

## SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING

### *Minutes*

July 15, 2019

Calais Town Office

**Attending:** Denise Wheeler, John Brabant, Clif Emmons, Sharon Fannon, Larry Bush and Rose Pelchuck.

**Actions:**

Denise Wheeler called the special meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Public Comment – Clif Emmons and Denise Wheeler informed the Selectboard that Jamie & Rob Bohn wrote a letter expressing their frustration with Elisabeth Shedd's horses damaging their property and requesting something be done about it. According to the Bohn's letter, Elisabeth Shedd now has two horses that are running wild up and down Collar Hill Road and all over their property. Their yard, paths and fields have been torn up (hundreds of 6 inch divots) by her heavy horses galloping out of control. Furthermore, Elisabeth refuses to put a halter or lead rope on her new horse, walks him and her other horse on the road, giving them ample opportunity to trespass on the Bohn's property and other neighbors' properties, as well as hold up traffic thereby putting the traveling public at risk.

Clif Emmons recommends asking the town's attorney to draft an ordinance that would address this issue or asking the town clerk to contact the town clerk's list-serve to find out what other towns in Vermont do about similar horse issues. Denise Wheeler will contact VLCT to see if they have any helpful resources. The Town Constable has spoken to Elisabeth Shedd on numerous occasions about keeping the horses contained on her property and related matters. The Selectboard requests Elisabeth Perry, Second Animal Control Officer, respond to the Bohn's letter.

Changes to the Agenda – none

Sign Certified Local Government Grant for Historic Preservation Commission – Larry Bush presented the Selectboard with a CLG Grant application to hire a consultant to work on Adamant Village being a National Register District. This consultant, Brian Knight, worked with the HPC on the East Calais designation and were very pleased with his work. Sharon Winn made a motion to authorize Denise Wheeler to sign this CLG Grant Application on behalf of the Selectboard. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Consideration of a One-Ton Truck Lease – John Brabant reported Road Commissioner, Alfred Larrabee, and he met this morning to review the specifications of the proposal to purchase a new six-wheeler dump truck for the town. As previously discussed at the last meeting, Clark's Truck Center has one available to order but it would not be available until November. Even though the Selectboard already approved a trade-in and purchase through Clark's, the operations manager and road commissioner are worried the timing may not work well for winter needs. Instead, they presented an alternative proposal. Two similar trucks are on a lot in Manchester, NH ready for purchase and then to be outfitted with plow equipment. John explained the mechanical differences between these two vehicles and Alfred's preference for the more costly one; primarily it was built as a plow truck, has a larger alternator, larger fuel tanks, rear differential on back axle and power plug easy access for jump starting other vehicles if necessary to name a few. The town will get \$18,000.00 in trade-in value for the 2015 truck on all three of

the proposals.

After lengthy discussion, John Brabant made a motion to approve the purchase of the new 2019 6-wheeler plow truck as described in the proposal for \$103,157.00 net cost (includes the out-fitting at Fairfield Equipment). The motion was seconded by Sharon Winn, voted on and carried 5-0.

Mowing the Curtis Pond Swim Area – Volunteers have longed mowed the Curtis Pond Swim Area, property owned by the town. Recently Denise Wheeler became aware of the need to find someone else to mow the area. Denise spoke to Alfred Larrabee and requests a town employee from the road crew be assigned to mow this property during regular business hours. A substitute driver, Ed Rowell or Dana Huoppi, can be used as well. They also mow the lawn at the town office. Sharon Winn made a motion to have the Road Commissioner coordinate someone to mow the Curtis Pond Swim Area going forward, not to be done causing overtime. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Letter to WCUUSD Reimbursement Request – The Town Clerk has drafted a letter to Lori Bibeau at the central office requesting reimbursement for Calais staff hours and expenses associated with the forced merger totaling \$3,739.40. The Selectboard supports this reimbursement request.

Letter to WCUUSD Request to File Legal Documents – The Town Clerk has drafted a letter to Krista Metivier requesting copies of the legal documents related to the Calais Elementary School property easements be kept in the permanent file at the central office. The original legal documents have been filed by the Town Clerk in the Calais Land Records.

Executive Session – Denise Wheeler made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:41 pm for the purpose of discussing personnel matters in accordance with 1V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3) Personnel Matters and 1 V.S.A § 313 \_\_\_\_\_ Contracts. The Selectboard resumed Regular Session at 9:30 pm. The Selectboard discussed working on updating town policies and will be sending a related memo to all staff (or employees).

Reappoint Treasurer/Delinquent Tax Collector – The Selectboard discussed retaining Sandra Ferver in her currently held positions. Denise Wheeler made a motion to reappoint Sandra Ferver as the Town Treasurer, Delinquent Tax Collector and Human Resources Administrator for a \_\_\_\_ year term. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes – tabled until the next meeting.

Warrants to Approve for Payment – there were none presented this evening.

Rose Pelchuck made a motion to adjourn at 9:38 pm. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Rose Pelchuck  
Selectboard Member

*Approved at the 8/5/2019 Selectboard Meeting*