

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024, 6:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.

Those attending in person: Mike Hogan, R. D. Eno, Skip Bothfeld, Karen Larsen, Sandy Ponds, Fred Jagel, Dean Deasy, Marcy Martin, Frank Kampf, Kris Schmidt, John Cookson, Will Ameden, via zoom Jeff Rock, Kempton and Carrie Randolph, Shannon Smith, Tyler Billingsley, Bridget Donnelly

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:00 pm.
2. Approve Agenda - a motion was made by RD with a second by Skip., defer to 4th class and July 10 update, motion carried with changes.
3. Approval of Minutes from July 16, 2024: A motion was made by RD with a second by Skip. There are changes on 5f: the piles of wood are debris piles in the stream, and they are not on Gleb's property. Karen – Highway 5b this would temporarily take care of overflow but it is not a finished project, 5c do we have any idea when culverts will be installed: we are working on bidding it out. RD said to strike it is not a stable pile and monitoring. One is not stable pile (up by Glinka's cabin and we are monitoring it continually. 5i Dean and Jenn Emergency Management update: timing of meeting. Jenn stated that a meeting could be called in September. Motion carried with the changes. Mike then asked for a motion July 23, 2024 meeting. A motion was made by RD with a second by Skip. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment – Sandy Pond wanted to make this comment – she is a very concerned citizen, and elder, and business owner. The amount of money that I owe is zero and I can afford a better house, but I choose to live within my means. The US and Town are spending and spending, how do we balance it. She wants to know how much our loan and interest is, how many years they are for, and what the fire station did cost as compared to how much it was supposed to be. Betty explained that she was sorry that she did not get the numbers and will get them to her tomorrow. If we keep going in this direction the town is going to go bankrupt. Mike stated that we are expecting to be repaid the money we have borrowed along with the interest payments. We have budgeted interest payments. Please have some patience. Karen – We are not alone, and our congressional delegation people are doing everything they can to help us. We have received \$999,999.00 and expect to receive more reimbursements soon.

Eric Smith – was concerned about his property, and now some of the runoff is draining in his property. The way it was done is not acceptable. If need be Charlie Philbin could tap into his well. Mike advised that we have found that Charlie does have water rights from the Smith property. Sid will have Tom come and look at driveway.
5. Highway:
4th Class Discussion – Defer to September meeting, possibly have an answer for Old Route 2
July 10 Flood Update – next meeting
6. Old Route 2 Status – John Cookson – What is going to happen with Old Route 2. In 40 years, nothing has happened. The road can't even be swept. Karen wanted to know what are the top 3 things that you would suggest to be done. John stated that a few years ago, JA McDonald busted up the road. Now Hutchins is going on the road. It is being ignored. Hutchins was going to grind it up, but this hasn't happened. Mike mentioned that we are waiting to hear back from Better Back Roads and this money could go for portions of Old Route 2. John said the flood waters haven't helped it either. The concern is never addressed year after year. Kempton stated that he drives the upper section daily and it is the worst stretch of the road, has broken pieces of equipment, needs to go very slow. Mike asked if we were to try and fix the road -which portion is the worst? John stated the upper part between the cedars. Perhaps we could have a discussion with Hutchins. Would like to get it repaired and it always gets put aside. John thought it could be done in sections.
7. Approval of Bid for FEMA project for Blodgett Road and Upper Jug Brook Road – Town has 5 FEMA

Blodgett Road, Mack Mountain Upper and Lower Jug Brook Road, Menard Road. Two projects: Blodgett Road and the upper Jug Brook Road. Tyler Billingsley gave a good summary with a good recommendation to award the bid. Timeframe – it will take 2 months to get structure, and do some prework prior to final work, before the structure arrives. The in-stream work can be done before the structure is there, and we must be out of stream by November 15. Mike asked if there was any apprehension on Tyler's part because of rain in the fall. He believes that Goodhue does know his business and he has worked with them previously and feels fall rain will not affect the work. If we would defer to next year the cost would be up and may not be able to get a contractor next year. RD moved that we approve the award for Blodgett Road and Jug Brook be awarded to Goodhue with a second by Skip. Motion carried. Mike wanted it noted that Fred is not here for the vote, but we do have a majority vote.

8. Recommendations for Development Review Board – Jenn read the letter on DRB – stated all present. Kempton Randolph, Wolfgang Krutak, and Ryan Harrington. And reviewed their capabilities. Board recommendation are Kempton and Wolfgang. RD moved to accept the recommendation of Kempton and Wolfgang to be the new members on the DRB, with a second by Mike, motion carried.
9. Water and Wastewater
 - a. Other Business Betty – the membranes should be here shortly. Fred Jagel wanted to know what is town policy to contributing to the cost on wastewater and water hook up. RD stated the Policy does include for the town for pay some of the fees. If we had a more liberal policy, it would help to add customers to the basis of the system. RD agreed that this does make sense. Fred stated that he was not able to hook up with the system as it was 200 feet away. RD noted that even if we decide to amend it would need to be posted, have public comment and a public vote. Karen would like to have the new owners invited to engage in this discussion.
10. Town Clerks Office
 - a. Orders
 - b. Other business
11. Other Business – Sign documents for new flood loan, bylaws Dean Mike would like to defer to next meeting. Dean stated that the only change is to incorporate the Fast Squad. Because of the time frame for this a motion was made to amend the bylaws by RD to include the Fast Squad, with a second by Skip, Motion carried.
12. Motion to Adjourn – A motion was made by RD with a second by Karen, motion carried, and we adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk

COMMUNITY UPDATE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

Present- Mike Hogan, RD Eno, Karen Larsen, Skip Bothfeld, Jenn, Frank Will, Dean, Khris, and Betty

1. Call meeting to order – The meeting was called to order by Mike at 7:31 p.m.
2. Discussion regarding Inclusion – RD – read the inclusion, Karen welcomes opportunity for a community conversation. Inclusion is a work in progress and how we live in it on a day-to-day basis. This conversation will continue even after the vote.
3. Update on floods and highways – the word is vigilance. Right now, our roads are in pretty good shape. Sid, Aldo, and Tom have worked diligently to put them back in shape. Lots of ditching stone is needed, but short the quarries are short. AOT inspected all the bridges, and they are okay. Elm Street does need a lot of work, and we have a grant from USDA that we are hoping to expand to include this bridge. Five projects we are presently working on (small ones). We have been taking lots of pictures of the debris piles and are monitoring them closely. RD will walk with SLF to give definitive advice as to what to do with the two debris piles. We are also working on culverts. The West Hill Pond Dam does need some work. Going to try to put a plan in place. Funding is very limited to repair dams. We are hoping to find funds to take care of the dam. It is costly. If we do nothing, it will deteriorate. We are preparing for this weekend with heavier rains forecast. We have an excavator at WB and North End Bridge.

Sawmill – phase 1 study is done, and we will be having a meeting soon to move forward. At some point we could possibly turn over to the Trails Committee

Dean – is it possible to post a inundation map on the website about the possible flooding from the dam. Yes, we will be doing that in the next couple of days. We also need to have community involvement. Karen pointed out that there is 50 acres of water with some being a depth of 12 feet. Can we have a public meeting sooner than later? We will be calling a special meeting in the near future.

The Emergency Plan was brought up and it was brought to our attention that ham radio operators are not included in the plan. FD does have a ham radio – there is a potential to use them. The FD does have a list of ham operators. This should be incorporated in the emergency plan. When the fire alarm system is installed, this will also be a way of notifying the community if there is a major emergency such as a flood.

There was no further discussion.

A motion was made by RD with a second by Mike, motion carried, and we adjourn at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Clerk