

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

February 27, 2024

Present: William O. Young-Chair, George Spear-Vice Chair, Stephen S. Tarleton –Road Commissioner, Nancy Robinson-Clerk, Victoria Young-Administrative Assistant/Lister

Visitors: Tammy Wardwell, Gloria Martin, Greg Robinson, Owen Astbury & Bruce Maxham

Zoom: Diane Martin, Dennis & Joan Wideman, Lynne Bertram & Melissa Spear

Executive Session: Personnel - per 1 VSA 313(a)(3)) None

Call to Order:

- ** Additions/Changes to Agenda: Sewer Plant Boiler (no information received from Dead River yet) Nancy added 2 Excess Weight Permits, Home Depot Quote and EWP program update.

Minutes: February 13, 2024 *The Board accepted the Minutes as written.*

Highway Report:

- Updates- Steve reported that the roads are good - they are pushing snow back-Randy's V-Plow is broken and could cost about \$2,500.00 to fix, and the 2020 Truck's transfer case is gone. Hopefully, the warranty will cover- but not sure. Jenne Bridge should be done in a couple of weeks. Nancy asked about signs by the Jenne bridge worksite - Steve said that he will have Randy bring some from the town garage to put there.

Treasurer's File:

- Expense Warrant #14 – Cks # 21116-21127 – Reviewed and signed by the Board.

Clerk's File: Excess Weight Permits for Bethel Mills Inc., and Consolidated Communications – signed by William. Nancy had a quote from Home Depot to replace the Clerk's office flooring with Lifeproof Vinyl Plank Flooring with a vapor barrier underneath. Total project cost of \$7,333.83. Work to be done by the end of April/May. *William made a motion to accept the Quote of \$7,333.83 for the replacement of the flooring in the Clerk's Office – seconded by George –motion passed unanimously.*

Nancy also had an update of the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program-The State has found some funding for this in covering 100% of the Construction fees - but there will still be some administrative and engineering fees that are not covered and are unknown. The Town/property owner would be liable to cover these costs. The Town had previously closed this application because the two property owners did not want to pursue it because of the cost to them – and the very short window to apply now with many unknown cost - the Board decided not to apply at this time.

Lister Updates: Vicky updated that Vision Appraisal staff will be here on March 11th to start the property inspections of the sale properties for the Statistical Market Update. The visits will be to properties that have sold in the last 3 years only.

New Business:

- **100 on 100 Relay –August 10, 2024** – *William made a motion to approve of the race in August to pass through Bridgewater VT RT 100 South – seconded by George –motion passed.*
- **Town Meeting Overview**-General discussion – Vicky stated that the amount to be raised in taxes this year is down 2.23%. A few questions about the number of Bridgewater students in the Windsor Central Supervisory Union. Nancy reported that there are currently 87 Bridgewater students in the K-12 grades. Some concerns about the new school costs.

Old / Other Business: BACF - Solar Grant Application/Discussion - William updated that he had met with Michael Caduto, Charlie Shackleton, and a representative from Catamount Solar last week. They needed a letter from the town to submit the Application for Grant Funding due by the end of February. A letter of approval to move forward with the application was drafted by Vicky and Michael at the time and was signed by William. (See copy attached)

There was general discussion of the placement of the solar panels - Steve asked Bruce Maxham how the Fire Department felt about the panels on the roof –Bruce said that they were concerned about the snow sliding off and the need to keep the roof and walkways cleared. There will still be conversations about the solar panel placement, but for now they just need to get the application submitted.

Next Regular Meeting March 12, 2024

William and Steve also thanked George for his three years on the Board – with much appreciation.

Visitors: Owen asked about maybe contacting a Bridgewater resident that has a solar business about doing the solar job for the Southgate site. The Board agreed that it would be good to check it out. William will have Charlie contact them and see if they might be interested in looking at the job.

Adjourn: William made a motion to adjourn at 5:10 p.m. - seconded by George –motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Young, Administrative Assistant