

SELECTBOARD MEETING

*Approved Minutes*

April 9, 2012

7:00pm Calais Elementary School

**Attending:** Denise Wheeler, John Brabant, Mike Garand, Toby Talbot, Scott Bassage, Alfred Larrabee, Donna Fitch, Rolf Mueller, Peter Harvey, Dan Weston and Rose Pelchuck.

**Actions:**

Approval of the March 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes – The Selectboard reviewed the Minutes with one word change noted. Toby Talbot made a motion to approve the Minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 3-0-1. Scott Bassage abstained. John Brabant arrived after the vote.

Town Invoices and Road Commissioner's Orders of the Day - The Selectboard reviewed and processed the invoices and orders of the day as per usual protocol.

Beaver Management Training – Denise Wheeler advised those present about an upcoming training on beaver management. Scott Bassage is planning to attend.

Road Sign Training– Denise Wheeler announced the Road Crew all passed the road signs annual training.

Road Commissioner Update – Alfred Larrabee discussed repaving figures for the County Road. If the road crew does the rough grading after the pavement surface is ground up, we can save \$1,900.00. Alfred is in favor of doing this. (The same amount can be saved if the town did the final grading prior to paving but that is something both Alfred and the Selectboard are not in favor of doing.) Alfred is ready to sign the contract with Pike Industries. Grinding the old pavement will begin the week of April 16<sup>th</sup> and Alfred will put signs up that the pavement ends and to slow down. By paving in late spring or early summer, we expect to save on the price of liquid asphalt. Alfred Larrabee is getting an estimate to shim coat the last mile of the County Road to cover the worse spots, not the whole road. Alfred has already spoken to Tom Anderson, District 6 Engineer, about applying for the next round of grants to pave the last mile of the County Road next year.

Annual AOT Financial Plan – Alfred Larrabee will fill it out using the past two years reports as a reference.

Joint Selectboard and EMFD Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2012 to review quarterly financials and any other business. Rose Pelchuck will do the agenda.

Washington Electric Co-op, Inc. - Denise Wheeler spoke to Dan Weston at Washington Electric Co-op and reported a subcontractor was on the road, not WEC. Dan Weston suggested having the road crew and WEC work together on brush cutting. Dan didn't think there would be many opportunities to but would be receptive to working with the road crew in clearing brush that benefits both the utility and road crew. WEC has a 10-year plan of projects.

Appointments for Town Offices, Boards and Commissions:

Tree Warden – David Curtis  
First Constable – Fred Bushway  
Second Constable – Wilson Hughes  
Animal Control Officer – Fred Bushway  
E-911 Coordinator – John McCullough  
Delegate to CVSMD – Bill Powell  
Alternate to CVRPC & TAC – Rick DeWolfe

Town Health Officer – Muriel Bushway  
Town Service Officer – Marianne Miller  
Emergency Plan Coordinator – Toby Talbot  
Inspector of Lumber – Greg Pelchuck  
Weigher of Coal – Mike Garand  
Gospel Hollow Warden – Ernie Parrish

Denise Wheeler made a motion to approve the above slate to serve in these respective one-year positions. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0. The remaining vacancies will be advertised on Front Porch Forum.

Planning Commission:

Jack Russell and Richard Quelch were each reappointed to serve a four-year term, expires 2016. Two vacant positions remain as follows: one four-year term, expires 2015 and one four-year vacant position left unfilled since 2010, expires 2014.

Historic Preservation Commission:

Kim Raine, Susan Weber and Syver Rodgstad were each reappointed to serve a three-year term, expires 2015. The Historic Preservation Commission is in favor of expanding the number of members from seven to nine members. Denise Wheeler made a motion to appoint Scott Bassage to serve a one-year term, expires 2013 and to appoint Reed Cherington to serve a two-year term, expires 2014 at which time these seats will become three year terms as all the other seats on the Historic Preservation Commission. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0.

Development Review Board:

Steve Duke was appointed to fill the seat formerly held by Robert Shaffer, a three-year term, expires 2015. Margaret Bowen was reappointed to serve a three-year term, expires 2015. One vacant position remains, a three-year term, expires 2015. Two alternate positions to the DRB remain vacant.

Hutch Crane Letter - Toby Talbot reported the town received a letter about being paid for road repairs related to the crane accident on Pekin Brook Road in August 2011. Hutch Crane wants the town to send a letter to the insurance company demanding payment. Toby Talbot will draft a letter that will be reviewed by the Selectboard, signed and sent.

Dry Hydrant Grant Program – EMFD has applied directly for grant funding to install dry hydrants. Toby Talbot offered to give the information to the appropriate hands at EMFD.

Hydraulic studies from May 2010 for Haggatt Road and Center Road – Donna Fitch came upon these hydraulic studies and wasn't sure where they belonged. The Selectboard discussed these reports and decided the reports will be filed.

Culvert Repair on Martin Road – Discussion turned to the culvert on Martin Road. It was decided the town is going to do a repair on the culvert on Martin Road with a steel plate over the top of the stone-laid culvert. Alfred Larrabee will also request a hydraulic study to assess the situation. Alfred noted we have several culverts in town that need replacing. Going forward the town will do the study, do a temporary fix and then apply for a grant to fix it. Copies of hydraulic studies will be made and kept in the town garage office for Alfred Larrabee to have quick reference to.

Curtis Pond Dam Fund – The Selectboard discussed opening up a separate bank account to accept donations for repairs to the dam. Donna Fitch will do that.

Lightening Ridge Road Repair Plan – John Brabant devised a work plan for repairs for the Calais Road Crew that should happen near Lilley Hill Farm. John Brabant said this is more or less, what was represented at the site visit. Toby Talbot asked for Alfred's opinion. After lengthy discussion, Denise Wheeler reported we are all in agreement that this is going to be the document and that we are not going to provide any special treatment in the future. "This document is based on the conversation from the site visit," John Brabant said. Mr. Lilley will be allowed to do finish work including hand raking and grass seed application but will not be paid by the town.

Revised Dog Ordinance – Both Denise Wheeler and Mike Garand have gotten calls about the revised

dog ordinance. After some discussion, the Selectboard decided to hear public comment at the next meeting and go forward. Therefore, John Brabant made a motion to rescind the motion made on March 26, 2012 to adopt the revised dog ordinance. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0. People will be encouraged to attend the next meeting to discuss the ordinance and offer language changes.

Zoning Violations, Appeals, Litigation, and Personnel Matters – John Brabant made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:47pm in accordance with 1 V.S.A. subsection 313 (a) (1) for the purpose of discussing ongoing legal and real estate matters. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0. The regular session resumed at 9:12pm. Denise Wheeler stated there was nothing to publicly report.

Tentative Agenda for the April 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting

- Appointments
- Ancient Roads Committee- final report and discussion
- Dog Ordinance revisions – continued discussion

Other Business:

\*Toby Talbot, Emergency Plan Coordinator, talked about emergency management training NIMS and if the town wants to get federal grant money, they have to be NIMS certified. Toby Talbot needs to know current NIMS levels of training of any Selectboard members.

\*The town received a complaint letter today from someone that got a flat tire last November on the Calais-Worcester Road. Toby Talbot and Denise Wheeler also received complaints about flat tires. Denise Wheeler will try to call this woman from Worcester to respond and tell her the town does not pay for flat tires.

\*The Selectboard and Road Commissioner discussed road materials, which type comes out of what pit. The material used on the Calais-Worcester Road came from Manosh's pit in Wolcott. It is fractured rock, as bank run gravel no longer exists in this area. Fractured rock packs down to provide a hard surface, whereas round rocks would be like driving on marbles, Alfred explained. Travel time is a consideration when hauling from pits in South Barre, Marshfield or Wolcott.

John Brabant made a motion to adjourn at 9:30pm. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Pelchuck  
Selectboard Administrative Assistant