

SELECTBOARD MEETING
Approved Minutes

May 9, 2011

7pm Calais Town Hall

Attending: Denise Wheeler, John Brabant, Toby Talbot, Mike Garand (arrived late), Scott Bassage, Donna Fitch, Peter Harvey, Dot Naylor, Bill Davis, Alfred Larrabee, Gary Root, Rolf Mueller, Arlyn Bruccoli, Morgan Ecklund, Jack Russell, Libby Kellington, Owen Kellington, Jim Chamberlin, Marion Gray and Rose Pelchuck.

Actions:

Approval of April 11th Meeting Minutes – The Selectboard reviewed the Minutes and made some changes. Toby Talbot made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 4-0.

Approval of April 21st Meeting Minutes – The Selectboard reviewed the Minutes and made some changes. Toby Talbot made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 4-0.

Approval of April 25th Meeting Minutes – The Selectboard reviewed the Minutes and made some changes. Toby Talbot made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 4-0.

Planning Commission – The Selectboard reviewed the contract to enable the Planning Commission to Contract Services for informational purposes.

Reschedule the May 30th Selectboard Meeting – The Selectboard agreed to change the date of the next regular meeting to Monday, May 23, 2011 at 7pm. Notices will be posted in the usual locations and website.

Reviewing Town Invoices and Orders – The Selectboard agreed to thoroughly review the monthly invoices and orders in an effort to better understand expenditures and to help with budget planning.

No public comment.

Road Commissioner Update – Alfred Larrabee reported the road grader needs more than a head gasket. It needs a total rebuild of the engine and would cost \$16,000.00. Alfred asked whether or not to put that kind of money into the 1972 grader (it is the spare grader). Prices to rent a John Deere grader for a month for 40 hours a week would be \$7,000.00. Alfred thinks he could get caught up with two graders working for a month; variables involved such as ditching. John questioned getting parts for a 40-year-old machine and Alfred said parts are available. The newer grader is a 1995 or '97. The Selectboard agreed to rent a John Deere grader, which will give the Selectboard more time to evaluate options.

Rick DeWolfe called Alfred Larrabee to report there is stones in the brook in North Calais from a toppled over stonewall. The landowner wants the town to remove the stones and the landowner wants to reuse the stone. John Brabant spoke that it presents a risk for the town to perform the work and suggested the Selectboard should send a letter outlining the potential risk. Mike Garand told Alfred to contact Patrick Ross at the ANR to do work in the stream 15-20 feet off the bridge. John Brabant suggested having Rick DeWolfe and Barbara (landowner) come, present the case to the Selectboard, and have them convince the Selectboard if this is something that needs to be done.

Hiring new person on the road crew – The application deadline was today and 15 applications were submitted. After much discussion, Mike Garand made motion to offer the new hire up to \$15.00 per hour with a raise after six months if satisfactory performance. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0. Toby Talbot said in six months the Selectboard will not only give a 50-cent per hour raise but could be even more.

Zoning Administrator Candidate - The Planning Commission recommends Calais resident, Rolf Mueller,

be appointed as the new Zoning Administrator per Jack Russell. Denise Wheeler offered \$20.00 per hour for about 10-15 hours per month. Rolf Mueller suggested having the zoning records computerized and is willing to do that. Scheduled hours were discussed and Dot Naylor suggested seeing applicants by appointment. Scott Bassage made a motion to appoint Rolf Mueller as Zoning Administrator for a three-year term that expires in 2014. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Arlyn Brucolli – is requesting a permit to make improvements on a barn in North Calais located in the town's ROW with the ultimate goal of making it into an apartment. The other request is to install a septic field right up to the town's ROW. Wayne Lawrence is the hired engineer. The Selectboard will have a site visit Wednesday, May 18th at 7:30pm and meet at Arlyn's house.

Jim Chamberlin – wants to do a major subdivision on Apple Hill Road, a Class 4 road. The DRB suggested he come to the Selectboard first with a conceptual plan and then a Selectboard member could come to the DRB hearing. Jim Chamberlin owns 35 acres with over 1000 feet of road frontage and would like to put in five building lots. Wayne Lawrence, engineer, drew up a schematic drawing that was presented to the Selectboard. The issue is what is the town's policy for development on a Class 4 road. Denise Wheeler said we need more information, here tonight to get an overview. Jim Chamberlin said he is not stuck on this idea. Scott Bassage said this is a conceptual plan. Discussion ensued. Dot Naylor suggested someone come to the DRB conceptual plan hearing on May 19th (Scott will attend). The site visit on May 18th at 6:30pm at Jim Chamberlin's on Apple Hill Road.

Next Joint Meeting with East Montpelier Selectboard will be May 16th.

Dog Complaint – The Selectboard received a dog complaint from Marian Gray and Merrill Legare about Libby Kellington's dog. Marian Gray reported the many times Libby's dog was at her house three days in a row, including today. The dog likes chasing wildlife and Marion is not able to enjoy her privacy. Libby Kellington acknowledged the dog runs in the neighborhood and was taken aback because she didn't know this is such a big problem. Libby Kellington said, "If I had known she was so upset, I would have done something". Denise Wheeler gave Libby a copy of the Nuisance Dog Ordinance and noted it is the owner's responsibility to keep the dog contained. Denise said, "You need to take control of your dog at all times". "If the town gets another complaint, you will get a letter of complaint". Libby Kellington agreed to not let the dog outside without the shock collar on. Marian Gray spoke to her last September about the same issues. Denise Wheeler will follow up with a letter to Fred Bushway, Animal Control Officer, Libby Kellington and Marian Gray.

Various Reports/Updates:

- VLCT – Denise Wheeler will check about dental insurance.
- Trash Depot – Brian Perry & Sons Construction will send a certificate of insurance with proof of a million dollar policy.

Town Appointments – Several people have expressed interest in serving in different capacities. Denise Wheeler will ask them to come in to meet with the Selectboard prior to being appointed.

Tentative Agenda for the May 23rd Meeting:

- Meet candidates for different positions
- Invoices and Orders of the Day
- Zoning 10 minutes from Scott Bassage
- Roads Committee and Energy Committee
- Dental insurance update
- General maintenance of Town Hall

Other Business: VLCT all day session Municipal Administrative Policy Forum – Scott Bassage will attend.

Executive Session – John Brabant made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:28pm in accordance with 1 V.S.A. subsection 313 (a) (1) for the purpose of discussing ongoing legal enforcement issues, zoning violations, appeals, etc. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0. The Selectboard resumed the Regular Session at 9:39pm. Denise Wheeler reported the Selectboard spoke about a letter from Dorothy Naylor, Zoning Administrator, to Green Mountain Mapleworks dated April 14, 2011 regarding page 20 Table 2.3 Permitted Uses in the Resource Recreation District. Part of the letter is correct and part is not correct therefore, the Selectboard will ask Dot Naylor to double check the Zoning Regs and contact the landowner to further clarify with the landowner.

Toby Talbot made motion to continue this meeting till May 16, 2011 at the East Montpelier town office at 7pm. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Pelchuck
Selectboard Administrative Assistant