

## **SELECTBOARD MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 at 6:00 PM**

Those attending: Selectboard: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Bernie Shatney.

Community Members: Sandy Pond, Margaret Pulaski, Jack Pulaski, Richard Hourihan, Dave Pike, Jeff Haslett, Aldo Nunn, Terry Nunn, Bobby Searles, Larry Gochey, Brittany Butler, Ruth Goodrich, Steve Cox, Gwen Hallsmith, Marcy Martin, Joanne Thibault, Melvin Churchill

Outside consultants for the Sawmill project: Matthew Becker, Project Manager, Department of Environmental Conservation, Kevin Geiger-Two Rivers Ottawaquechee, Regional Planning-CDBG Grant

Town Employees: Karen Deasy, Road Commissioner, Michelle Leclerc, Assistant Town Clerk, and Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mike Hogan at 6:00 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda – A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Fred, motion passed.
3. Approve Minutes of August 21, 2018 Selectboard Meeting – A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Fred. Jeff asked that the fact sheet was not published with the minutes on line. Motion Passed. We will get the fact sheet posted.
4. Public Comment – Aldo had a discussion with a land owner about the Town equipment sitting outside the Recycle Center because there are tires in the way. Fred asked how many tires are there and there are around 100. There is also garbage stored in the metal container. Aldo complained again that the hose that was broken to the mulching equipment.
5. Errors and Omissions – Jeanne Johnson discussed the error that was double billed for a property owned by Green Mountain Power that is assessed for \$1,177,241. The net loss is \$7,406.65. The grand list will also be reduced by that amount. This will affect this year's taxes. A motion was made by Fred, and seconded by Bernie, motion passed.
6. Cemetery – Removal of Trees (RFP)-Bid decision – One bid came from Calvin Alexander Tree Service. There were several RFPs sent but only had one bid came back. A motion was made by Fred and seconded by Bernie to accept the bid. Motion passed. This was for \$20,000 with \$15,000 from the cemetery fund and \$5,000 from the general fund. There are other trees that should be cut down but will be part of a plan for the next fiscal year.
7. Recycle Center-John Cookson – Betty talked for John because he couldn't make it to the meeting. He thanked Wastewater for putting the door into the wastewater building so the recycle folks would be able to use the restroom. However, the door between the restroom and the plant is not locked and chemicals are visible. Also, the outside gate is not locked. He stated that he will not use the bathroom until the doors are locked. Karen will talk to Jim Brimblecombe.
8. Sawmill Contract Discussion - Matthew Becker-Project Manager-Sites Management-Department Environmental Conservation – Matt works for the Site Management Division. He discussed what he does and what the town has done. An executive summary was passed out which was an excerpt of a 380-page report. Matt discussed the burden on the town and the state. If the material standard would change after the town has bought it the Town would not be responsible but the state. Joanne is wondering the risk of removing the soil causing more issues. Before you do a project, you would have a plan on how to remove the contaminated soil. There's a handful of funding to take care of the soil. There was a question of testing behind the dam for any pollutants.

At this point, Mike introduced Kevin Geiger-Two Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Planning-CDBG Grant – Kevin discussed the funding. FEMA doesn't do any testing or cleanup on the property. CDBG costs cover pre-purchase fees for Title search, title insurance, appraisal or listed value. \$102,000 is for the Pre-purchase, title search, title insurance, appraisal or listed value, asbestos test, management cost, demolition of the building and fixing the ground. This does not include the contamination; contamination cleanup is paid for from the grant funds but not included in the town expense. The dam is not being removed under CDBG due to time restraints. Jeff asked questions on Phase 1 and Phase 2. The initial project was to buy the dam and all and remove the dam which would have been approximately \$300,000. In order to get the project completely paid for with grant funding, we went to the CDBG grant which would be no cost to the Town, with FEMA funding the Town would have to match project costs. The appraisal of the property

was once \$82,600 and dropped to \$24,000 in 2015. 4/28/2015 \$82,600 then 06/24/2015 dropped to \$24,000. Fred would like to know why the property was reassessed. Ruth's concerns was rushing to get this thru to get the grant. The CDBG used the 2011 assessed value. Prior to purchase the site has to be cleaned of the contamination. The state will issue a letter saying you have done what needed to be done with the clean-up. CDBG does all the testing and remediation. The water in the river is being tested. Question was asked - If the town didn't do anything, other folks might purchase the property. The purpose of the grant is to purchase the property and to clean it up. Terri Nunn said that the Creamery tests the river in many spots. There have been drilling around the building and have found no water contamination.

Fred would like to know why the Town should buy it. Mike stated that it would protect the bridge below the dam if the dam fails and there is an opportunity to have the area cleaned up with grant money. Eventually the dam would be taken down. Fred is not going to vote for this and Brittany Butler would like to have all of the select board members involved in the vote. She would like to know how Ted can vote when he hasn't heard the passion in the voices of the town people. Mike stated there would not be a vote until the full board is at a meeting. Sandy Pond is wondering how the many of the Selectboard wants the property or to have the dam taken down. Fred thinks that the property owner should be the one who takes down the building and be made to clean up the property.

9. Water and Wastewater – Karen discussed on another coliform hit on the water system. The line needs to be flushed, and to chlorinate the system. Karen will let all the residence know. The water doesn't need to be boiled. The question arose that should we be boiling water. Karen stated that It is safe to drink the water at this moment. Fred wanted to know how much water we are saving on a monthly basis. She is waiting for a final figure but it looks like we are saving 200,000 gallons per month since the new line has been put in.

10. Road Commissioner:

- a. Project Schedule – Culvert for Porter Road has been ordered and it will be a spring 2019 project. Paving is scheduled for the end of September. Fred discussed Old Route 2. He went with Dave Pike and reviewed the road. He thinks that the culverts should be dug out, fix the hole with patches and dig the rocks out. Larry is wondering if they would be able to pave the road on the north end. There is no final plan yet. No decision was made tonight.
- b. Other Business – There was no other business.

11. Town Clerk

- a. Orders - done
- b. Other Business – VLCT annual voting for Delegation Designated procedures on Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Double Tree in South Burlington. It does not have to be a select board member to attend.

12. Other Business:

- a. Sandy is wondering about the other projects that the select board has been working on that hasn't been revealed and would like to have a list published for the last two years.
- b. Ruth Goodrich request on the road reclassifications regarding the Goodrich's. It would be nice to have a certified letter be sent to have the property owners be present at the meetings along with a phone call.

13. A motion was made by Fred and seconded by Bernie to adjourn, motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer