

**SHARON SELECTBOARD
REGULAR MEETING
June 5, 2017
MINUTES**

Selectboard Members Attending: Mary Gavin, Luke Pettengill, Kevin Gish

Staff attending: Deb Jones, Finance Manager; Road Foreman Tim Higgins, Road crew Brad Howe, Selectboard Assistant Margy Becker.

Visitors: Sue Sellow, Ira Clark, Planning Commission; Susan Root, Bob Dion, Becky Owens, Bonnie Dore; Joel Stettenheim, Norwich Technologies.

Mary Gavin convened the meeting at 6:30PM.

1. Approval of Minutes: May 15, 2017

Luke Pettengill made the motion to approve the minutes of May 15th with one change, as noted, to page 2 item 4: delete sentence pertaining to delivery of patients to nearby hospitals. Kevin Gish seconded. The motion carried.

2. Review & Approval of Warrants:

Check warrants were reviewed and approved.

3. Executive Session – Personnel: Motion by Mary Gavin to enter Executive Session with the Finance Manager and road crew members, separately, at 6:38PM for the purpose of discussing on or more employee evaluations. Luke Pettengill seconded. The motion carried. The Board exited executive session at 7:07PM. No subsequent action was taken.

4. Dion Driveway Permit – 1644 Downer Road:

Selectmen reported they had inspected the location of the proposed curb cut. Tim Higgins stated he would require a culvert be installed. A culvert is noted on the site plan. **Motion by Luke Pettengill to approve the driveway permit application to proposed Lot 3 of the pending Dion Subdivision at 1644 Downer Road. Kevin Gish 2nd. Motion carried unanimously.** The permit will be sent to the Dions, and a copy will be made part of the subdivision records.

5. Crack Seal Bid Award:

Margy Becker noted only one bid had been received. Sealcoating, Inc. of Braintree, MA bid \$1.48/pound for crack sealing Rte. 132. The budget is not to exceed \$12,000. Tim Higgins noted that last year Sealcoating, Inc. finished sealing in one day. This capability will minimize the disruption of construction traffic for the Elizabeth Mine solar project.

Motion by Luke Pettengill, second by Kevin Gish, to accept the bid from Sealcoating, Inc. at \$1.48/pound. The motion carried.

It was agreed that repairs to the joint at the westerly end of the Clark Memorial bridge (B15 over White River) would be completed by the time Sealcoating, Inc. is onsite.

6. Highway Business cont':

Truck bids are due June 8th. Action to award a bid is scheduled for June 19th. It was reported that Mike Clark is putting together prices for replacement or extension of problematic culverts on Harlow and Broad Brook Road. Tim Higgins will forward the estimates to the Selectboard upon receipt. Traffic and road sign upgrades were discussed. The crew has completed a sign inventory. Town Office staff will assist the crew in tabulating data and budgeting for replacements.

Category A Better Roads Grant: road erosion inventory – Selectmen signed the grant agreement with the State of Vermont for implementation of this \$8,000 award. Margy Becker reported the regional planning commission staff will assist with data collection in Summer 2018.

Plans were agreed to for interviews of prospective seasonal road crew members Monday evening, June 12th beginning at 5:30PM. Deb Jones announced FY17 sand hauling was approximately 50% complete.

7. Appointments to Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste District (“GUVSWMD”):

After some discussion Kevin Gish agreed to serve as Alternate to the GUVSWMD. An Alternate is desired in case Mary Gavin, who serves as Representative, cannot attend a board meeting.

A motion was made by Luke Pettengill, seconded by Mary Gavin, to appoint Kevin Gish as Alternate town representative to the GUVSWMD Board of Supervisors. The motion carried 2-0-1 with Kevin Gish abstaining. Mary Gavin signed the certificate of appointments which will be returned to the District staff.

8. Norwich Technologies (Rte. 132 Solar Project):

Planning Commissioners Sue Sellew and Ira Clark joined Selectmen for a meeting with Joel Stettenheim of Norwich Technologies. Mr. Stettenheim reported that the solar installation on Rte. 132 will be a 400 kW DC project. Discussions focused on the Town's concerns regarding lack of conformance with the Sharon Town Plan and the Town's request for landscaping and screening of the solar panels. Joel Stettenheim then reviewed additional concessions NT is willing to make, in return for Town support of the issuance of the Certificate of Public Good. NT has offered to complete a survey of the Day Historic District boundaries at the Town's request, while also helping the Town offset the expense of streetlights. NT was asked to provide a decommissioning plan. An irrevocable standby letter of credit for costs of decommissioning was agreed to. Mr. Stettenheim estimates the

new solar installation will generate property taxes in the \$5,000/year range. Negotiations will continue, and potentially conclude, on June 19th.

Luke Pettengill departs from meeting at 8:05PM.

9. **FY18 Contract for Rescue Services:**

Action on the proposed 3-year South Roylton Rescue (SRR) Ambulance service contract was postponed until June 19th. Mary Gavin will distribute copies of the SRR proposed contract in the meantime. She explained she has always been a supporter of SRR and continues to sit on the Advisory Board. But SRR has never before asked for a 3-year contract to be entered into. Hence, she has supported the Selectboard's "due diligence" research of the costs of other possible ambulance services.

Susan Root, Becky Owens, and Bonnie Dore provided comments in support of South Roylton Rescue. Bonnie Dore recollects a past Town Meeting discussion when voters agreed to support the Rescue Squads evolution into a full-time service. Margy Becker will research minutes documenting those discussions prior to the June 19th meeting.

10. **Appointment of Interim Flood Hazard Bylaw Administrator:**

Motion by Mary Gavin to appoint Margy Becker as interim administrator of the Flood Hazard Bylaw for a period of 90 days. Kevin Gish seconded.

It was clarified that Margy Becker will assist the current applicant, Chris Carroll, and the Development Review Board through the application and hearing phases. Public hearing notices, legal advertising, and other administrative procedures need to be adhered to. The State of Vermont regional floodplain manager is coaching Mr. Carroll as to the technical information that will need to be presented during the DRB's Conditional Use Review.

The motion carried 2-0-0 (Pettengill absent).

11. **FY18 Contract for Community Policing:**

Selectmen developed a brief list of community policing priorities for an upcoming meeting with the Windsor County Sheriff. Mike Chamberlain is due to attend the June 19th meeting to finalize contract provisions for FY18, which begins July 1st. Finance Manager Deb Jones expressed support for the Sheriff's proposal of a \$54/hour flat rate inclusive of mileage charges. Selectmen agreed. The Sheriff's proposal is for 16 hours per week in 4-hour shifts. Increased revenues from traffic ticket issuances could offset a \$2,428 budget overrun for FY18, if the Town contracted for 16 hours/week. Discussions will continue June 19th.

12. **Renewal of Lease with Sharon Academy:**

Discussions were postponed until June 19th.

13. **Green Mountain Mowing – Agreement for Services:**

Kevin Gish made the motion to approve and sign the Agreement for Services with Green Mountain Mowing. Mary Gavin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

14. Finance Manager Report:

Deb Jones presented the State Auditor's Financial Questionnaire, which the Treasurer has completed. The report is archived. The form is supposed to be completed each year.

15. Adjournment:

The motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:58PM. The motion carried unanimously.

Mary Gavin
Luke Pettengill
Kevin Gish

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