

**SHARON SELECTBOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, July 10, 2017**

Board members present: Mary Gavin, Kevin Gish

Board members absent: Luke Pettengill

Staff present: Deb Jones Finance Mgr., Tim Higgins Road Foreman, Margy Becker, Selectboard Assistant;

Visitors: Annie McGreevy, Quentin Lewton, David Fisk (Clifford Farm Rd residents), Representative Tim Brigland, Bruce Weatherell (Fay Brook Rd); Sue Sellew and Ira Clark (Planning Commission), Geo Honigford, Royalton.

Chair Mary Gavin convened the meeting at 6:30PM.

Approval of Minutes:

A correction was made to the June 19 minutes regarding discussions on recent conditions on Fay Brook Road. Third Paragraph second sentence was altered to read “conditions have been slippery due to recent (*add*) heavy rains”.

Kevin Gish made the motion to approve the minutes of July 3rd, July 6, and June 29 as-amended. Mary Gavin seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Review & Approve Warrants:

Payroll and check warrants were reviewed and approved.

Public Comments

Re: Clifford Farm storm damage and washout: Annie McGreevy addressed the need to clean out a culvert at the bottom of Clifford Farm Rd, which clogs frequently and causes the road to wash out. She also stated ditches should be cut. Quentin Lewton commented that water needs to be redirected off the road. He suggested the culvert should be gotten rid of. David Fisk agreed the culvert should not be replaced if yanked. He noted there are 17 culverts along the road.

David Fisk said the Town’s base repairs (tailings from Kenyon pit) were unacceptable and the road was not passable. Residents have put added materials down. And they still need 9 loads of gravel. Dave will place another 10 loads by winter. He further stated that the Town needed to come back and clean up the mess at the bottom of the road, and pull materials back in from the roadsides.

The road crew was directed to clean out culverts on the road. Selectmen and Tim Higgins will conduct an early morning site visit Tuesday to determine whether the problematic culvert is on private land, or within the Town’s ROW. Tim Higgins will also contact the ANR River Management Engineer, Scott Jensen.

Road Foreman Reports:

1. Status of emergency road repairs from July 1 storm event: surface repairs almost complete; the crew will be cleaning culverts next. This will take several days. Tim Higgins will think about whether or not he needs additional help
2. Acceptance of Better Back Roads Grant Agreements: **Motion by Kevin Gish to accept the Better Back Roads grant agreements for bank stabilization on Broad Brook Road. Second by Mary Gavin. Motion carried.**
3. Truck Bid Award – action postponed until July 17 meeting
4. Garage Mezzanine Weight Load - action postponed until structural engineers are contacted; Ira Clark supplied additional names to contact.
5. Fay Brook Road Materials Sampling: Bruce Weatherell stated his concern is the top 2 inches of material on Fay Brook Road. Deb Jones is contacting firms to take and analyze samples. It was agreed that the stockpile at the garage will also be sampled. Bruce Weatherell complained again of stones on the surface, of the reappearance of pot holes, and he requested boulders be removed from the end of Fay Brook Rd.
6. Crack sealing Rte. 132: scheduled for July 17, depending on weather. Tim Higgins is to have Blaktop patch Bridge 15 before then.
7. Broad Brook/Harlow Culvert Repairs (Stultz, Rikert): Tim Higgins reported Paul Boles is updating his prices. He still has not heard back from Mike Clark about replacing culverts with 24” tubes and headers. The Town already has the pipes. Estimate per culvert to install - \$5,000 ea. Selectmen requested the project be put out to bid. Tim Higgins indicated no stream alteration permit is needed. Margy Becker to assist with bidding.
8. Guard rail replacements: VT Recreational Surfacing did not show when scheduled. They will be contacted again.
9. Status of gravel bidding: Deb Jones is waiting for more information before proceeding. No further action taken.
10. Road signage: Deb Jones provided status of road crew sign inventory data. Tim Higgins indicated the crew could tend to road signs on Fay Brook Rd by the end of the week.
11. Status of safety updates at garage: safety repairs are complete

Sharon Flood Hazard Bylaw: Appointment of Administrator

Selectmen met with Geo Honigford, who has expressed interest in serving as Flood Hazard Bylaw administrator. Mr. Honigford described his knowledge and familiarity with the White River and the fact that he also sits on the Zoning Board in Royalton, which implements Royalton’s flood hazard regulations. After further discussions Mr. Honigford inquired whether the Selectboard would back him up on enforcement issues. Selectboard members indicated they would. Planning Commissioners Sue Sellew and Ira Clark noted that the regional floodplain

engineers are available for technical assistance when needed. Mr. Honigford stated he would have to rely on Planning Commissioners and townspeople to help him 'patrol' for violations. Selectmen found this condition acceptable.

Brief discussions followed with Deb Jones concerning the status of employment. Mr. Honigford agreed to assume the position as with 'employee' status, in order that he be covered by the Town's errors & omissions and liability insurance.

Kevin Gish made the motion to appoint Geo Honigford as Flood Hazard Bylaw Administrator for unspecified term. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Sharon Academy - Action on 5-year Lease Renewal

Motion by Kevin Gish to authorize Mary Gavin to sign a 5-year lease with The Sharon Academy for continued occupancy of the Old School House. Mary Gavin seconded. The motion carried.

South Royalton Rescue - Action to Accept Proposed 3-year contract

Motion by Mary Gavin to approve the final revised 3-year contract with South Royalton Rescue, beginning July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2020. Kevin Gish seconded. The motion carried.

Norwich Technologies re: Rte.132 Solar Installation

Selectmen and Planning Commissioners Ira Clark and Sue Sellew met with Joel Stettenheim of Norwich Technologies to review the final changes made to a Memorandum of Understanding and Decommissioning Plan for a proposed solar installation at 2233 VT Rte. 132. Norwich Technologies is waiting for issuance of its Certificate of Public Good, contingent upon final negotiations related to these documents. Joel Stettenheim noted that NT will survey the property prior to installation and note the boundaries of the historic district.

Kevin Gish made the motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and associated Decommissioning Plan. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mary Gavin signed 2 sets of originals. One copy will be archived with the Town.

Executive Session – Personnel:

Kevin Gish made the motion to enter executive session at 8:00pm with the Road Foreman and Finance Manager. Mary Gavin seconded. The motion carried. The Board exited from executive session at 8:35pm, and no subsequent formal action was taken.

Unfinished Business:

OSH Boiler Replacements – ball valve replacement: ARC has installed the ball valves. Margy Becker will contact Engineer Daniel Dupras to request that he perform a final inspection.

Adjournment: Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 9:00pm.

Submitted by, Margy Becker