

Minutes of Selectboard meeting

July 11, 2017

Selectboard members present: Tony Porter, Keegan Tierney, Koran Casey

Other present: Celine Coon, Tom Estey, Bill Coon, Arnell Paquette, Eric Clifford, Dennis Casey, Sam Carlson, Kerry Kurt, Dan Nugent

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM

Timing of Agenda was adjusted to accommodate a visitor

Minutes – Board reviewed changes to the minutes of June 6. K Tierney made the motion to accept the minutes of the June 6 meeting as amended. K Cousino seconded, all in favor.

K Cousino made the motion to accept minutes of the June 23rd Special Meeting. K Tierney seconded, all in favor.

Road Foreman: Tom Estey reported that the crew is working on ditching and lining the ditches. He talked about the grant that the Zoning Administrator applied for. There was discussion of the situation with the moving of the stakes for the land sale. Tom stated that no one on the road crew moved any stake. The maps were reviewed trying to determine what was moved. There was discussion. Tom was heading up to Lincoln to explain how the towns exchange help in a road situation.

OLD BUSINESS

Reclassifying Mason Hill North/ South and Brown Hill Roads: A date needs to be set for the public meeting. There was discussion, needs to meet all the legal warning requirements. Agreement was made that Tuesday August 22 at 6:30 at the Robinson School. Celine will check to see if school is available for that date.

School Property Seems to be moving forward T Porter will follow up L DuPont

Land Sale K Tierney reported that the reclamation affidavit was not accepted by the Agency of Natural Resources. There was discussion about how best to proceed. K Tierney will call Geoff Greene from the ANR to come out for a site visit.

There was further discussion. K Cousino thought that the board should wait for S Jefferies to return to take further steps. K Kurt outlined her thinking in regard to moving the stakes marking the boundary line adjustment. K Tierney explained that if the lines were not as presented on the map used for applications, the applications would have to be redone. K Tierney is unwilling to spend more time on this land sale issue which is delaying other important Town business to

work on this one item. Further discussion concluded that all prior applications would have to be redone if boundaries were moved.

B. Coon again formally asked the board to terminate the Purchase and Sale Agreement with extension, since all criteria continue to be incomplete. D. Casey agreed, adding that this process will linger on forever if not terminated. D Nugent stated that in light of the stakes having been moved, we should get a legal clarification in light of the changes. E Clifford asked for clarification on the legality of the current map. Discussion followed. K Cousino wanted to make the point clear that no single board member has been designated to speak on behalf of, or represent the board in any matters, other than the board chair.

Green Lantern Solar: Sam Coleman reviewed what has happened in the past couple of months. He met with the Starksboro Planning Commission, where that entity made a motion to support the project. S Coleman presented the board with 3 - 20 year lease agreements, one for each proposed parcel. Green Lantern would give \$500. for signing a letter of intent to move forward. The terms would be \$3,000 per year in years 1 – 10 and \$3500 in 11 – 20. There was discussion about the size of the project and capacity of Green Mountain Power lines. It is GMP who make the determination on size. There was further discussion about the Parsonage Road site, Regional Planning would need to sign off. T Porter mentioned that a neighbor to the capped landfill has an approved PRD. It would be good to run this solar array concept past him. S Carlson was asked to come back in September, when there may be further movement on the School land.

Town Web Site: Rebecca Elder spoke to board members and others concerns that the web site needs to be more user friendly. There was discussion around costs and ease of use. It was agreed that the sited needs to be mobile friendly. R Elder will contact the folks who currently use/update the web site. Sources of funding were discussed.

Land Sale discussion was resumed. T. Porter asked K Kurt if she felt she had met all the conditions for extension. She said "yes." T Porter asked when Donald Johnston, surveyor, was going to set the pins. She said the plan for setting pins was for the last week in July. T Porter again asked about the June 30 deadline, "so the pins were not set by June 30th?" K Kurt responded that because the Town had to reapply to the ZA, that 2nd application was not signed until July 6. K Cousino read the motion from the special meeting, listing the criteria to be met by June 30th. B Coon again formally asked that the contract be terminated, since the criteria had not been met. He asked if there was documentation showing that the criteria had been met on June 30th. There was no reply from either K Kurt or the board. D Nugent asked for the lawyer to look over the list that was to be complete by June 30th, to see if they were accomplished. Lengthy discussion followed. D Casey pointed out that at Town Meeting 2016, the townspeople were assured that this land sale would not cost taxpayers any money. That is no longer the case.

K Cousino made the motion to go in to executive session at 8:10 in order to discuss a real estate transaction. K Tierney seconded, all in favor.

The board returned from executive session at 8:45. T Porter stated that no action was taken in executive session, but the currently filed map will continue to be the map of record.

K Tierney made the motion to invite Dave Wetmore to the July 25th meeting to discuss the open Selectboard assistant position. K Cousino seconded, all in favor.

K Tierney made the motion to instruct the Treasurer to pay the bills as presented. K Cousino seconded, all in favor.

August meetings will be 1st and 15th

K Tierney made the motion to adjourn at 8:52, K Cousino seconded all in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Celine Coon

Starksboro Town Treasurer