

TOWN of BRIDPORT
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2019



PRESENT: Joan Huestis (Chair), David Bronson, Tim Howlett, Matt Lawton, Mike Lawton, Dusty Huestis, Irene Zaccor, Julie Howlett, Ed Payne and Jane Lazorchak

Joan called the meeting to order at 6pm

Public Comment:

Jane Lazorchak from the Vermont Fish and Wildlife came to talk about the State's interest in acquiring a 40 acre piece of land in the Lemon Fair Wildlife Management Area from Mike Quesnel. The addition of this parcel will provide permanent protection of public access for hunting, trapping, fishing and wildlife viewing, and the conservation of the floodplain forest habitat. Joan moved to send a letter of support to Vermont Fish and Wildlife for the acquisition of this land, David seconded. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report:

Tim moved to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2019 meeting, Joan seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

We have \$203,000 in the bank with \$250,000 in property taxes already collected. Irene presented a loan to be signed for the new tandem truck. After discussion on the loan, Irene will contact The First National Bank of Orwell to see if they have a lower interest rate than The National Bank of Middlebury. Tim moved to accept the Treasurer's report and to pay \$54,592 in outstanding bills, Mike seconded. Motion passed.

DPW:

Paving will begin tomorrow and lines will be painted as soon as possible. DPW has seeded everything on Townline Road and are hauling sand. Dusty received a letter from Hinesburg Sand & Gravel, they have washed winter grit for \$6.00 a ton. When the DPW brings in a load of scrap metal they are going to pick up a load of sand and try it out. Drainage by the Masonic Hall is finished. We have not received estimates on the Garage Roof but Dusty thinks if we use the \$30,000 budgeted for the roof on the supplies, it will be cheaper than having the contractor buy them.

Culvert Report: Environmental impact report has been received and approved. We can now proceed with getting the right of way easements, this should be completed by the end of October and then Otter Creek Engineering can do the final design. David is not comfortable being on the Selectboard and doing the work for the easements. He suggested that the town hire Benj Putnam as attorney for this project. Joan made the motion to use Benj Putnam as an attorney for the project and Matt seconded. Motioned passed.

Old Business:

Maps: Ed has been working on the new maps. He has most of the issues figured out. We have glitches in the lister files and they have not been maintained for quite awhile. Once we get corrections done Ed will be working with RJ Turner out of Bristol to work on the maps.

Dog Ordinance: No action taken

Grange Grant: The Grange received a \$5,000 grant toward siding. The Grange asked if the town is interested in doing work on their driveway and what the estimate would be. After much discussion, it was decided we could offer them trucking.

Donald Sheldrick Letter: The Selectboard sent a certified letter to Angela and Donald Sheldrick to explain the work we would be doing concerning the drainage at the Masonic Hall. The postman attempted delivery 3 times and the Sheldrick's refused to pick the letter up at the post office. The board decided to keep the letter on file for the time being.

Newsletter: Dusty would like to put a winter reminders in the newsletter. Joan would like a reminder to stop for school buses. We hope to have the newsletter out by October.

Glebe Land: The state is requiring all Selectboards to vote to retain ownership of some or all of the Glebe Lands by January 1, 2020. David's recommendation is for the town to retain ownership of all lands that include public highways.

New Business:

Zoning Regulations: Donald Sheldrick has a storage container on his property that violates village zoning regulations. Ed Payne asked the board permission to send a letter of violation. Tim made a motion to send Donald Sheldrick a letter and Joan seconded. Motion passed.

Zoning Fees: Ed made the recommendation to add an extra \$25 to permits that need to be warned in the paper to cover the advertisement charge.

Change the date of October & November meeting: Due to Holidays and the tax due date, the Selectboard will meet Tuesday, October 15th and Monday, November 18th.

Manure Spreading/Road Closures: Matt brought to the Selectboard's attention that at times some Class 4 roads are being blocked by tractors or manure drag hoses when hoses could be put through culverts. Tim will talk with manure spreading company and farmer who is hiring them.

Other Business: No other business.

Adjourn: Joan moved to adjourn, Matt seconded. Adjourned at 8:07pm