

Select Board Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2019

Select Board (SB) Members: Jared Cadwell (Jared), Chuck Martel (Chuck) and Mike Jordan (Mike)
Select Board Assistant: Patti Lewis (Patti)
Road Foreman: Stuart Hallstrom (Stuart)
Minutes Recorder: Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa)

Guests: Wendy and Ben Bridgewater (Wendy & Ben), Eric Baruzzi (Eric), and Mike Quenneville (Mike Q.)

Jared called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Mike made a motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 24, & 26, 2019. Chuck seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.
2. Road Foreman Update:
 - a. Shoulder work is being done on German Flats and N. Fayston Roads. A couple of small culverts will be replaced on Airport Road.
 - b. Stuart will cancel gravel crushing because the Town has enough for this year. He will order it for the spring once the snow is gone.
 - c. Speed limit signs for Fayston Farms have arrived and will be installed sometime next week after Stuart contacts Dig Safe.
 - d. Stuart will work on ditch near Ethan Vasseur's house on Bragg Hill.
 - e. One of the Town's plow trucks has returned from the shop and the repairs, mostly on the brakes, were costly. Jared asked if there were additional maintenance plans (warranty) for trucks when they are purchased and the answer was no. The other truck needs to be inspected and might need a little work.
 - f. The Town is replacing the 2009 plow truck with a new truck that is currently being built and will arrive in mid-January.
 - g. Stuart will prepare the front entrance of the Town Office for paving by installing a drainpipe and clearing the gravel and grass.
 - h. Stuart reported on remaining vacation time for the road crew.

Regarding the construction inside the Fayston Town Office building, Patti reported that most of the work has been done. There are still a few things to fix including replacing the fixtures in the upper bathroom and installing new exterior doors. Karyn Scherer plans to do a walk through sometime next week with the contractor.

3. TAC Appointment (Originally #5 on the Agenda): Jared moved to appoint Matt Lillard (replacing Kevin Russell) as the Town's representative to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). Chuck seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.
4. Town Roads and Bridge Standards Form (Originally #6 on the agenda): The State sent the form back to the SB for completion. The SB voted no on two items pertaining to non-hydrologically connected road segments.

5. Late Filer Penalty – Eric Baruzzi (Originally item #3 on the agenda): Eric asked the SB for an abatement for the penalty he received for filing his Homestead Declaration Form late. He has been a resident of Fayston since 2014. He told the SB his brother-in-law has done his taxes for the last 5 years and that the computer system he used failed to populate his homestead designation and therefore he was charged a penalty of 8% on the education portion of his property taxes. Jared told Eric that late filings cause additional administrative work and the Town has historically charged a percentage on any late filings. In 2015, the SB did reduce the penalty from 8% to 3% and Jared proposed reducing Eric’s penalty to 3%. Eric said he would be amenable to this penalty reduction. Jared made a motion to change Eric Baruzzi’s late penalty fee to 3%. Chuck seconded, no further discussion, all in favor and the motion was approved.

6. Boyce Road Property Discussion (Originally Item #4 on the agenda):
The SB discussed the following items with two members of the Boyce Road Steering Committee (Lisa and Chuck), Stuart, and Ben and Wendy Bridgewater. (See attached document)
 - a. Jared moved to accept the Vermont Land Trust Conservation Easement, Chuck seconded. No further discussion, all in favor, the motion was approved.
 - b. The SB agreed to not allow snowmobiling or trapping on the property in deference to the owner’s concerns.
 - c. The parcel will be named The Boyce Hill Town Forest for the time being.
 - d. The SB agreed that the property transfer process could continue. The next step is to place a legal notice in the Valley Reporter.
 - e. The Conservation Commission will continue drafting the Interim Management Plan (IMP) and the SB will address any public concerns at warned Select Board Meetings. Once the IMP is in place and the property transfer is complete, a long-term management plan will be developed with public hearings and input.
 - f. During budget planning, the SB will consider costs for upgrading Boyce Road, installing a parking area, and winter/summer road maintenance. They agreed to have Lisa and Corrie Miller of the FCC meet with them during the budget process to discuss funding for the long-term management plan.
 - g. The SB agreed that the IMP will be in place until a Long-Term Management plan can be developed through an extensive public process. Lisa will provide the SB with a draft of the IMP by their next meeting on October 22.
 - h. No road improvements will be made before the winter. Plow turn around will be in the same place as previous years; however, Jared will reach out to the Eardensohn’s regarding the use of a log landing a little further up the road for the plow turn around. All agreed that the Saylor’s can continue to park at the plow turn around to access their home in the winter. Agreement was made to develop signage warning people NOT to block the snowplow turn around or access to residences.
 - i. Next year, Stuart will work to upgrade the road and develop a parking area. He will provide cost estimates to the SB for the budget planning process. There was some discussion regarding the difference between Class III and Class IV designations.
 - j. The SB agreed that motorized vehicles would not be allowed on the property, and this includes but is not limited to snowmobiles, ATVs, and dirt bikes.
 - k. The SB agreed that no trapping will be allowed as it is not compatible with other potential property uses such as hiking, walking, and family outings.
 - l. Patti will contact VLCT regarding the Town’s liability for winter and summer use of the pond. The SB decided to not allow fishing at this time.

- m. The SB agreed that hunting WILL be allowed on the property but that no permanent or temporary structures can be placed anywhere on the land. This includes but is not limited to: tree stands, blinds, or tents.
- n. All agreed to installing signage at several locations on the property:
 - 1. Welcome sign with permitted uses on gate at main entrance to property at the top of Boyce Road.
 - 2. No Parking signs for plow turn around.
 - 3. Boundary signs on access trails between private land and Boyce Hill Town Forest.
 - 4. Signage for pond depending on VLCT response.
- o. There was a brief discussion about the extent of brush hogging. Agreement to at least mow from entrance gate to the top of the hill on the existing road access in the spring.
- p. There were concerns about horses on the property regarding liability, trail erosion, and horse manure.
- q. All agreed the need to contact all abutters before land transfer takes place.

7. The SB read mail and signed orders.

8. Other Business:

Patti asked the SB for approval regarding a Hold Harmless Agreement with Mad River Ridge Runners for their use of the Town garage area this winter for electric hookup. The organization does not plan to place a storage shed on the property as previously discussed. All agreed.

The Town Office will be closed on October 14, 2019 for Indigenous Peoples' Day.

At 6:24 p.m. Chuck made a motion to adjourn the SB meeting. Mike seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

The next SB meeting is **October 22, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.** at the Robert Vasseur Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa O. Koitzsch

Approved: Jared Cadwell