

SHARON SELECTBOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft)
April 16, 2018

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

Visitors: Martha Cain, Byron Baribeau, Walter Radicioni

Staff Attending: Deb Jones, Margy Becker, Brad Howe, Jon Blakeney

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

Public Comments: there were none.

Road Foreman Reports:

Interim Road Foreman Brad Howe reported the following:

1. Bruce McShinsky has supplied an estimate for repairs to the shed loading dock required by the VLCT PACIF safety assessment.

A motion was made by Mary Gavin to accept Bruce McShinsky's quote for \$2,200 for installation of a railing on the shed loading dock. Joe Ronan seconded. The motion carried unanimously. This work needs to be completed in a timely manner. Brad Howe will follow-up with Bruce McShinsky to initiate the work.

2. Jay Moody, State Fire Safety Inspector, is requiring a **permit** be obtained for fire alarm system installation at the town garage. Steve Fifield has been contacted and instructed to obtain the permit.
3. Nott's excavating had been scheduled by Tim Higgins to fix cracks in **pavement repairs** to Rte. 132 that were performed last October/November. Margy Becker agreed to inform Chris Bump of the issue. Nott's will be asked to confirm when they will make these repairs.
4. Recent culvert inspections indicate action is needed. The culvert located at the infamous 'bump' on Rte. 132 is collapsing. It is a 15" plastic culvert, and not a metal culvert as was expected. This area was not repaired after Irene. Culverts along River Road are beginning to collapse. It was agreed that Brad and Margy Becker will collaborate to draft specifications for an RFP for these repairs. Also included in the scope of work will be culvert replacements on Broad Brook and Harlow Road.
5. Brad Howe inquired whether the Town pays for the cost to purchase road signs for **private roads**. After some discussion Selectmen agreed to continue with existing practice, which is to pay for all road signs as a matter of public safety. Brad Howe will prepare a list of road signs which are a priority for installation.

6. The road crew will switch to summer hours by April 30th, if conditions permit. The crew will be working 10-hour days, Mondays-Thursdays, and the garage will be closed on Fridays.
7. Deb Jones reported she and Brad Howe are registered for an upcoming risk management workshop.
8. Brad Howe will follow-up with AC Lawn & Sweeping concerning cleaning the deck of the steel bridge over the White River.

Selectmen highlighted and forwarded to the interim road foreman, several very positive feedback reports from residents that they have received with respect to recent road work and road conditions, especially given the recent weather events.

Selectmen briefly discussed proposed policies for **mail box replacements** and for **access to winter sand**. Suggested changes were noted. Final policies will be scheduled for adoption at the next regular meeting.

Drum Heller Road Drainage Problem:

Byron Baribeau addressed the Selectboard concerning poor drainage conditions at the pond at the location of two culverts and a dry hydrant. Selectmen and Brad Howe agreed to meet with Byron on-site on May 9th at 7:30am to view the situation during a public meeting site visit. Mr. Baribeau is recommending the Town dig out the end of the town culvert and install a drainage inlet. Additionally, ditches need to be re-established on the hill coming down from Beaver Meadow Road. They may need to be stone lined as well.

Flood Hazard Bylaw Enforcement:

Walter Radicioni expressed frustration with aspects of the Town's existing flood hazard regulations, stating no one knows the boundaries of the zones. He handed back to the Selectboard a flood hazard area permit issued to him in December 2017 for replacement of a pole barn. Mr. Radicioni stated he did not want the permit, because he objected to the conditions on the permit. The Selectboard invited Mr. Radicioni to think about acceptable permit conditions. This offer was declined.

Mr. Radicioni further expressed concern that the Bylaw Administrator, Mr. Honigford, had never asked permission to visit his property at 2911 VT Rte 14 back in February and had trespassed in order to take photographs. Mr. Radicioni stated that there is a witness to this trespass. Mr. Radicioni stated disagreement with Mr. Honigford's claim that he is in violation of the flood bylaw because "junk" vehicles parked on the property constitute a junkyard. He requested the Town keep Mr. Honigford from entering onto his property.

Mr. Radicioni further noted the property had always been a business and was 'grandfathered'. He informed Selectmen he would not accept delivery of the certified mail Notice of Violation. He stated he would not accept service unless it was from a judge.

Mr. Radicioni's final statements were with regards to the sequence of events that had caused dismantling of the pole barn on the property that he is now having to replace and stabilize. He blamed the Town's eviction notice to Ted Kenyon, a prior occupant of the parcel, as the reason the pole barn was taken down 'illegally'. He intends to continue to clean up the property.

Mr. Radicioni was informed of the proper appeal process with regards to his disagreement.

Executive Session:

Jon Blakeney, road crew employee, requested a meeting with Board members. **Motion by Mary Gavin to enter into executive session at 8:20PM to address a personnel matter. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.** The Board exited executive session at 8:51PM.

Mary Gavin made the motion to rescind action to terminate David Armstrong's employment with the Town in order to receive up-dated and relevant medical information. Joe Ronan seconded. The motion carried.

Mary Gavin made a second motion to accept the resignation of Jon Blakeney from the road crew. Joe Ronan seconded. The motion carried.

Selectmen agreed to schedule interviews of candidates for the position of Road Foreman beginning 5:30PM Thursday, April 26th. Applications are due April 19th.

Selectboard Code of Conduct:

Margy Becker explained it is customary for the Selectboard to adopt the Code of Conduct each March after Town Meeting elections. Joe Ronan posed questions concerning conflict of interest language. After further discussions he agreed to provide language changes for consideration at the following meeting.

Designation of 'Paper of Record':

Mary Gavin made the motion to name The Valley News as the 'paper of record' for all legal noticing and announcements. Joe Ronan seconded. The motion carried.

Proposed Town Plan Revisions:

Selectmen discussed proposed revisions to Chapter 14 Land Use of the Sharon Town Plan. Selectmen provided individual comments to be transmitted to the Planning Commission prior to its first public hearing. Those comments include the following concerns and observations:

- Certain background information is no longer true due to the passage of time and facts need to be reviewed;
- There are incorrect references to Village Center Designation;

- Regarding discussions of town roads, please note the Town is not required to take over roads;
- Selectmen expressed some concern regarding a new 5-acre minimum lot size requirement for the Forest Conservation Area. Selectmen wondered if the impact of Town Plan language is really zoning through ‘the back door’?
- Introduction of a 5-acre minimum lot size might imply a future reduction in property valuations in some cases, because you are limiting what owners can do with their property.

Joe Ronan agreed to relay the comments to the Planning Commission at its next meeting.

Annual Appointments – Emergency Management:

Motion by Mary Gavin to appoint Galen Mudgett as E911 Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Kevin Gish and carried unanimously.

Motion by Mary Gavin to appoint Rebecca Owens and Carol Flint as Emergency Co- Coordinators. The motion was seconded by Joe Ronan and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Baxter Library Trustee:

Mary Gavin made the motion to appoint Eileen Lanza as Baxter Library Trustee for the remaining year of a 3-year term expiring March 2019. Joe Ronan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Mary Gavin made the motion to approve the minutes of April 2, 2018 with changes as noted. Kevin Gish seconded. The motion carried.

Joe Ronan made the motion to accept the Town Meeting minutes from March 6, 2018, subject to changes noted and insertion of ‘seconds’ to motions where needed (if recorded). Kevin Gish seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Other business:

It was agreed the Baxter Library Trustees’ policy for behavior of library patrons could provide the foundation for similar policy for behavior of the public in Town-owned buildings. Margy Becker will provide a draft version of a policy for consideration in May.

Margy Becker reported Norwich Technologies has yet to provide evidence to the Town that it has obtained a letter of credit in accordance with its decommissioning plan and Memorandum of Understanding with the Town. Selectmen stated its intent to keep prompting Norwich Technologies for compliance.

Margy Becker reported her to-do list includes website design and development and procurement of expertise for preparation of a building capital improvement plan.

Notice of Violation of Flood Hazard Regulations:

Selectmen revisited their conversation with Mr. Radicioni held earlier in the evening. After further deliberation **Mary Gavin made the motion, seconded by Kevin Gish, that the Town Attorney be asked to pursue enforcement of the Notice of Violation against Walter Radicioni (re: 2291 VT Rte 14) before the Environmental Court. The motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Warrants:

Check and payroll warrants were approved. It was noted salt supplies are very tight. But no additional salt will be ordered at this time. Estimates for the amount of sand that needs to be hauled over the summer were discussed.

Worker's Compensation Audit:

Deb Jones reported the audit had gone well and that the Town could anticipate getting back \$2,600 in premiums. All 941's, job functions and classifications were reviewed. All 1099's were reviewed to confirm the contractors were all actual businesses.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mary Gavin, seconded by Kevin Gish, to adjourn at 9:45PM. The motion carried.

Submitted by, Margy Becker