

Vershire Selectboard Minutes for 10/13/2020, Approved

In attendance (via "Zoom") Vernal Stone-Chair, Marc McKee, Sarah Thrasher, Gene Craft-Admin. Asst., Alan Lyford, HW Foreman, Debra Kingsbury-Sec'y. Guests: Michelle Massa, Justin Will, Ken Bushey

Vernal Stone called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Highway Foreman report: Lyford stated that the Cargill salt price seemed competitive and recommended that the Board approve and sign the contract for same. McKee moved to accept the deicer salt bid. Thrasher seconded and all were in favor. Craft stated that he had drafted a letter to the Mero Road property owner that needs to be reviewed/signed by all parties acknowledging that the repaired bridges and culverts will become the property of the Town, prior to the permit to complete the repairs being issued. The Board moved and voted to authorize Craft to sign the letter to T. Lewis on the Board's behalf. Lyford stated that Rita Seto from TRORC will come next week to document/photo the ditching project on Durgin Hill to complete the grant application. Lyford informed the Board that the new Western Star was losing anti-freeze but that the EGR valve was covered under warranty. The Highway crew is servicing the equipment now prior to winter demands. He added that the sand pile is ready.

McKee noted that he had received comments about the ditching projects/widening of roadways on Moody, Durgin, Rowell/Cross Roads and wondered about budget impacts. McKee will explain about the grant projects that many towns have been given to bring the roads up to state standards. McKee added that he was also asked about a recent complaint about "Junk Yards". Craft noted that "Junk" yards (otherwise known as Salvage Yards) are monitored by the State but that some establishments have been caught with not being able to offset some of their expenses with the recent lowered steel prices. Thrasher updated the Board that Allen LaFlamme at Allen's Affordables & Salvage Yard had reached out to her about his plan for continuing to remove vehicles from his site. The State has been there to review his progress and LaFlamme hopes to resume crushing/removing more vehicles in the spring.

Ken Bushey stated that he had sent a drawing for the Board's review for the potential layout of the project at 815 VCR. Craft has interacted with Krebs & Lansing to fine-tune the proposed drawing and prepare the application to ANR. The Board reviewed the drawing and discussed the impervious surface areas. The Board agreed there would have to be adjustments made to work around the original structures, the well, and septic already on the site. The plan indicates an area for a 115x50 ft highway garage and a 100x55 sand & salt shed. Bushey and the Board reviewed the cost proposal that Krebs & Lansing submitted in January to prepare and submit the plans & application to the State. McKee is still researching any impact fees should the placement of the driveway or other aspects of the project encroach any buffer areas, or if the fees may be waived for municipalities. Bushey and Lyford will speak to the engineers and clarify the costs for the next steps, but all present agreed it best to keep moving forward and follow-up at the next meeting on 10/27/20. Massa wanted to commend the Board for presenting an alternative proposal for the placement of the buildings/driveway at 815

VCR after the recent feedback from townspeople. Thrasher made the motion for Bushey, Lyford, and a Board member to interact with Krebs and Lansing to finalize the proposal to the State. McKee seconded and all were in favor.

Thrasher asked if the Board might reconsider renting out the existing cabin at 815 based on feedback they got at a previous meeting. Stone asked if it should be rented as office space versus housing and did add it would be advantageous to have someone at the property to monitor during the colder weather. McKee offered to extend some feelers to see if anyone at the Mountain School was in need of local housing/ 6 month rental. Stone noted that he wanted to have the furnace serviced prior to anyone using. Thrasher added that perhaps an article might be placed asking for proposals for best use of the land/field area at 815 VCR and ask residents to submit their ideas/proposals for review to the Board. Orchards and community food plots come to mind, stated Thrasher, and she will draft a plan. Future solar panels to generate power were briefly discussed. Justin Will stated that he liked the plans that the Board is researching.

The Board of Civil Authority is meeting on 10/15 at 6:30 via zoom to review the check list prior to the election and discuss the poll work schedule.

Fill-in/substitute personal at the Durgin site was discussed. Lyford may be able to assist, but was scheduling undercoating for the highway trucks for Saturday.

Painting the Cupola and the rear wall at the Town Center building was reviewed. A local painting company was previously approved. They will need to rent a man-lift and to get paint supplies. The Board authorized \$2500 to be issued to the painting contractor. The contractor has started the scraping. Other sides will have to be addressed/painted in the spring.

Massa inquired as to the progress for the clean-up at a Parker Road site. McKee stated that the Health Officer, S. Atwood, was working with the individuals to get it resolved.

Minutes for 10/15 and 10/29 were approved as amended. Orders will be reviewed and signed when Board members can access the town office individually.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.