

Starksboro Selectboard Minutes Aug 1, 2017

Selectboard members present: Susan Jefferies, chair, Peter Marsh, Tony Porter, Keegan Tierney, Koran Cousino, for executive session

Others present; Tom Estey, Road Foreman, Bill Coon Kerry Kurt, Peter Newton, ACSD, Donald Keeler, ACSD, Celine Coon, acting clerk, James Runcie, Town Attorney

S Jefferies called the meeting to order at 5:34

T Estey said the pins were set on the land, in preparation for the closing on the land sale. The 1 ton is currently not leaking. He is continuing summer work, creating an attachment to clean under the guard rails. If purchased new, this would be a 15–20 thousand dollar piece of equipment. Road crew plan is to work on Big Hollow and States Prison Hollow. Paul worked on winter sand. Tom went to TIMS training at the fire academy. S Jefferies asked about the Better Back Roads grant. D Wetmore is supposed to be following up. Tom mentioned that Chris Zeno will be going through the woods and a portion underground for the power from Big Hollow to his sugar works on Brown Hill West.

Minutes were reviewed for the July 25 meeting. S Jefferies asked that the tax rate be broke out as .5559 for the Town and .0009 for the Veteran's portion. T Porter made the motion to accept the minutes with amendments, P Marsh seconded, all in favor

Mail was opened and reviewed. S Jefferies went over the questions for the Telling audit questionnaire for Governance. She asked for any input from the board, the survey was completed and signed. It will be mailed to Telling and Associates.

There was discussion about the 251 State program for tourism. P Marsh will repost the link. Waiver forms are available at the Town Office for anyone submitting photographs.

The quotes for carpeting the conference room and ZA office were reviewed. T Porter made a motion to accept the bid from Countryside in Middlebury, at \$2267. K Tierney seconded, all in favor. B Coon asked who was going to move all the furniture?

K Tierney reviewed a questionnaire from Vermont Family Forest. This is probably better handled by Conservation Commission.

P Marsh reported on his visit with Dave Russell regarding the sight lines for possible solar installation at former landfill. D Russell did not feel there would be any problem siting the solar. D Russell would like to meet with the board regarding a commitment he felt a prior board made to him regarding water quality for his PRD.

T Porter reported on the Jerusalem School meeting that he a K Tierney attended. Items discussed were:

- Warning for Town Meeting requesting appropriation
- Grants
- Future contact with Jeff Dunham for architectural help

- Considering the fire station a S Starksboro hub or emergency shelter
- Question about well being adequate for increased usage
- Are setbacks correct, Greg Orvis will check with D Wetmore
- Other entities using building
- Questions about Home Dem lease
- Fire Department in agreement that renovation is the best option
- May be able to pursue Historic Preservation
- Would it be easier to do this as 1 combined project or 2 separate?

P Marsh handed out the Capital Maintenance spreadsheet with projects and history. There was discussion of projects and priority.

Sheriff Keeler arrived and explained that staffing is back at full capacity after some shortages. The will be working on more efficiencies. Mileage charge will be reduced to .50 per mile, but labor will increase \$2/ hour. He presented a new contract for signature. The contract begins Sept 1. It will be reviewed at the next board meeting. There were questions about weekend coverage, which would involve time and ½ . We are getting some of our coverage covered by a grant. T Porter asked if the Town could ask for specific roads to be covered at specific times. P Newton said any requests of this nature should be emailed directly to him. He handed our contact information. One of the new officers will do truck patrols, important to Starksboro because of 116 and 17.

J Runcie arrived. K Tierney made the motion to go in to executive session to discuss a real estate transaction, P Marsh seconded, All in favor. K Cousino joined the meeting via conference call.

Board came out of executive session at 7:47. S Jefferies summarized the executive session as clarification of whether the Selectboard should proceed or cancel the proposed land sale. The board's unanimous decision was to proceed. P Marsh made the motion to proceed with the land sale with the Board Chair, or Vice Chair authorized to sign on behalf of the Town at the closing. T Porter seconded, all in favor.

S Jefferies noted that if the decision to sell land were to come before the board today, it would not be done.

The Board agreed that there would be a 30 day appeal period regarding Geoff Green's jurisdictional opinion of the Act 250 permit.

B Coon asked if criteria from a previous extension had indeed been met. He stated the list of criteria. He was told that J Runcie has agreements from all parties. The mylar needs to come in for recording. There was further discussion.

K Tierney made the motion to adjourn at 8 PM, Peter seconded, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Celine Coon, acting clerk