

## TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

### SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2024

**Present:** William O. Young-Chair, Owen Astbury – Board Member, Melissa Spear –Treasurer, Randy Kennedy –Road Foreman & Victoria Young-Administrative Assistant & Lister

**Visitors:** Dennis Wideman, George Spear, Nope Martin, Robert Wolfreys, Robert Brenna, Chris Stevens, Bruce Maxham, Ryan Palmer – Windsor County Sheriff, Kyle Katz –TRORPC (through Two Rivers Planning Commission), Jessica Louisos – TRORPC, Tom Ayers –VT Standard

**Zoom:** Joan Wideman, Diane Martin & unknown phone caller

**Call to Order:** William called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- \*\* Additions/Changes to Agenda: Ryan Palmer asked to be first on the agenda

**Minutes:** May 28, 2024 Board accepted as written

**Kyle Katz –TRORC** - Resilience Initiative for Vermont Empowerment and Recovery (RIVER) project. Kyle & Jessica were here to discuss this new project that is available to the public. *“TRORC is leading five more regional planning commissions in developing applications to FEMA for flood reduction projects to recover from last year’s floods and avoid some of the repeated damage. This project, known as RIVER, has over a million dollars of planning and engineering funding from VHCB and VEM, setting towns up to apply for tens of millions of dollars in grant funding later this year.”* TRORC will help to develop and prioritize flood mitigation projects. The State is covering the 25% matching funds. Applications are available now through October 2024.

**Highway Report: Updates-**Randy - The Rec Field is cleaned up, the temporary bridge at Jenne Rd is out and they are cleaning up the area. Working on projects with the FEMA Rep, the Loader is good since the repairs.

- ACCESS PERMIT- Leslie Wells- Randy had inspected the site and approved the Permit. The Board signed the Permit. Vicky will send the Notice to Proceed form to them.
- Baker Hill Project- Randy viewed the Baker Hill Road area to the end of the road. The Class three section .03 /mile is in bad shape and needs a lot of work. The whole end section of the road is rough. Randy feels that it needs a lot of work. The Town crew does not have the time or the equipment to take on this project. A rough estimate of the project could be \$100,000. +/- The Board will look at the road and discuss it at the next meeting.

#### **Treasurer’s File:**

- Expense Warrant #20 – E Cks # 2843- #2845 & A/P Cks #21315-#21324 Reviewed and signed by the Board

Melissa also presented a Budget Status Report and a Balance Sheet Report for the Board to review.

**Clerk's File:**

- Liquor Licenses- OQ Farm – Catering Permit June 22, 2024, Mountain Brewery LLC Outside Consumption Permit – Nancy had processed the Licenses before leaving for vacation. William was called and authorized the Licenses. William made a motion for the Clerk to process the Liquor Licenses –seconded by Owen. Motion passed.

**Lister Updates:** Vicky gave an update on the Appeal period. It has been very busy – many callers and people stopping in with questions. The Listers have been available to answer and give people an estimate of the change to their taxes for the coming year. The phone and the in-person informal hearings went well. Notices of any changes will go out in the mail on Wednesday (June 12<sup>th</sup>.)

**New Business:**

- ATV Policy - Dennis Wideman asked to speak to the Board before signing the Policy. He presented a paper signed by residents of Stevens Road & Richardson Road asking the Town to limit the two roads for ATV use to “Local residents only.” After discussion – the Board amended the policy to include Locals Only for both roads. The Board signed the ATV Policy for 2024
- Sheriff Contract - Ryan said there seemed to be some confusion in the proposal's language. Discussion of the Contract- and clarification of the 10 hours per week will include any other calls that may happen along with traffic control. Ryan understands that we need to stay within our budget and will keep communication open with the Board. We have received some revenue this year from traffic fines. *William made a Motion to accept the Sheriff's Contract not to exceed \$32,000.00 for FY 2025 – seconded by Owen. Motion passed.*

**Old / Other Business:**

- Next Meeting – June 25, 2024

**Visitors:** None

**Adjourn:** Being no further business –William made a motion to adjourn at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Young, Administrative Assistant