

SELECTBOARD MEETING
Approved Minutes

July 30, 2012

7:00pm Calais Town Hall

Attending: Denise Wheeler, John Brabant, Mike Garand, Toby Talbot, Scott Bassage, Alfred Larrabee, Peter Harvey, Jim Buckley, Virginia Kern, Paul Rose, Larry Orr, Emily Murphy, Daniel Currier, Jeff Blow, Paul Gillies, Bruce Johnson, Seth Gardner, Casey Northrup, Steve Sparrow, Carl Etnier and Rose Pelchuck.

Actions:

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.

Approval of the July 9th Meeting Minutes – Toby Talbot made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0.

Hutch Crane Insurance Claim with VLCT - nothing.

Curb Cut Permit Application – The Selectboard reviewed the Curb Cut Permit Application from Paul Rose and Virginia Kern on Pekin Brook Road near the town forest. Paul Rose stated the only difference from the application is the entrance will have a radius zoomed at the road in order for large vehicles and trucks to enter safely. The Road Commissioner has viewed the site and recommends the installation of a 15-inch culvert and trim brush to improve site distance. Toby Talbot made a motion to approve the Curb Cut Permit Application for Paul Rose and Virginia Kern with the following conditions: the applicant must install a 15-inch poly or steel culvert and trim brush to improve site distance. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Law Enforcement Contract with Washington County Sheriff's Department for FY 2013 – The Selectboard reviewed the contract for Sheriff's patrol in town. It was noted that last year approximately \$1,000.00 was spent out of the \$2,500.00 that was allocated for sheriff patrols due to staffing shortfalls. This contract is for the same price as last year and at \$2,500.00 equates to 88 hours per year of coverage. Denise Wheeler has spoken to Sam Hill, Sheriff, about the contract and urged him to patrol up to the amount budgeted. Toby Talbot made a motion to approve the Law Enforcement Contract with Washington County Sheriff's Department for FY 2013 contract for \$2,500.00 per year. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Road Commissioner Update – Alfred Larrabee reported the grader is up and running after a major overhaul. The older one still has an issue. Alfred reported the Sieve Test Analysis data for gravel he has and the closest match to our specifications is Bickford's quarry on Route 2 in Marshfield. The next in order are Manosh's pit in Wolcott, then Northeast Materials in Graniteville, then Pike Industries, then McCullough Crushing and Lague's pit was last. Specific details as follows:

Manosh - \$8.50 yd (stone hardness 27) small number the harder the stone is

Bickford - \$13.50 yd (stone hardness 50)

Lague – stone hardness 30

Cost per yard plus trucking – Alfred noted Bickford's is closer but you're paying a good deal more per yard. The state lab performed the tests.

Mike Garand wants the board to understand the difference between the rock samples. Manosh's pit has an angular aggregate. Mike has actual rock samples that he will bring to the next meeting. Alfred Larabee is going to resurface four miles of Max Gray road from Route 14 to the four corners. Mike Garand made a motion to go with Bickford's material (1 1/2") to resurface Max Gray Road. The motion was seconded. Mike reported both Wolcott and Elmore don't even use the material from Manosh. Further discussion ensued. Mike Garand believes the Manosh material is angular and does not recommend it. Mike Garand said, "We want good changes in the roads and this body is the governing body for this town". The motion was voted on and carried 5-0.

Joint Meeting of the Calais and East Montpelier Selectboards

This joint meeting began at 7:40pm for the purpose of discussing the Interlocal Agreement with respect to emergency services with East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD). Bruce Johnson called the East Montpelier Selectboard meeting to order at 7:40pm to discuss East Montpelier Fire Department Interlocal Agreement and Contracts. Denise Wheeler gave an overview and referred to a list of items the Selectboard is working on. Bruce Johnson began by saying the splitting of the amount each town pays towards the EMFD Operating Budget is a good place to start. Toby Talbot explained the towns could decide with a separate document the amount of the split each town pays, that way whenever the amount was changed the Interlocal Agreement would not need to be changed. Presently East Montpelier pays $\frac{3}{4}$ of the fire department budget $\frac{1}{4}$ is paid by Calais. Some discussion included basing the town contribution on call volume to each town. Seth Gardner spoke about oversight with the Selectboard to review the budget, which has always been done prior to inclusion in the Selectboard budget. Toby said this is what happened at the beginning of the four-year level funded budget. The Selectboards agreed to approve a four-year level funded budget that EMFD presented to them in 2010. Toby Talbot explained further oversight is there every quarter at the Financial Review Meetings. Denise Wheeler suggested having a Selectboard member attend the EMFD board meetings. The towns have a legal responsibility to provide fire and emergency service to the public.

In summary, the Selectboards would like EMFD to go back to an annual budget; Toby Talbot will obtain the call volume for each town for the past five years and have a joint meeting with EMFD and both Selectboards to discuss the budget. Toby Talbot said the 10 members of the Selectboard are well informed and thoroughly reviewed the EMFD Budget prior to approving it.

Mike Garand spoke about the Capital Reserve funds East Montpelier has set aside for EMFD capital items. Toby Talbot clarified what Mike was talking about as follows: the Town of East Montpelier has \$156,000.00 set aside. In order for EMFD to leverage those funds, Calais has to come up with a one-third match of \$52,000.00 before East Montpelier will release those funds. (This is because the town share for Capital items is 1/3 for Calais to 2/3 for East Montpelier.) Bruce Johnson said the Memo Of Understanding with regards to the EMFD Capital Reserve Fund has to go into the next Interlocal Agreement.

Toby Talbot reminded both Selectboards that the Interlocal Agreement, Ambulance Contract and Memo of Understanding are all interconnected because they point to each other and will need to be changed accordingly.

Bruce Johnson will continue to update the list the Selectboards are working on. They agreed to meet again at East Montpelier Selectboard meeting on August 20, 2012 at 7:00pm at the Town Office in East Montpelier for continued discussion to revise the Interlocal Agreement with EMFD.

In other related business, Bruce Johnson reported the Town of East Montpelier needs an Emergency Plan Coordinator. Toby Talbot is willing to be appointed as the plan coordinator for East Montpelier, since he serves the Town of Calais in the same capacity. Bruce Johnson said perhaps Bill George, former plan coordinator, could be appointed co-coordinator in Calais.

At 8:22pm, the Joint Selectboard portion of the meeting ended and the regular Calais meeting resumed.

Dog Complaint - The Selectboard received a letter from Bill LeFevre who was bitten by a dog owned by Emily and Matt Murphy on Hayden Road. Emily Murphy spoke about the livestock guardian dog and how she is trying to socialize the dog. Their dogs are not licensed due to hardships issues but have been vaccinated against rabies. Denise Wheeler said there is a provision to license dogs when there are hardship circumstances and to check with the town clerk. The Selectboard urged Emily Murphy that the dogs have to be under control when she is or is not there. Emily stated eventually the dog would be down in a lower field once they are able to turn on the electric fence. Denise Wheeler will send a formal letter to the Murphy's, Bill LeFevre and Fred Bushway, Animal Control Officer.

CVRPC Erosion Control on Class 3 and Class 4 roads – Daniel Currier from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission applied for a grant to do a study about erosion control. They are looking for places that have high probability of eroding based on soil, surface water and steepness. Work funded through the grant includes mapping assessment and fieldwork. Daniel met with each of the road foremen in the area.

Roads of interest include Hayden Road, Apple Hill Road (he will give the road counts from 2007), Peck Hill Road, Singleton Road to name a few. Denise Wheeler asked what do we get out of it? The sites that have a lot of erosion, the town will get the whole assessment and provide treatment to mitigate and repair the sites within the town's right-of-way. Having this data will allow the town to apply for the Better Back Roads grants and control erosion.

TH 8 Relocation of Entrance - Paul Gillies, Attorney for Paul and Lillian Weisbart, came before the Selectboard to discuss the change of location for TH 8 and provide survey maps. The Selectboard has a letter from Pat Malone granting a right-of-way easement on this property to relocate TH 8 for the Weisbarts to build a house in the area the town believes to be the right-of-way for TH 8. In exchange, Pat Malone wants TH 64 discontinued, a short, dead end, Class 3 road that only leads to his house. Paul Gillies stated the notice has to be posted for 30 days; site visits of both properties (Weisbart and Pat Malone) on the same night as hearing then deliberate and make a decision within 60 days. For discontinuance, you don't need a survey. Further discussion ensued. The new road section is 1,950 feet long and old road section is 1,650 feet long. Tentative site visits and hearing will be Monday, September 10, 2012.

Other Business: The Selectboard heard a complaint from Nancy Chamberlain about Apple Hill Road (part of which is a Class 4 Road) and that it had not graded in two years. She also voiced her concerns about a flat tire coming up from Worcester (her husband said it was her tire condition). She was mostly focused on the once a year grading and said the town has put some material down but some areas are very bad and need material. Alfred Larrabee said the road needs grading and if it needs gravel, he will add some.

It was reported that Doug Lilley is concerned about speeders and when Doug Grout mows the roadside, it spreads the seeds that Doug thinks are spreading weeds.

Alfred Larrabee would like to close Max Gray Road during road re-construction due to loose gravel; he will put signs up and Denise Wheeler put it on Front Porch Forum.

Zoning Violations, Appeals, Litigation, and Personnel Matters – John Brabant made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:22pm in accordance with 1 V.S.A. subsection 313 (a) (1) for the purpose of discussing ongoing real estate and personnel matters. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0. The regular session resumed at 9:50pm. Denise Wheeler stated the Selectboard agreed to grant raises to the road crew. Toby Talbot made a motion to grant a 3% pay raise across the board to the road crew retroactive to July 1, 2012. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0. Denise said at budget time next year, we need to do things a little different.

Tentative Agenda for the August 13th Meeting

- Gravel samples from Mike Garand
- Set dates for site visits
- Conservation Commission and Lakes & Ponds report
- Road Commissioner job description and road crew job descriptions
- Dog ordinance draft to review on agenda for both meetings in August

Toby Talbot made a motion to adjourn 10:00pm. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Pelchuck
Selectboard Administrative Assistant