

Starksboro Selectboard minutes

June 4, 2019

Unapproved

Present: Koran Cousino, Keegan Tierney, Nancy Boss, Tony Porter

Unable to attend: Eric Cota

Others present: Rebecca Elder, Chuck Webber, Steve Eustis

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Koran Cousino.

Changes/Additions to the agenda:

1. Complaints about property along Route 116 south of village – dog issues, refuse
2. Cuttings tree/solar

Visitor business

Chuck Webber, the new Animal Control Officer (ACO), brought an update on recent dog complaints.

- Mason Hill N – Chuck talked to owner and ACO from Huntington regarding complaint about dog running loose. One is a Starksboro dog, others are not.
- Shamrock Dr. - Unregistered dogs; neighbors have complained that they are frequently chased or threatened by dogs off leash.
- Hillside MHP – unregistered dog off leash; owner has been reminded to register and dog needs to be on a leash.
- ACO will proceed with issuing ticket/violations as needed.
- 48 names of delinquent dog licenses – Chuck will be following up with these people.

Road Foreman's Report

- Replacing culverts that are needed throughout town.
- Saplings by the solar panels – Both the Energy Committee and the Runcies offered to cut down saplings. The board discussed liability and when/how trimming should be done. SB will follow up so trees are trimmed as needed.
- Steve Eustis came in to seek approval from the board to make improvements to Rounds Road. He owns property at end of Rounds Rd. He came in 2 years ago to talk to the town about electric pole placement along the road; the power co. is moving the poles.
 - The board approved Steve's request with the following caveats:
 - Person performing work must have proof of liability insurance for the Town.
 - Steve will contact Armand Niquette regarding the trees he proposes removing.
 - Extending one culvert, adding middle one, and extending last one.
Work to be done later in the summer.

Current Biz

- No new information on Class 4 road signs – put on future agenda when information is received.
- Personnel Policy – final edits to be incorporated:
 - Vacation policy – accrued by hours worked. Job descriptions shall include the regular number of hours to be worked in a position which will determine vacation hours earned. Employees can carry a max. of 80 hours and roll-over to the next year.
 - Sick leave – Current policy has 6 sick days per year. New policy will raise sick leave to 80 hours per year.
 - Short-term, long-term, life insurance (\$10K policy) to be added.
 - Rebecca will enter final edits and produce final policy to be approved and signed.

Year-end review of budget:

- Legal fees should not be debited to individual line items such as zoning or roads, etc. Legal services are for the town as a whole, unless there is a unique circumstance. Rebecca asked about legal fees associated with zoning work and the board stated these are town legal fees.

Motion: Keegan Tierney made a motion to approve and sign the agreements with VC3 to provide IT services for a firewall and managed services, not to exceed \$5000 per year. Nancy Boss 2nd.

Discussion: none

Motion carried.

Zoning updates

- The Shangri-La/Harris hearing is closed. The DRB is in deliberation and will render a decision within 45 days.
- The Bissonnette/Denice hearing was continued to 6/13/19.
- Shamrock Dr. complaints – Town will provide resident with information about State regulations and application for a “salvage yard” as defined and outlined in State statute.

Conversation with NEMRC -

Advise we need a keeper of passwords
Koran will talk with Celine

Approval of minutes

Motion: Keegan Tierney made a motion to approve the minutes of 5/21/19. Tony Porter 2nd

Motion: Tony Porter made a motion to approve the minutes of 5/28/19. Nancy Boss 2nd

Motions carried.

Bills/Orders

Motion to approve the orders/warrants as presented by the Treasurer: Tony Porter moved, Nancy Boss 2nd.

Motion carried.

DRB Appointments

Motion: Tony Porter made a motion to re-appoint Richard Warren and Arnell Paquette to the DRB for a 3-year term. Koran Cousino 2nd.

Motion carried.

Mail review:

- Hazardous waste day well attended
- The board signed the accessibility permit for VEC for power pole placement along Big Hollow Rd north of Shaker Hill, towards Hinesburg Hollow Rd.
- The town successfully applied to VLCT for a PACIF grant. The town received notification of the grant award. The grant will help fund the purchase of two ergonomic work stations for the town clerk's office staff, as well as some other safety and prevention items for the town including road signage for emergencies.

Tony Porter departed.

Interview planning: The board discussed plans for the road crew foreman interviews to be conducted in two weeks. Rebecca will confirm time and location with the applicants. The group discussed the type and variety of questions to be asked. Rebecca will assemble a draft list of questions and circulate to the group for feedback and to make final prior to the interviews.

Motion to adjourn: Keegan Tierney made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Nancy Boss 2nd.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Elder

Next meeting: June 18, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. (Interview times to be confirmed; interviews to be conducted in executive session.)

DRAFT