

SHARON SELECTBOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft)
April 2, 2018

Selectboard Members present: Kevin Gish (Chair), Joe Ronan, Mary Gavin

Visitors: Jesse Lawrence, Larry Swanson

Staff Attending: Deb Jones, Margy Becker, Brad Howe (Interim Road Foreman)

Call to Order: Kevin Gish convened the regular meeting at 7:00pm.

Public Comments:

Jesse Lawrence explained he recently purchased a home on Dyer Road. Road conditions deteriorated quickly thereafter. Brad Howe informed him of recent road maintenance activities there, which could account for the appearance of ‘loose materials’. Mr. Lawrence spoke of what appear to be 3 – 4 ‘seeps’, which could be contributing to mud holes. Brad Howe acknowledged hard pack would be a better material to use on the road. Selectmen assured Mr. Lawrence that summer road maintenance will be scheduled for Dyer Road. Mr. Lawrence also inquired whether or not a particular drainage pipe was on his property or in the Town’s right-of-way. He was informed that since the pipe is under his driveway, it is mostly likely on his property. Regardless, the pipe is his to maintain.

Highway Business: Road Foreman Reports:

Interim Road Foreman Brad Howe met with Selectmen to discuss some maintenance and repair items required at the Town Garage. These include garage overhead light replacements (including lighted exit signs), garage door weatherization, furnace servicing and possible replacement. Margy Becker was asked to follow-up on these maintenance items.

Brad also discussed actions needed concerning a VLCT PACIF safety inspection. Deb Jones reported on her research regarding utilization and purchase of a tire cage (\$900 for cage and kit). Selectmen requested that the crew continue to have tire repairs done by a 3rd party with proper equipment. Action on purchase of a tire cage was postponed until a new road foreman was hired.

Deb Jones explained the VLCT PACIF insurance adjustor has asked whether the Town intends to replace the old Sterling (chloride truck)? She does not support replacing it. Brad Howe suggested the Town have Gorman Brothers swap out the existing chloride tank for a 500-gallon tank that can fit into the body of the one-ton truck. This could happen in May. The importance of washing all equipment was agreed to.

Selectmen and Deb Jones agreed to final modifications to a revised road foreman job description.

Proposed Town Plan Revisions:

Larry Swanson expressed concern regarding a proposal to introduce a 5-acre minimum lot size for areas in Town identified as ‘forest conservation area’. He is concerned that if the Town Plan reflects different acreage requirements for different areas in town, this equates to zoning. He reminded Selectmen that both attempts to introduce zoning within the past 20 years failed. The March 19 Selectboard minutes insinuate that Strafford has 5-acre zoning, but it does not.

Larry Swanson also asked whether the Selectboard could approve these Town Plan amendments without a vote of the people? He was informed yes – currently Town Plan revisions are authorized by majority vote of Selectmen. Proposed revisions to the Town Plan require public hearings first at the Planning Commission level and then at the Selectboard level.

Statutes provide a process whereby this procedure could be changed, and that process would require a vote of the people.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of March 6, 2018 Town Meeting Minutes was postponed.

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded by Joe Ronan, to approve the special meeting minutes of March 19, 2018 as submitted. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded by Joe Ronan, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 19, 2018 with the deletion of the sentence on page 2 “The minimum lot size would align with Strafford’s policy”. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Kevin Gish, seconded by Joe Ronan, to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2018 special meeting at 11:00AM without changes. The motion carried 2-0-0.

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded by Joe Ronan, to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2018 special meeting at 7:30PM without changes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded by Joe Ronan, to approve the special meeting minutes for March 29, 2018 with the deletion of Joe Ronan as attendee and deletion of the words “to move”. The motion carried 2-0-0.

Approval of Warrants:

Check and payroll warrants were approved.

High Risk Rural Roads Finance & Maintenance Agreement:

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded by Kevin Gish, to accept the final revisions to the Finance & Maintenance Agreement for traffic safety signage improvements on Fay Brook Road. The motion carried 3-0-0.

FY19 Paving and Structures Grants:

Margy Becker indicated she would use the new Paving CIP as the basis of the FY19 Class 2 paving grant application. The maximum limiting amount of the grant is \$175,000. The CIP calls for FY19 expenditures of \$688,295. This includes shims, overlays, and chip sealing on several sections of roads not slated for reconstruction

She reported District 4 is seeking FHWA funds for replacement of one of the Rte. 132 culverts that caused problems during the July 1 storm event last summer. Replacement of a second culvert on that same section of Rte. 132 may be eligible for the FY19 structures grant application. VTRANS District 4 staff will be consulted as-needed in order to finalize applications. The application deadline is April 15.

Certification of Compliance with Road & Bridge Standards:

Margy Becker confirmed Brad Howe has been provided a copy of the 2013 Road & Bridge standards.

Motion by Mary Gavin to re-adopt the 2013 Road & Bridge Standards. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Town Policies for Mailbox Replacements and Access to Winter Sand: action postponed

South Royalton Rescue Update:

Mary Gavin reported SRRS Director David Palmer will step down at the end of June. The SRRS is seeking a new Director, the qualifications for which are still being discussed. David Palmer is a trained paramedic. White River Valley Ambulance has contacted SRRS regarding a merger. No decision has been made as of yet.

Annual Appointments:

A motion by Kevin Gish, seconded by Joe Ronan, to make the following appointments carried unanimously:

Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste District Representative – Mary Gavin (2-year term)
Health Officer – Richard Wilson (no term length)
Stagecoach Advisory Board – Brad Atwood (1-year term)
Two Rivers ORC Commissioner – Peter Anderson (1-year term)
Two Rivers ORC Alternate – Deb Jones (1-year term)
Two Rivers Transportation Advisory Committee – Deb Jones (1-year term)
East Central Telecommunications District (EC Fiber) – David Karon (Rep), Clare Holland (Alt) (1-year terms)

Conservation Commission: (1-year terms)

Karen Hewitt, Peter Lowes, Margaret Raymond, Reuben Sotak, Fritz Weiss, Mike Zwickelmaier, Dick Ruben, Scott Chesnut, Eric Boen

Energy Committee: (1-year terms)

Ryan Haac, Dee Gish, Nicole Antal, Mike Barsanti, Margaret Raymond, Jack Jones, Jill Wilcox

Recreation Committee: (1-year terms)

Eric Boen, Samantha Potter, Georgia Potter, Danielle Bird

Cemetery Committee (New): (1-year term)

Denis Backus, David Phillips

Approval of Liquor Licenses:

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded by Joe Ronan, to approve the Liquor License for Tracy's Station. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded, by Joe Ronan, to approve applications for Outdoor Consumption and Liquor Licenses for the Inn at Idlewood. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Annual Re-adoption of Local Emergency Operations Plan:

Mary Gavin noted information under 'typed resources' needs to be updated prior to submittal to TRORC. Contact information for town officials and other organizations should be updated to include the Sharon Community Nurse.

Motion by Mary Gavin, seconded by Joe Ronan, to approve the revised Local Emergency Operations Plan. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Kevin Gish agreed to sign the LEOP upon completion of ICS402 training on April 10th.

Selectboard Assistant Report:

Margy Becker agreed to inquire whether Holden Engineering has staff qualified to oversee pavement borings. Margy Becker will follow-up with Norwich Technologies concerning their Decommissioning Plan and Letter of Credit.

Executive Session:

The Selectboard entered into executive session at 9:17pm to discuss a personnel matter upon a motion made by Joe Ronan, seconded by Mary Gavin and approved 3-0-0.

The Selectboard exited executive session at 9:41pm.

Kevin Gish made a motion to terminate David Armstrong's employment with the Town for the reasons stated in notices that have been provided to him. Mary Gavin seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0-0.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mary Gavin, seconded by Kevin Gish, to adjourn at 9:43PM. The motion carried.

Submitted by, Margy Becker

DRAFT