

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2020

Draft

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Lynne Bertram, Chair.
Meeting conducted in person, conference call in number provided for participation.

Present: Brian Bontrager, Norman (Nope) Martin, Vicky Young, Jeff Sailer and Nancy Robinson

Visitors: None

Additions to Agenda: Cemetery Commissioner Resignation (J. Bulmer)
Executive Session per 1 V.S.A. 313 (3) Legal

Board reviewed a letter of resignation effective immediately from Jim Bulmer as a Cemetery Commissioner as his home is for sale and has plans to move to the West Coast. Brian moved to accept Jim's resignation with regret. Lynne seconded the motion and motion carried. Jim has been a commissioner for 20 years. Nancy asked board about posting vacancy, has heard from Owen Astbury who indicated that he is interested in filling the vacancy. Lynne reported that she had a conversation with Butch Wardwell who also indicated that Owen was interested. This position would be filled until the next town meeting. Lynne moved to appoint Owen Astbury to the Cemetery Commission until the next town meeting. Brian seconded the motion and motion carried. A letter of thanks and card will be sent to Jim.

Nope moved to accept the minutes of June 9, 2020. Brian seconded the motion. Lynne reported that she had attempted to contact a representative from the Bethel Barracks State Police. No one has returned her call. Brief discussion of recent newspaper article regarding the town's position with the Windsor County Sheriff's Department, State Police responsibilities of regular patrols and Hartland's contact with State Police for supplemental patrols. Will discuss further at end of meeting.

Lynne also wanted to clarify the action taken by the board at the last meeting in regards to the appointment of the Fire Station Committee members. Committee members would consist of Bruce Seely, Bruce Maxham, Josh Maxham, George Spear and Chris Stevens. There was no mention of Nancy staying on the committee as clerk and Nancy assumed that she was off the board. Board would like Nancy to stay on as clerk and advisor as needed.

Nancy had contacted Dave Hoffenberg of the Killington Softball League and made him aware that the field may not be opened this summer. Ok with Dave as they are not playing until groups open up to 50 or more. Being no further discussion, motion to accept minutes carried.

Visitors: None

Highway Report: An access permit was approved for Northeast Wilderness Trust to make a small parking lot (3 or 4 cars) just off the Chateaugay Road north of the Bridgewater Hollow Road. Discussion of two access permits that have not been installed properly. Jeff will contact contractor and discuss issues. If contractor does not respond, property owners may be contacted. Suggestion made to revise the current proceed notice to include a statement that any future permits will need to be site inspected during construction so that the town can be assured that the projects are being completed correctly and that town roads will not be impacted. May need to add an additional form of "Final Approval". Jeff reported that a couple of engineering firms have been to the town garage site to scope out the sand/salt shed project. Crew have been cleaning road signs that have been spray painted.

June 23, 2020 minutes cont.

Discussion of VTEL box that has been installed on the back side of Bridgewater Hill Road within the town's right of way. Noise emitted from box is annoying neighbors. Nancy is in discussion with VTEL about this situation. There is also a similar box on the Chateaugay Road. These boxes are probably for internet service.

Able Waste has closed their Saturday morning trash program in Woodstock due to COVID 19 and lack of distancing. Bridgewater Fast Trash is now open from 8am to 1pm. Lynne was approached about this change and to locate all of the containers to the back side of the garage for better circulation. This will have to be moved this winter when town trucks are loading sand & salt.

Treasurer's File: Expense warrant #30 (ck #'s 2515 & e-ck #'s 18828-18840) was reviewed and signed. A current budget status report was reviewed by the board. General, Highway and Sewer accounts are all showing surpluses at this time. Nope moved to put up to \$3,000.00 in the Sewer Reserve account, Lynne seconded the motion and motion carried. Nope moved to put up to \$45,000.00 in the Sand Shed Reserve Fund to be used toward grant match for the construction of the new building. Lynne seconded the motion and motion carried.

Clerk's File: July calendar was given to the board. July meeting schedule back to 2nd and 4th Tuesday's. Vicky is having second hand surgery on July 2nd.

Old business: Southgate Relocation project – Mr. Maynes was out last Thursday to measure and is preparing plans/drawings. Has found that there is a 16" difference in the floor height between the town office and "library" side. Should have information by next meeting.

New business: Board reviewed a contract that Brian had from Alan Liptak for the location of monitoring wells. Contract is for \$3,295.00 with a \$250.00 deductible which will be paid by BACF. Balance will be paid by the State Petroleum Fund program. Brian reported that TRORC will cover any overage costs. Lynne signed contract on behalf of the town.

Board was given a copy of the Historical Society Lease (Brick School House). Current lease, 10 year, expires August 1st. Historical Society Members are happy with current lease and would like to renew for another 10 years. Original lease was prepared by Attorney Firm of Stitzel, Page & Fletcher. Board ok with renewing lease as previously written with new 10-year period.

Lynne moved to enter into executive session at 5:33 pm per 1 V.S.A. 313 (3) to discuss a potential legal issue. Nope seconded the motion and motion carried.

Board returned to open meeting at 6:15pm. The following action was taken: Nancy will contact Town Attorney regarding the A. Hoisington property issues. Lynne will contact Maj. Whitcomb of the VSP to inquire about what services they could provide to the Town of Bridgewater in regards to regular and/or supplemental coverage, emergency coverage and ticket revenue.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Robinson

Nancy Robinson,
Clerk