Karen asked Pike for an amount to grind the road and they stated it would be \$17,540. Some of the culverts will have to be done before the grinding. Karen is thinking that JA McDonald will fix the culverts that have been damaged by truck traffic due to Route 2 project. There are 21 culverts and some need to be replaced and some need to be cleaned.

10. Update To Do List – The list was reviewed. Betty discussed cleaning the monument on the Common. Jack would like to make the motion to have it cleaned for \$350. Fred 2nd. Jack withdraws the motion as we have donations from: Don Mitchell, Jeff Haslett, Fred Ducharme, Jack Daniels and Mike Hogan will each donate \$50 to clean the monument. Betty will proceed with this and wanted to thank everyone for their support.
11. Water Project – Requisition for the second payment \$86,768.25. Jack moved that we approve the contract of payment for \$86,768.25 with a second by Fred. Motion passed. The water line project is progressing but not moving as quickly as they thought they it would be. They still will be able to complete the project by the end of July. The engineer has provided an amendment to extend two weeks more. This is not to exceed \$15,500 which is still in the amount for this project. Jack moves that we approve the additional oversight in the amount not to exceed 15,500 of July 31st. Bernie 2nd. Motion passed. The paving work the current contract has \$24,000 in it to do the paving on Danville Hill Road. Pike is about \$10,000 less than the current contract. The engineer is recommending we go with the lower price. The road needs to be settled. Karen thinks that it should be paved this October. Fred is wondering if we could do it next spring. Karen said that would postpone Cabot Plains Road. We do need to decide if we are going to take the paving out of the current contract and in this way they will be able to meet their deadline for the rest of the project. Fred made the motion that we take the paving portion out of the current contact. Jack seconded. Motion passed.
12. Water and Wastewater:
 - a. Karen has been working on pricing of the main control panel with Utility Partners. She wanted to know if we should replace the panel completely or try to retrofit. The downside of retrofitting is that the current panel is not safe with high voltage and low voltage which could be very dangerous along with the current control panel is hard to get parts for and still may have some problems. We do have money in the Wastewater fund to pay for this. Fred made the motion that we go with the \$41,500 for a new control panel. Bernie 2nd. Motion passed.
 - b. Fred wondering about the door at the plant for restroom use by the recycle center employees. The panel has been moved and the contractor will work on this door as soon as he fixes the Willey Building door.
13. Road Commissioner
 - a. Project Schedule:
 1. Tim Gochey's apartment building driveway. Karen and Michelle went and measured the road from the rock wall to the concrete wall. It would be a foot short on the sidewalk to be placed. We would go back on to Tim's property about one foot. Karen will contact Tim and Aldo about what we are thinking.
 2. Paving on Cabot Plains Road apron is 2619 square yards of area, 300 tons of paving and pricing for Danville Hill Road estimates from Pike and Johnson Paving. We will discuss this at the next meeting.
 3. Washington Electric Permit for line work on Walbridge Road.
 4. Porter Road trying to get the permits complete and having some issues in getting a hold of a landowner for easements. The other two have said they will send them back and one landowner will not get back to Karen. She doesn't live their anymore. Karen has contacted Paul Gillies on the process. The selectboard would set a date of investigating the land and notify the landowner of the hearing and the finding. Jack would like to start this process.

Jack moves that we initiate the condemnation of the property on Porter Road to facilitate the completion of the porter road culvert project. Karen stated that the FEMA money would be available next year if we are not able to do this work this year. Bernie 2nd. Motion passed.

b. Other Business

Cemetery Commission – Betty said Melvin will be getting a meeting together with the Cemetery Commission to accept getting a bid for cutting down trees in the cemetery. Karen is wondering if on the Route 215 should be priority. Karen will talk to Slim Payne to prioritize the trees.

14. Town Clerk

- a. Orders - Done
- b. Other Business – Tax Rate is approved for the Municipal is 0.6291 the residential is 1.7543 and non-residential 1.5910. Betty discussed the sample tax bill. Jack moved that to approve the municipal tax rate at 0.6291. Fred 2nd. Motion passed. The tax bills will be in the mail Friday.
- c. Betty gave everyone a note she received from Deb Bothfeld regarding Danville Hill.
- d. Frank Kampf would like to get a conference phone in the meeting room. The CCIF will give a discretionary grant to pay for this. Fred 1st, Bernie 2nd. Motion passed. Betty has asked Brad if he could put in the telephone jack.
- e. Betty is thinking of a new phone system for the office because of the moving of offices and will need a line for Karen's new office. Betty will look into this and Fred suggested that the expense for this could be met through the Willey Building.

15. Other Business – Mike received CCIF plan from Frank Kampf. Everyone read thru it and will be discussed next select board meeting.

16. Executive Session – Personnel matter motion to go into executive session 9:00pm. Fred 1st, Jack 2nd. Motion passed. The Board came out of executive session at 9:32 p.m.

17. Adjourn – A motion was made by Fred and seconded by Bernie to come adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer