

Select Board Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2019

Select Board Members: Jared Cadwell (Jared), Chuck Martel (Chuck), Mike Jordan (Mike)

Select Board Assistant: Patti Lewis (Patti)

Road Foreman: Stuart Hallstrom (Stuart)

Minutes Recorder: Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa)

Guests: Kevin Warren (Kevin), and Brian Fleisher (Brian)

Jared called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Chuck made a motion to approve the minutes of April 30, 2019. Mike seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.
2. The agenda was re-ordered to add Brian Fleisher, Waitsfield resident, to speak about his concerns regarding the HUUSD.
 - Brian is troubled about the plan to move 7th and 8th graders from Harwood Middle School to Crossett Brook School as he believes this would effectively close the middle school. He said this violates the orders of agreement and he has threatened a lawsuit if this happens.
 - He is worried about the potential of moving 5th and 6th graders out of the Valley's schools.
 - He feels that these actions would decimate the vitality of our valley and community.
 - He suggested that HUUSD establish (either a new building or repurposing an existing building) a middle school in the Mad River Valley.
 - He voiced his concerns about the expenses that will be incurred as the HUUSD continues to work with a Burlington architectural firm to maintain and update Harwood facilities.
 - He asked that the SB get more involved in these matters and attend the HUUSD meetings.Jared thanked Brian for coming to the meeting and mentioned the HUUSD upcoming public meeting schedule. Jared asked Brian if he had researched the cost of building a new school in the Valley. Brian responded that based on 200 students he came up with a rough estimate of \$12.5 million. He contrasted that with the current Bond that is being discussed by the HUUSD Board.
3. Kevin Warren: Kevin inherited Rapid Fire Camp and 1/10th acre off Sharpshooter Road. He has a clear title for ¾ of the property (the small camp has been removed) but the other ¼ share is in dispute because the heirs/owners have not been found. Kevin asked the SB, that if through tax sale, the town could help him get ownership of the other ¼ so that he can obtain a clear title to transfer the property to his son. His lawyer told him that it would cost approximately 10-12k to research the title himself. He stated that he is uncomfortable paying taxes on a property he does not own outright but will do so if he risks being delinquent on his taxes. Patti told the SB the principal taxes on this parcel are \$506.94. She recently received a letter from David Sunshine, Tax Sale Attorney. David wrote that he has reviewed the statutes and that ALL parties need to be notified if there is a tax sale. One possible solution would be to open an estate for

the deceased (Kevin's uncle) and serve the estate with notice about the tax sale. Jared agreed that this is a complicated legal situation and that the SB would talk more about this issue and get back to Kevin. Kevin told the SB that he is also having the property reappraised since there is no longer a building on it.

4. DRB alternate appointments: John Weir let the SB know that they have the authority to appoint two alternates to the DRB. Chuck made the motion to appoint Nick Skwira and Peter Ludlow as alternates to the DRB. Mike seconded, there was no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

5. Items 5 and 6 on the agenda fall under the umbrella of Town Garage matters and were discussed as one item.

Town Garage: Jared reported that Gunnar McCain will proceed with a site plan survey at the Town Garage and that the work could be completed by the first week of June for approximately \$1900. This survey will include any setbacks, locations of existing structures, man-made places such as the fire pond, and the septic field. No motion was deemed necessary as money has already been set aside.

Sassi camp demolition and gravel pit: Stuart reported that Casella would charge \$1,100 per filled dumpster and that the demolition would probably require three loads. Stuart will also get a price quote from Myers.

Priorities: Jared asked Stuart to talk about scheduled road work and timing for work on the gravel pit. Stuart said his first priority is to clean the ditches and replace guard rails on Bragg Hill. He will also be replacing at least 10 culverts on some of the dirt roads as well as working on clearing out some of those ditches. Mike Quenneville will start the week of the 13th. Stuart proposed that the crew work on demolishing the camp and then strip just enough gravel for road use for the time being until some of the more pressing projects have been completed.

Excavator Rental: Stuart reiterated that renting an excavator for two months this year, instead of one month, would help the road crew get more accomplished and reduce wear and tear on the backhoe. There is \$6,000 in the rental budget, which is about one month's rental. The SB agreed that keeping the gravel pit work moving is a priority and that the extra month rental for the excavator could also come out of the road construction budget.

Vacation: Josh is on vacation from tomorrow until next Wednesday.

Jon Shea residence and road run-off: Chuck met with Jon last week and Chuck and Stuart will visit the site Friday morning. Jon has done a little ditching himself with the help of Tom Emler but would like the town to possibly help before he does more himself.

Equipment: Stuart reported that the pickup is in the shop as the power steering needs replacing. The parts are under warranty but have been back ordered.

6. Liquor Licenses: Jared moved to give Patti permission to sign two catering permits for the Hyde Away for GMVS parties on May 25th and May 31st, 2019. Chuck seconded, no discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

7. Other Business: Patti received an e-mail from Central Vermont Regional Planning informing the Town that for 2020 Census purposes, the Town of Fayston would be split into two blocks –

North and South. Chuck expressed concern about this action. Patti called CVRP and she was assured that this is not a case of redistricting, but rather, a more efficient way to conduct the census and collect more information on jobs, housing, etc. There would be two people conducting the census instead of one. Mike wondered if the information from each block will be kept separate or if they will be aggregated. Jared asked Patti and Chuck to follow-up and Chuck will call Pam from CVRP to help clarify the situation.

At 6:52 p.m. Chuck made the motion to adjourn the SB meeting. Mike seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

The next SB meeting is **May 28, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.** at the Robert Vasseur Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa O. Koitzsch

Approved: Jared Cadwell