

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF JULY 14, 2020

Draft

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Lynne Bertram, Chair.

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

Visitors: Craig Jewett, Otter Creek Engineering,

Via phone conference: Gloria Martin, Melissa Spear and Allan Stein, VT Standard Reporter

Additions to agenda: Letters of Support for Community Center to Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and Vermont Arts Council. Lynne signed letters.

Brian moved to accept the minutes of June 23, 2020 as written. Nope seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitors: Allan Stein asked about status of Sheriff's Department and Vermont State Police. Town does not have a contract with the Sheriff's Dept. Lynne has spoken with the State Police, we may be seeing a greater presence as officer (s) live in Killington, Hartland and Pomfret. State Police have a shortage of staff, have trouble filling positions and cannot commit to more hours. They do and will respond to calls.

Craig Jewett of Otter Creek Engineering come to update the board on the status of the USDA Rural Development Grant, still waiting for offer. Craig would like to get the project going and suggested that the town apply for a planning loan through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWRSF) program which forgives half of the loan costs at completion of project. To apply for this loan, town would need to approve a contract with Otter Creek Engineering to perform the engineering services. Contract with Otter Creek is for \$44,000 which will be built into the loan. Lynne moved and Nope seconded to move forward with loan process. Motion carried. Craig will update loan application and contract and get documents to Lynne for signature. Craig would like to see bids go out by year end, November or December. Another step in the process will be to have a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) hearing which can be done at the next meeting with Craig and Lynnette Claudon, State of VT, Water Funding Program.

Jeff Sailer, Road Foreman joined meeting at this time.

Highway Report: Spent morning cleaning up a large tree that fell on Parsonage Road. Ditching and grading roads. Board reviewed and signed a new access permit for S & K Jackson on Townline Road. As a side note, Nope mentioned that the 9-1-1 numbers on Townline Road do not match house locations. Higher number is before lower number, numbering system appears to be backwards.

Nancy presented the board with a revised Notice to Proceed for the access/right of way applications, also had a new form that she had gotten from another town. Board liked another town version better than current town form. New form will be prepared for future applications.

Board members opened a bid for the Bridgewater Center Erosion Project. Jeff had invited 4 local contractors for a site inspection on July 7th. 2 were not able to attend due to scheduling or other work commitments. 2 contractors were at site inspection; Martin Exc. and Mosher Exc. Only 1 bid was submitted by Mosher Exc. for \$9991.40. Nope moved to accept the bid of Mosher Exc., Brian 2nd. motion and motion carried. Jeff will notify Craig Mosher of award and make sure that this project will be completed within the next 2 weeks, before paving work begins.

July 14, 2020 minutes cont.

Nope mentioned that Townline and Baker Hill need to be graded. Call from residents on Oxbow Rd, also need gravel and grading. Town does have a line item in the budget to do some Class 4 roadwork each year. Nancy mentioned that the town has received phone calls about visibility issues coming onto/off the Fire Station Bridge. Road crew will try to get some of it with weed wacker and rest should be gotten with road side mowing.

Treasurer's File: Order sheet # 1 (ck #s 2518-2519 and e-ck #'s 18853-18877) was reviewed and signed. Payroll order sheet ending June 30 2020 (ck #'s 3907-3913 and e-ck #'s 3144-3161) was reviewed and signed.

Clerk's File: Gave the board an update on the Primary Election, will do Drive Thru voting from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm. Have sent out over 125 absentee ballots as of today. Due to Covid-19 health and safety issues, town may be able to get a tabulator machine for the General Election in November.

Old business: Reviewed drawing plans from Phil Maynes for the relocation of the Lister's Office and handicap bathroom. Brian will follow up with Mr. Maynes and may look for other options.

New business: Board members signed Fire Station Bond paperwork.

Brian moved to accept with regret the resignation of Steve Hill as E-9-1-1 Coordinator. Nope seconded motion. Nancy will post position on website and at usual posting places. This position is volunteer and requires some local travel and computer knowledge.

Lynne signed the Re-Appointment paperwork for the Town Health Officer, Ellen Quinn. This is a three-year term; recommendation is made by the town and official appointment done by the VT Dept. of Health.

Board members reviewed a letter from A & F Geller of 538 US RT 4 requesting approval to proceed with a FEMA Property Buyout application as property is within the floodway and is constantly eroding. Town officially has to act as applicant as the funding from the Hazard Mitigation Program comes through the town similar to the grants program. Board approved this action. Nancy will confirm with Mr. & Mrs. Geller and contact the State Hazard Mitigation Office to make them aware of this action. Board reviewed a letter submitted by Robert Kancir requesting that the town initiate a speed study of the Bridgewater Corners area to see if the speed limit could be lowered from 45 to 35 mph. Nancy will contact the State to inquire about the process and funding of doing this study.

Being no further business, meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Robinson

Nancy Robinson
Clerk