

Selectboard members present: Peter Marsh, Tony Porter, Susan Jefferies (Chair)
Others present: Dan Hanson, Wayne Marcelle (Animal Control Officer)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the situation with a dog on Rounds Road that bit Mr. Hanson and what action has been and may be taken by the Town of Starksboro and the town's Animal Control Officer. The meeting was recorded with permission of the attendants.

Dan Hanson reviewed the incident, and noted that the dog that bit him appears to be gone at this time. Wayne Marcelle said that no action was taken at the time of the bite because he was on disability and unable to travel to the site. The Health Officer would have issued the order to quarantine the dog.

W. Marcelle will issue a citation to the dog owners, provided there is no limitation due to the amount of time that has passed. There was discussion about the citation, including whether the dog should be considered a vicious animal in accordance with Starksboro's Animal Control Ordinance. W. Marcelle noted that a vicious dog must be restrained at all times when outside, even on the owner's property. He expects to have the citation ready to be delivered within a week, and will ask a deputy to accompany him to personally deliver it. D. Hanson asked to be notified before the citation is delivered. T. Porter agreed to provide notification.

The Animal Control Ordinance was reviewed. W. Marcelle pointed out that in some cases the ordinance requires dogs to be impounded, but there is no facility in Vermont that will impound a dog that might have rabies. The enforcement provisions were discussed, and W. Marcelle noted that he has not reached the point of having to use Section 12: Enforcement Before the Judicial Bureau. Problems have been resolved by civil penalties in the past.

P. Marsh suggested that a notice be placed in the Gazette and on Front Porch Forum regarding animal control. S. Jefferies will schedule a time for the Animal Control Officer and the Health Officer to attend a Selectboard meeting to review communication and responsibilities.

Other Business: Rick Davis provided a quote of \$500 or less to paint the porches at the town office. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Jefferies