

## Starksboro Selectboard Meeting Minutes September 5, 2017

Attending: Susan Jefferies, Selectboard chair, Peter Marsh, Tony Porter, Keegan Tierney, Koran Cousino, Tom Estey, Jon Fenner, James Carroll, David Wetmore, Josh Audy, Valli Audy, and Lewis Barnes

Road Foreman report: Tom Estey reported on an insurance claim resulting from a minor accident involving a Town vehicle. He reported that brakes are being installed on the chloride application trailer and it is being registered. He also reported that a log operation had skidded logs on a Class IV section of Brown Hill Road but he had inspected the road and it had been restored to better condition than before the logging.

T. Estey and the Select Board signed off on an approval of a driveway permit for Glynda McKinnon at 3249 Ireland Road. The Board discussed adding the driveway standards from the current Zoning Plan to the Driveway/Accessibility permit form.

J. Fenner spoke to the SB about having applications to the DRB and other related activities disseminated to the public more widely than currently. He offered to help facilitate linking information from the Town website to Facebook. D. Wetmore suggested that the SB should establish a policy stating what media would be official outlets for the Town. At present the Town publishes official notices in the Addison Independent and posts warnings for public meeting in three locations in Starksboro: the Town Office, the Post Office bulletin board and the Jerusalem Store bulletin board. SB minutes are on the Town website and are summarized monthly on Front Porch Forum.

J. Fenner also inquired about whether the SB had considered the need for enhancing its cybersecurity and offered to do a pro bono audit of the Town's security protocols and data backup schedules.

The minutes of the Aug. 16 SB meeting and the Aug. 22 Road Reclassification hearing were approved by motion. The orders to be paid by the Treasurer were approved with a question about a Waitsfield Telecom bill.

A motion was made by T. Porter to enter an executive session to discuss probable civil litigation about a zoning issue. This was seconded by P. Marsh and approved unanimously by the SB. T. Porter made a motion to go into executive session with attorney James Carroll and Starksboro Zoning Administrator David Wetmore to allow confidential attorney-client communications with the SB the premature disclosure of which might disadvantage the Town. This was seconded by K. Tierney and also approved 5-0 by the SB. The SB entered executive session at 6:37 pm.

The SB returned to open session at 7:35 pm. No action was taken.

Road reclassification: The SB scheduled a site visit to Brown Hill, Perry Sweet and Mason Hill Roads for Tuesday, September 12 meeting at the Town Office at 4:30 pm.

Solar farm possibilities: The SB agreed to invite David and Janet Russell to our next meeting to discuss a possible solar energy project at the closed Town landfill which borders their property as well as Sam Carlson from Green Lantern Group.

Projects in progress: The SB discussed the status of the repair of the Town Office porch and heat pump roof, the vault roof and the Firehouse roof as well as interior cleaning and maintenance issues.

Selectboard Assistant: The SB discussed the position of Selectboard Assistant and the two applicants for the position. K. Tierney moved to offer the position to Rebecca Elder and P. Marsh seconded. The SB voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Land Sale: The SB voiced no objections to the language of the Affidavit and Certification of Abandonment of an oil and gas lease from 1982 to the former Cota Farm property. The SB has authorized Board Chair S. Jefferies to sign this agreement and other documents at the closing on the property scheduled for Friday, Sept.8, 2017.

The SB moved to adjourn at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Marsh

Agenda items for the next regular meeting September 19 or future meetings:

Solar project at closed landfill

Road reclassification

On-going projects or topics: building repairs, State Prison Hollow speed study, zoning enforcement, Town IT needs, Town information dissemination policy, driveway access form