

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER  
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2019

Draft

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

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

Visitors: Gloria Martin and Bruce Maxham

Peter Fellows and Peter Gregory from Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Planning Commission

New Building Committee Members: Bruce Seely and Josh Maxham

Additions to agenda: P.A. Reid – Third Class Liquor License, board approved and signed.

Brian moved to accept the minutes of October 22, 2019, Nope seconded the motion. Lynne updated the board on the Opiate Litigation Suit, town opted out. Nancy reported that easement deed is in works for the Chateauguay Road turn-around on Schulz property. Motion to approve minutes carried.

**Visitors:** No comment

Pete Fellows and Peter Gregory, TRORC came to discuss the Sand Shed project. Town has received a grant for \$300,000 and has a match of \$74,000, total project \$374,000. Process of grant was reviewed, may be a 3- 5-year process. Town has contracted with TRORC to act as Municipal Project Manager. Original project was costed for a steel frame building but will probably be built as a wooden frame structure. Process includes all requirements for meeting federal requirements including permits. Nope has gotten prices for town to build shed without using the grant of approx. \$400,000. If town were to build the shed without using the grant, town would still have to meet the federal requirements and get applicable permits.

Next step will be for TRORC acting as Municipal Project Manger to put out an RFP for a design consultant. If town does not want to build the new shed with grant funds, can get as far as Final Plan stage before backing out. Board agreed to move forward at this time.

Bruce Seely and Josh Maxham, members of the New Building Committee updated the board on the progress of the proposed new fire station/community room. Since public information meeting last winter and update to board in the spring, committee has explored costs of building other types of building such as concrete and steel. Using plans prepared by NBF which include the fire station and community room, cost estimates are coming back close to the estimated numbers presented last year; 2 million with community room and 1.4/1.5 million without community room. Committee sent out approx. 350 survey's in August to each registered voter household consisting of 4 questions regarding support of the building and support of funding. Had a return response of 27% of voting checklist. Survey results indicated that the combined fire station and community room would be supported. Committee has also investigated grant options through Rural Development which could be used to "outfit" the new station. Also looking at grant opportunities through Village Designation-Buildings and Grounds. Committee members have contacted several insurance agencies regarding coverage cost if town did not have a fire station. Coverage cost would be more expensive to the property owner or maybe denied altogether. Bruce also shared an interactive spreadsheet that can estimate tax increase to property owner depending on amount of assessment to amount bonded/borrowed. Asked board to make a decision as to next steps for committee, proceed with project to bond vote, building with or without community room and amount of bond. Nancy will put item on next agenda for action.

November 5, 2019 minutes cont.

**Highway Report:** Jeff reported to the board that the new Ford 550 has been purchased at the cost of \$46,959. Will be taken to get radio installed. Discussion of recapping tires on 2019 truck, board approved this action. Discussion of garage doors that don't have manual pulls, need to use generator to open doors when power if out. VLCT representative has been to garage to do a pre-oshha inspection. Picked up on several electrical issues. When final report comes in, we will get an electrician to repair and update garage issues including wiring for the generator. Town has 4 portable generators that need to be serviced. Highway Department will take one generator at a time to get serviced, maybe this week. Discussion of Atwood Lane ditching project. Markowski is not making needed stone at this time. May put off project until next spring. Board reviewed and signed the Burnett access permit on Gold Coast Road. Wind storm last Friday knocked down and uprooted several trees around town. Road crew worked all day Friday to cut up trees and clear roads. A large tree was up-rooted on Little Sherburne Road that is bigger than the road crew can take care of this time. Jeff was authorized to hire job done if need be.

**Treasurer's File:** Check warrant (s) # 11 & 12 were reviewed and signed (e-ck #'s 2485-2487 and ck #'s 18548-18578). Payroll Orders (ck #'s 3881-3882 and e-ck's 2983-3004). A current budget status report was given to the board for review.

**Clerk's File:** An Event Serving Permit was approved and signed for Shackleton/Thomas.

**Old business:** Board members reviewed the draft Purchasing Policy. Brian moved to adopt the policy as presented. Lynne seconded the motion and motion carried. Lynne reported to the board the current status of the Old Mill Mall Owners Assoc. tax sale. Attorney has been to both Bridgewater and Woodstock town offices to do title work. Has found several judgements and liens filed against the Mill and Condo unit owners (see attached list). Information from Atty. Barlow reports that due to the financial structure of the Owners Association, statute requires that each unit be sold separately, increasing the legal fees incurred by the town. Also due to the number of liens and mortgages a larger number of entities must be given notice of the tax sale. The original estimated tax sale costs incurred by the town was \$1,000 and now be closer to \$4,000. Lynne notified the attorney to hold off on incurring any more expense until the board determined how to proceed. Tax sale on hold at this time.

**New business:** None

Being no further business, the motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy Robinson*

Nancy Robinson  
Clerk