

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 7, 2014

Present: Jim Ameden, Steve Prouty, Paul Gordon, Cathy Aragi, Kevin Beattie, GNAT TV, Duane Hart, Nick Doane, Jim Wilbur, Bob Borella, Sharon Crossman, Josh Wengerd, Emmett Dunbar, Larry Gubb

Meeting called to order at 6:08 PM.

A motion was made and unanimously passed to go into executive session for an employee interview and other employee discussions.

Came out of executive session at 7:00.

Pay orders were signed.

Announcements- Community Drug Forum is going on tonight, tomorrow night at 6:00 PM, and April 22nd.

The Pingree Park playground build is May 29 to 31.

Visitors and Concerned Citizens-

Planning Commission/Renewal Task Force- Planning Commission members asked the Selectboard to accept the After the Flood report that has been delivered to the town. They explained that “acceptance” doesn’t indicate that the board agrees or disagrees with any content in the report, but is simply acknowledgement of receipt. A motion was made and unanimously approved to accept the report. It is agreed that the Town will send thank you letters to those entities and people involved in the effort.

The Planning Commission spoke about moving to “Phase 2”, which will move forward from conceptual ideas for future use of Hazard Mitigation buyout properties, to putting together more specific proposals. A motion was made and unanimously passed for the group to proceed with “Phase 2”.

Paul asked about putting the After the Flood report on the website. It was agreed to put it in, with a disclaimer that the Town at this point doesn’t sanction any ideas put forth in the report.

Village Center Designation- A group including the Planning Commission, some selectboard members, and the Town Administrator met with Richard Amore from the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development, to discuss and map proposed boundaries for potential Village Center Designations in both Londonderry villages.

The board expressed some concerns about whether Village Center Designation might affect zoning bylaws and restrictions in the future. The Planning Commission responded that all information that we have indicates that it will not.

The Planning Commission asked for the Selectboard to vote to proceed with the application. A motion was made and unanimously approved to do so.

PACE- The town has received communication from Bob Fisher, the town's attorney, with concerns about the PACE program and the Town's responsibilities. The board agreed to put on hold signing any PACE agreements until questions and concerns can be answered.

Town Treasurer- Jim Wilbur presented year to date figures for the first quarter, with some explanation of where we stand.

Duane asked about the highway surplus from last year and whether those funds are available to be spent this year, in addition to the current budget. It was confirmed by the treasurer that those funds are available for use.

Minutes of the April 7 meeting were approved and signed.

Roads and bridges-

A motion was made and unanimously passed to hire Nick Doane as a full time road crew member, at a starting rate of \$15.00/hour.

Overweight permits- Permits were unanimously approved for Crandall Logging, United Natural Foods, Mark Audy, Frost Wells, Raymond Smith, Double D Trucking, and Carlton Trucking.

VTrans Annual Financial Plan- This plan documents the Town's eligibility for various VTrans grants, and it was signed by the board. Duane and Kevin informed the board that we are applying for three VTrans grants this year, totaling \$375,000.

Access Permits- The board unanimously approved two Access Permits for the Jamaica Cottage Shop for a development on Winhall Station Road. Duane and Steve inspected the sites.

Public informational meeting for the Lowell Lake Road culvert project- Kevin asked the board for their opinion on what time and day of the week this meeting should be scheduled to accommodate both local and absentee property owners on Lowell Lake and Mtn. Lake Roads. We will consider a late afternoon on a Saturday.

Better Back Roads grants- Better Back Roads grant applications are due May 5. Kevin asked Duane and the board for ideas about what we might consider for projects. Duane recommends culvert replacements on West River Street, a location on Spring Hill Road

for bank stabilization, and stone lining a ditch on Goodaleville Road. The board agreed that we will apply for at least two projects this year.

Use of road crew helping with the Pingree Park playground work- Kelly has asked if the town crew could assist with unloading the equipment when it is delivered on May 29th. Duane will get with Kelly to determine the specific needs.

Backhoe tires- A motion was made and unanimously passed to purchase rear tires from Pete's Tire for \$855 each.

Cutting edges- Duane is obtaining quotes for a purchase of cutting edges.

Training- Duane asked the board to attend a supervisory training session in June. A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve Duane attending the training.

Transfer Station items-

None.

Liquor Board- The board approved and signed applications from Upper Pass Lodge and Jakes.

Kevin reminded the board that we have a class for town officials scheduled at 5:30 PM on May 19th, regarding roles and responsibilities of the Liquor Control Board.

Old business-

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program projects- Kevin gave the board an update on current status of the projects.

Bids were open for the demolition of the Barker property at 2528 Rte. 11. The bids were:
TAM, Inc.- \$16,137
Chaves Excavating- \$18,650

A motion was made and unanimously passed to award the contract to TAM, Inc.

New business-

HMGP generator grants- There is new opportunity for 75% funding for emergency generators. Kevin asked the board to consider applying for grants for generators for the Town Office/town garage and Flood Brook School. Deadline for the applications is May 2. A motion was made and unanimously passed for Kevin to proceed with investigation of applying for the grants.

Town Office maintenance- Kelly would like a followup refinishing done on the hardwood floors. We have one quote of approximately \$1850, and will look for other quotes.

Fuel tank removal- An underground tank at the Town Office needs to be removed. We will investigate options and proceed with the lowest cost option.

Policy for the website and the newsletter- A written policy for content of these two items will be discussed at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.