

Selectmen Meeting Minutes – June 6th, 2018

PRESENT:

Selectmen Chair: Errol S. Peters

Selectmen: Michael M. Ransmeier & Jennifer Locke

Administrative Assistant: Karen M. Demers

Road Agent: Andy Brackett

In Attendance: Florence Webb, Pat Webb, Gayle Clement, Karen's Husband

OPEN SESSION:

The selectmen began their normally scheduled meeting at 7:00 pm by reviewing correspondence and paying bills from the previous week.

Town Grader: Errol and Andy found a suitable town grader. In discussion Errol listed the costs he'd found for leasing \$2500-\$3500/month depending on company, and rental \$900-\$1200/week not counting delivery transportation costs both directions, this option would have the challenge of possibly not being able to get it when needed.

The grader option to buy that was found was in Richmond, VT through a local dealer the price delivered which included the trade-in value for ours was \$110,000. The grader was discussed at length, positive attributes included well taken care of by previous owner, has a wing which will come in handy during the winter and reduce wear and tear on the plow truck. It has joystick controls making the driving and operation easier. The company offered roughly double the trade-in value for the old grader compared to values provided by other companies. The purchase was recommended by Errol and Andy, and the vote to purchase passed unanimously.

Road Agent Update: Road sign improvements were made this past week including adding a double arrow and a T sign by Gale Chandler Road. Errol asked about school signs by Blue School and Andy replied he would take a look to see whether any were needed.

Grading was done last week on foster hill road, and water bar repairs were made along Moses Clark Rd. The mower is up and running, and the section along Rabbit Path which needed additional stone on the shoulder was taken care of. No additional concerns have been raised by Danny Dodge regarding the stump removal and Andy had previously notified him that if he had any remaining concerns he could contact the board, it is believed at this time that the issue is completed.

Emergency Management – Pat Webb: Pat presented a letter showing that one of the FEMA claims for storm washout damages he and Andy had been working on had been closed out, and he recommended that the money \$4,854.08, when it arrived be returned to the highway department budget as that was where the expenses for repairs had been taken out of. Errol and Mike agreed that in the past that was where funds were placed and all agreed that was where they belonged. There is a new woman representing FEMA in our area that Pat is working with for the next claim. The threshold for FEMA claims is \$3170, and Andy took pictures of the repairs that were needed from the last washout.

Fire Services Committee Request: Karen completed the requested financial information for the Fire Services Committee showing town expenses for the fire department. The report includes the breakdown of expenses that equal the total in the town reports, as well as additional expense detail requested by the committee for workmans comp and liability insurance and diesel which are not usually broken out specifically for the fire department.

The Fire Services Committee also requested a letter from the Select Board authorizing the committee to meet with the Lisbon Select board in order to ask their questions. Jenn raised concerns about whether it would be more beneficial to have the Landaff Select board along for the meeting so that a specific contract could be negotiated for the town to review when learning about the options. The other board members felt that a meeting like that would be premature, and agreed that if the Fire Services Committee comes to the select board and requests the board to get specific financial information/negotiate a contract then the board would proceed but not until that time. The board strongly felt that the services committee should be able to proceed in any way they deemed fit and that the select board should support their efforts by providing the letter. The letter was signed by all 3 board members.

Wet land property question: A letter was discussed from a couple interested in purchasing 39 acres of wetland by Gale Chandler, they had several questions and will be attending the board meeting on 6/20 to discuss.

Karen Demers Resignation: Karen gave a letter to the board resigning, gave 2 weeks notice, and was approved to use those 2 weeks as vacation time, and she updated them as to the status of her tasks. The board accepted her resignation with regret, the motion was moved and 2nd and passed unanimously. The board drafted a job opening ad which Karen typed up and submitted to the Caledonian Record. It was agreed that ads would also be posted in the Bridge Weekly and on Craigslist. Errol will follow-up on the timber tax status giving those who are tardy in their filings 1 week from mailing the reminder letter to file the appropriate paperwork or the board will have to assign doomage.

Cooley-Jericho Community Forest: ACT is hosting a get together of select boards of the four towns involved to tour the forest and understand what it's all about, Jenn will try to attend. Gayle Clement talked with Rita Poland who is not interested in continuing as town rep for the community forest, Errol will call Marilyn Booth to let her know about the Thompson logging operation on the conservation easement land and to see if she is interested in being the 2nd town rep.

Reviewed minutes from the 5/30 meeting: Jenn will make the changes as discussed and bring the minutes back for signing. Heidi Sagar was appreciated for filling in on the minutes taking.

With no further business to discuss, the Board of Selectmen's meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm. The foregoing minutes were approved on June 27, 2018 by the following members of the Board:

Errol S. Peters

Michael S. Ransmeier

Jennifer L. Locke