

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2023 DRAFT

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

Visitors: Deb Fish, Greg Robinson, Gloria Martin, Tammy Wardwell, Bruce Maxham

Zoom: Diane Martin

Executive Session – Personnel Per 1 V.S.A. 313 (a)(3) William called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. - William made a motion to enter executive session for personnel with Vicky staying. Seconded by Steve – motion passed. Out of executive session at 4:30 p.m. - William made a motion to increase Randy Kennedy’s hourly rate by \$5.00 effective October 29, 2023 - bringing his total hourly rate to \$38.75. Seconded by Steve - motion passed. Randy has agreed to stay for another year and a half with the increase.

Call to Order: William called the regular portion of the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

- ** Additions/Changes to Agenda: Letter received from Gerry & Karen Hawkes –Thanking the town for the “outstanding work” done on Wayside Rd. See attached.

Minutes: October 10, 2023, August 29, 2023-Amend - The Minutes of October 10, 2023, were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board amended the August 29, 2023, minutes to correct the bid submitted by Jeff Bridge – The Board only awarded the Steven’s Rd. & Richardson Rd. projects to Jeff- Not the Little Sherburne Rd sites. Little Sherburne RD sites were done by Noyes.

Melissa explained that September 12, 2023, minutes need to be amended also. The Board that night awarded bids from Markowski for the Dailey Hollow RD Site #4 (\$49,200.80) and for Fancher RD. After the meeting, the Board received a bid from Noyes for the Dailey Hollow Rd – Site #4 for \$20,000.00, so the job was given to Noyes. The actual cost came in at \$15,000.00 for the job. Markowski was fine with the change. William made a motion to amend the minutes of September 12, 2023, to reflect the change in bids, whereby awarding Dana Noyes the bid for Dailey Hollow Site 4. Seconded by Steve-motion passed.

Highway Report: Updates: Barnard Excavating, Steve Johnson is working on the Gorge-it is going to be shut down for at least 6 weeks, Bids are coming in for the second part of the Gorge-so it will probably be longer than that. Markowski’s have finished the Fancher RD, and River RD sites 1 & 2, Gunderson Road bridge was completed by Jeff Bridge - Highway crew is grading North Bridgewater & Wayside & Wayside Ext. Robinson RD –Culverts are in, Dig Safe has been called and Stephen has asked Randy to get there this week.

- Employee Update- Danny Silva’s last day was October 20th, 2023. Dan Kennedy never showed up to work, and Scott Sherman got a job promotion and decided to stay. So, we are back to a 2-man crew. Actively looking for help.

- **Bids:**

1. Daily Hollow RD-Gorge Repairs Site #2 (2): Markowski -\$397,876.65 & Barnard Excavation - \$292,095.00. The Board reviewed the bids and William made a motion to accept the bid of \$292,095.00 from Barnard Excavation for Daily Hollow Road – Gorge Site #2 – due to the lower cost associated and they are currently working on Gorge Site 1 – seconded by Steve. Motion passed.

2. Cobb Hill Slope Repairs (1)–Markowski - \$16,848.95- On hold for more bids.

3. Bridgewater Hollow Repairs (1)– Markowski -\$406,107.64- On hold for more bids.

- Access Permit #23-01 Sam Carr - Vicky reported that Randy had approved the Permit for Sam Carr's new access. The Board signed the permit.

Treasurer's File:

- Warrant #24-07 – Manual Cks #2780-#2784 & Cks #20889-#20918 & Payroll for October 2023 - Cks # 5098-#2102 & E-Cks #3823-#3839- The Board reviewed and signed both Warrants.
- FEMA Update- FEMA will be doing Site visits this Friday with Randy. They will meet with Randy and go to Maple Valley Road, and Mountainside RD. Then meet with Bruce Maxham to look at the fire hydrant damage. Melissa reported that we have now spent \$2.6 million on flood repairs to date. FEMA has estimated total damage at \$4.6 million. We need to get the finished roads into the portal to get reimbursed. Paving on the three sites on the Center Road is complete, North Bridgewater Road is getting graded and near complete. Wayside is complete - so we do have some to submit. Might be able to do a partial submit for bridge repairs. Melissa would like to get some additional help with the FEMA paperwork. Marsha Fraser has offered to help with the FEMA paperwork starting next week. William made a motion to hire Marsha at \$20.00 per hour for help with FEMA paperwork, seconded by George – motion passed. Melissa received word from the State that they will clean up the debris on the River RD. for the town. No charge for the town. We do need owner authorization.
- Noyes Dailey Hollow Bid-see under minutes.

Clerk's File: None

Lister Updates: Statistical Market Update- Vicky reported that she had filed the RA-308 form with the State today requesting that the Town can have a Statistical Market Update instead of a full Reappraisal. The Data Quality Study is complete and a report from Vision of the findings was included with the form. Now we will wait to hear if our request is granted and once that happens - Vision will send a Contract for the Statistical Market Update for the town to sign. (Previous cost estimate of \$39,500.00)

New Business: None

Old / Other Business:

1. Nancy asked about the Bridgewater Hollow Bridge #44 that we had correspondence from the State about the weight limit – and fix by adding more timbers to the deck. Vicky has discussed it with Randy and as soon as he can get the bridge cleaned off – he will add the timbers to the deck as was suggested to improve the load rating for the Bridge. Thus, making posting unnecessary.

2. Boisvert Access Permit- Vicky had spoken with the town attorney Mike Tarrant – his suggestion was to inform the Boisvert/Parker's that any access to the ROW from the new driveway is not yet permitted and is illegal. The condition to allow such permit is removal of all obstacles, including the barn. If they want lawful access, that needs to happen. William made a motion to have our attorney send a letter to them notifying them of this violation. Seconded by George – motion passed.

Next Regular Meeting: November 14, 2023

Visitors: Deb Fish wants to meet with the Board about her property – she wants them to make a site visit to discuss a solution. The Board will have a Special Meeting on Friday the 27th at 4:00 p.m. for a site visit to her property. Vicky will warn the meeting.

General discussion of pay raise, Braley RD completion, guardrails on the Center Road. Trees in river by Sturgeon's.

Adjourn: William made a motion to adjourn at 5:23 p.m. seconded by George – motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Young

Administrative Assistant