

Starksboro Selectboard
Minutes of 2/4/20
Unapproved

Present: Nancy Boss, Koran Cousino, Keegan Tierney
Unable to attend: Greg Hahr, Eric Cota
Others present: Rebecca Elder, Tony Porter, Robert Turner

Koran Cousino called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Road Foreman's Report

- Ben Roberts Rd site –hydrologic study needed; State is 6 months out in scheduling those studies. This is one of the largest problem sites in town other than Brown Hill East. Tony Porter will call Otter Creek Associates to ask for a price to do this study and if they are available soon.
- Tony and Rebecca attended the recent meeting regarding the FEMA storm event of October 2019. The town can get reimbursements for administrative work based on their rate schedule. The town is registered into the project tracking portal and we are awaiting assignment of a project manager.
- There is a road structure grant available from the State. The town can apply but it may not be good timing due to capacity and work anticipated. The 1928 bridge on Jerusalem Rd needs to be replaced. The board thinks it would be good idea to pursue these funds and doesn't want to defer work that needs to be done. They asked Tony is there a smaller project this year that would be worth pursuing instead. Tony hopes to get an answer regarding funds that could be used for the Brown Hill East project.
- Truck 3 (2016) was in to the shop. The clutch will need replacing soon.
- 86 plow trips so far this season
- Tony requested start the roads budget planning earlier next year. He asked what had been cut from the highway budget in the final budget proposed. \$12,000 total, guardrails and plow blades.
- Six month employee review will be scheduled in the next 2 weeks.
- The board discussed the proposed parking ban. The crew continues to see vehicles parked in the roads creating dangerous conditions for the plow trucks and for other travelers. Tony wants to issue warnings. The board will continue this discussion and Rebecca will research some other policies and whether an ordinance is needed or if State law gives the authority to tow when needed. Letters will be send to residents on Mason Hill North and Ireland Road about this issue in the public right of way.
- The board approved and signed the annual Certificate of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory.
- The annual Act 64 payment will be due soon. Tony will check on the due date.
- The board discussed the possibility of posting the roads for the spring mud season. Many other towns do. Discussion to continue at a future meeting.

Wireless Communication Request

Postponed to a later date – to be scheduled in March.

Budget and Town Report

Robert Turner attended and reviewed the work he has done since the last meeting. He and Celine Coon met several times and have completed many research items and clarification. . .

There will be a new auditor after town meeting. Robert will talk with retiring auditor Peter Ryersbach about the tasks he has been performing over his tenure and his monthly meetings with the Treasurer.

The new budget needs to be entered into NEMRC. Robert recommends the board review capital budgeting throughout the year so it can be revisited easily when the budget season arrives.

Action Items:

Electric Vehicle Charging Station grant

The board reviewed the grant report and request for disbursement to be submitted to the State.

Motion: Nancy Boss made a motion to approve the grant report as presented. Keegan Tierney second.

Motion carried.

Koran Cousino signed the certification requesting disbursement.

Warrant for Bills/Orders

Motion: Keegan Tierney made a motion to approve the warrants for bills and orders as presented by the Treasurer. Nancy Boss second.

Motion carried.

Minutes deferred – no quorum of attendees.

Motion to adjourn: Nancy Boss made the motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Keegan Tierney second.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Elder
SB Assistant

Next meeting:
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2020

Town Meeting:
Saturday, February 29, 2020