

TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT
Selectboard Meeting Minutes of
Monday, August 11, 2014

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Paul Hartshorn at the Waitsfield Town Office.

Members Present: Paul Hartshorn (Chair), Logan Cooke (Vice-Chair), Scott Kingsbury, Chris Pierson, Sal Spinosa.

Staff Present: Valerie Capels, Town Administrator; Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary; Charlie Goodman, Road Commissioner; Rodney Jones, Road Foreman.

Others Present: Barbara Gulisano, Jason Gulisano, Sam Gulisano, Suzee Lynn, Cheryl Allen (MRTV)

II. Regular Business

1. Public Forum.

There were no public forum attendees.

2. Road Department update: Rodney Jones and Charlie Goodman.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Goodman reported on various projects underway throughout the summer. Rolston Road issues are being addressed, including drainage, culvert work, and mud hole repair. New metal culverts will be replacing failed plastic culverts on the Common Road. Resurfacing of gravel roads will be taking place later in the season, as there will not be an opportunity to crush gravel until mid-September.

A large volume of stored fill material is available at the gravel pit from the culvert replacement work, but is nothing the Road Department can use. Mr. Goodman will check with Skatium officials or others to determine if they can make use of it.

The possibility of tilling and applying stay-mat to Joslin Hill was considered but determined to not be a feasible solution. The work is currently scheduled for 2016, with a bond vote to be held at 2015's Town Meeting. Board members concurred that this timeline should be adhered to; the project should not be delayed past 2016.

Mr. Jones reported that parts of the solar array system have been installed and appears a little larger than originally outlined. This may mean that the water tank on site will need to be relocated. He also reported that he is able to obtain a new, larger container for hazardous waste storage to replace the old military storage unit. The Board supported Mr. Jones' suggestion that he determine if he can purchase a new container (40-feet long at a cost of \$4,000) using this year's budgeted funds and if so that he have the old container removed and the new one delivered.

3. Continued consideration of Bridge Street Marketplace parking lot restoration.

Mr. Pierson recused himself as a Selectboard member and participated as an affected property owner. Minutes of the October 10, 2011 Selectboard meeting confirmed previous agreement by the Selectboard to restore the parking lot where damage had been caused by post-Irene river work. Ms. Capels reported her communication with Charlie Hosford in which he confirmed that the Town had offered to restore associated parking and driving areas to a 'reasonable condition,' though it was not defined.

It was agreed that material should be delivered by the Town and that the material will be crushed gravel. The Board requested that Mr. Goodman assess the parking lot and the Madsonian lot in order to determine how much material is needed for restoration. Mr. Goodman will provide that information for the next Selectboard meeting.

4. VTrans bridge inspection report: TH 10 Pine Brook bridge.

The State inspection report indicated that comprehensive repairs need to be made to this bridge and a plan for addressing the repairs must be submitted to VTrans within 60 days. Mr. Jones and Mr. Goodman outlined recent history of the bridge's repairs, including re-decking prior to tropical storm Irene and the subsequent repairs required after the that storm's damage. As the bridge is located on a class 3 road and is over 20 feet in length, the State is requiring features such as the guardrails that were installed after Irene. There was discussion of the Richards family's concerns regarding the weight limit posting (12,000 tons), which inhibits delivery and construction vehicles from getting across to their property. There was consensus that the steel beams under the bridge and other features of the bridge result in it being able to withstand much higher weights.

It was decided to have Mr. Jones complete necessary work to address the deteriorating condition of a couple of the bridge planks, as noted in the inspection report. Ms. Capels will complete the response form for the State accordingly and will look into the possibility of posting a higher weight limit for the bridge. The Board may consider reclassifying the road to a class four road but realize that the safety of the bridge is imperative no matter what the road classification.

5. Bridge Street/Covered Bridge project update: consideration of construction contractor for the Covered Bridge and Bridge Street projects.

The lowest bid received for the construction work on these projects was about \$240,000 over the amount of funds available through grant, loan, and general fund monies. The Town Attorney has advised the Selectboard to not enter in any contract without sufficient funds to meet the obligation.

Mr. Detrick indicated in an e-mail that there will be a cost of approximately \$4,000 to put the project out for rebid. There was discussion about bidding the projects separately, about timing, and whether any of the bridge work could be done this year. Ms. Capels will discuss with Mr. Detrick what is possible regarding separating out some of the bridge work for bidding and completion this fall. She has also requested that Mr. Detrick determine if there are portions of the project that can be included in future bids as add-alternates; an example being the color galvanization proposed for under the bridge. She will invite him to the next or a special Selectboard meeting to discuss these matters directly with the Selectboard.

6. Lareau Swim Hole Park: trash management.

Recent activity noticed and documented at the park included the tipping over of the port-o-let and trash left at the site, including used diapers. Hartigan had been contacted to right and clean the port-o-let.

Options for preventing the accumulation of trash at the park were discussed; signage was decided upon as the best possible method. The possibility of establishing fines was discussed, but

determined as likely to be ineffective as an ordinance would need to be created and continuous patrolling would not be possible. It was agreed to post signage indicating the need for individuals to remove all trash – “pack in, pack out” – along with possible shutting down of the park if trash continues to accumulate. Money is available in the Lareau Swim Hold Park Reserve Fund or the Restroom, Recreation, and Conservation Reserve Fund to have signs made and installed. Ms. Capels will prepare prototypes for an upcoming Selectboard meeting.

7. Continued consideration of construction inspection contractor for SRTS projects.

This agenda item was moved to Executive Session for discussion.

8. Bills payable and Treasurer’s warrants were signed.

9. Approval of July 28, 2014 and August 4, 2014 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Cooke made a motion to approve the minutes of July 28 and August 4, 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kingsbury. All voted in favor.

10. Selectboard Roundtable.

School/town MOU for solar array – Mr. Spinosa reported that he is in continued contact with various relevant parties, and that work continues on a tentative draft which will soon be ready for review.

Farm Stand site mowing – Mr. Cooke inquired about mowing the property. Ms. Capels noted she received a similar request and will solicit quotes for the work.

Covered Bridge damage – Mr. Kingsbury noted that the fascia board on the far side of the bridge is rotting and might cause injury to those who climb on the bridge in order to jump into the river.

Covered Bridge star – Mr. Cooke commented that he thought the star decorating the end of the bridge was for winter holiday time and he asked why it has not yet been removed. Ms. Capels said she will follow up with the Marketplace representatives.

Gazebo on Commons triangle – Mr. Kingsbury reported that he has been exploring funding options for the construction of a gazebo and sought feedback from the rest of the Board regarding the possibility of using a Kickstarter campaign for this purpose. Others supported the idea of the gazebo construction, but had concerns regarding the municipality establishing a Kickstarter campaign. It was suggested that Mr. Kingsbury look into the zoning regulations regarding such a structure at the proposed location before further exploring funding options.

14. Town Administrator’s Report.

Ms. Capels had no additions to her written report.

III. Consent Agenda.

1. Public festival permit application: Baked Beads Fall Sale, October 10-12, 2014.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval, waive fee.

2. Public festival permit application: Mad River Valley Craft Fair, August 30-31, 2014.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval, waive fee.

3. Review of internal controls survey per 32 VSA 163(11), 24 VSA 872(b), and 24 VSA 1571(d).

RECOMMENDATION: Acknowledge receipt and review.

4. Waitsfield paving loan: Peoples United Bank, 5 years, 2.5% interest.

RECOMMENDATION: Accept loan offer, vote to approve and execute the loan documents.

MOTION: Mr. Cooke made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kingsbury. All voted in favor.

IV. Other Business.

1. Correspondence/reports received.

Ms. Capels received a citizen request regarding leasing the farmstand at the Town Office site as a sales location through mid-October. Due to the condition of the building and subsequent liability issues, the Board decided that such a lease is not feasible.

A request was received from Assessor Mary Jane Potter to correct the grand list due parcel #029005000 that was merged with adjoining parcel #099193000, but the original parcel remained on the Grant List. The property is now included in #0991933000, so it is in the Grand List twice. Consequently, the Grand List should be reduced by \$159,000.

MOTION: Mr. Cooke made a motion to approve the \$159K reduction to the grand list as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kingsbury. All voted in favor.

There was brief discussion of the upcoming special Town Meeting and the consequences if voters to not authorize the borrowing. Ms. Capels suggested it would mean the expenses would need to come from other areas in the budget at the expense of other work getting done.

IV. Executive Session to consider contract negotiations.

MOTION: Mr. Spinosa made a motion to enter Executive Session in order to discuss contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pierson. All voted in favor. The Selectboard met in executive session from 9:06pm to 9:12pm. Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlin
Recording Secretary

reviewed by Valerie Capels
Town Administrator