

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING-REGULAR

Monday, September 26th, 2016

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS:

Robert Congdon, Jr, Clerk

Michael Klopchin, Chair

Arthur Knox (A)

Daniel Pinkowski

Richard Wilbur

CALL TO ORDER: 5:58 p.m.

PRESENT AT MEETING: Select Board (4), Administrative Assistant, Treasurer, Zoning Administrator, also present were Robert Bixby, Cindy Davis, Michael Pedone, Arthur Menard, Marjorie Southard, and Bette Ladabouche.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: The Board Chair requested to add the Quarterline project bids and the Gary Ayers ticket appeal to the agenda. Selectman Congdon motioned to add both issues under highway, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed. There were no other changes to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Select Board Meeting Regular – September 12th, 2016: Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the minutes as written, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

HIGHWAY: The Road Commissioner was not present.

Class 2 Highway Grant Reimbursement: The Board reviewed the reimbursement form for the paving done on Walker Mountain Road. Selectman Congdon motioned to sign the reimbursement form, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

High Risk Rural Roads Agreement: The Board reviewed the agreement to have the State install signs on several roads at no cost to the Town. Selectman Congdon motioned to have the Board Chair sign on behalf of the Board, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

Quarterline Bids: The Board opened and reviewed two bids as follows:

Belden \$30,000 Kevin Ruane: \$42,820

After some discussion with the Treasurer, Selectman Pinkowski motioned to accept the Belden bid, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

Gary Ayers Ticket Appeal: The Board reviewed a letter from Mr. Ayers disputing the Board's decision on his parking ticket appeal. A brief discussion followed on the Board's rights and obligation, and the Administrative Assistant was asked to contact the Town's attorney to find how to respond. The Board Chair commented on the amount of money the ticket was worth versus attorney's fees.

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING-REGULAR

Monday, September 26th, 2016

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL WARRANTS: All new warrants and warrants previously signed by the designated Select Board member were approved and signed by all Select Board members.

GUEST: Zoning Administrator – Hier Lane Update: This topic was tabled until the Zoning Administrator arrived.

CEMETERY FACT FINDING COMMITTEE REPORTS: Cindy Davis reported on needs of the cemeteries. A fence for the backside of the West Clarendon Cemetery was discussed, it was decided that the fence would be addressed in the spring. The brush remaining was discussed; the road crew would take care of what they could before Tim Mumford would be asked to finish. After a brief discussion about the Marsh Cemetery, Selectman Congdon motioned that up to \$500 would be authorized to cut brush in the Marsh Cemetery, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Ms. Davis stated she was working on getting volunteers to help with some work. The Board Chair thanked the Road Crew for all the work they had done on the cemeteries. Selectman Congdon mentioned that Ms. Davis had two pairs of clippers damaged during the cemetery clean up; the Board authorized replacing the clippers on the Town's LaValley's account. Putting the municipal forest logging income towards the cemeteries was mentioned, as well as possible signs above the cemeteries, Ms. Davis was going to look into prices for the signs. The Board Chair mentioned that he had been contacted by a reporter in regards to the marijuana plants found in the West Clarendon Cemetery, and had referred them to the Sheriff's Department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (10 minutes): Cindy Davis asked about the Walker Mountain Rail Crossing and when it would be addressed, there was no new information and the Administrative Assistant was asked to follow up. Ms. Davis also asked about the status of the noise ordinance, the Administrative Assistant was asked to follow up with the Planning Commission.

Robert Bixby advised the Board that an historical society was being formed in Town, and asked if the Board would be willing to donate \$100 to the society. Selectman Congdon motioned to donate \$100 to the historical society to be taken from the Selectmen's Expense line, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

Marjorie Southard detailed an article she had read in the Rutland Herald about REDC and agriculture, and the economic future. The Administrative Assistant was asked to look for the article.

OLD BUSINESS:

Berm Removal – Cold River: The Board Chair detailed the meeting held with Ethan Swift of the Watershed Management Division of DEC regarding the restoration of the Cold River flood plain by berm removal, and the possible grant available for the work. Mike Pedone detailed the history of the project, and advised the Board that the grant available was a no match grant, but that would most likely not be the case in the future. The Board Chair suggested Selectman Pinkowski abstain from voting on the issue due to Selectman Pinkowski's direct personal interest in the matter. After some discussion, Selectman Congdon motioned to authorize the Administrative Assistant to begin the grant process for the Cold River flood plain restoration, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed, with Selectman Pinkowski abstaining due to potential conflict of interest.

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING-REGULAR

Monday, September 26th, 2016

Carving Studio Bench: The Board was advised that the bench previously offered to the Town from the Carving Studio was ready. It was decided that the bench would be placed by the flag pole next to the Town Hall, and would be picked up in the one ton by the Road Crew. Selectman Congdon motioned to donate \$1000 to the Carving Studio, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed. The Zoning Administrator suggested fund raising ideas for the maintenance of the bench.

(At this time the Board Chair moved to New Business, out of order from Agenda)

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Schedule – Discussion: The Board discussed having budget meetings on Wednesdays versus including time in a regular meeting to cover budgeting, and whether or not to have PEG TV tape it. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to include budgeting in the Monday October 10th meeting as a trial.

At 7:05 p.m., Selectman Congdon excused himself from the meeting and exited.

GUEST: Zoning Administrator – Hier Lane Update (OUT OF ORDER FROM AGENDA): The Zoning Administrator updated the Board as to the possible zoning violations on the Merrill property on Hier Lane, which included possible property encroachment on Bette Ladabouche's land, cutting a driveway without an access permit, and building structures without a building permit. The Zoning Administrator advised that the Board could issue a municipal ticket or a zoning violation. After a brief discussion, Selectman Wilbur motioned to have the Zoning Administrator pursue the possible zoning violation on the driveway and the unpermitted structures, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed. It was agreed that the Board would wait on the survey of Ms. Ladabouche's property before discussing the possible property encroachment.

Letter Signing – Theophilus Harrington (OUT OF ORDER FROM AGENDA): The letter regarding Theophilus Harrington's monument was tabled until next meeting when Selectman Congdon would be present. The Board Chair read the thank you letters to Tim Mumford and the RACS students aloud and the Board members signed them.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: No report given.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer presented a to-date budget report.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT: No report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (5 minutes): The Zoning Administrator detailed to the Board his upcoming planning and zoning forum, and billing for the forum.

Cindy Davis asked for clarification on what was being done on the West Clarendon Cemetery brush cutting, the Board reiterated that the Town Road Crew would do what they could, and Tim Mumford would look at the remaining work and give an estimate.

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING-REGULAR

Monday, September 26th, 2016

Robert Bixby asked about possible blasting on Quarterline Road during the widening project.

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS: There were no concerns.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:33 p.m., Selectman Wilbur motioned to adjourn, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

SIGNED: _____ Michael Klopchin, Chair /s

SIGNED: _____ Robert Congdon, Jr., Clerk/s

These minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Heather Kent, Administrative Assistant, and were approved on October 10th, 2016.

APPROVED