

ROXBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 2, 2021
7:00PM – 9:00PM
THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON AT COMMUNITY HALL

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Chair Clare St. John, Vice-Chair Shane Ryan and Road Commissioner Dave McShane

STAFF PARTICIPATING: Selectboard Assistant Tammy Legacy

PUBLIC: Nina Govoni, Janine Manninen, Carmeta French, Tom Frazier, Casimir Vaicaitis, Bill Gaidys, Elizabeth Carney, Amanda Brigham, Lynn Butler, Sean Cummings, Katie Vinton, Michelle Acciavatti and Dave Santi

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. The Board added to the agenda Town Property-rent/use for gatherings, letter on behalf of Northfield Senior Center. The Board deleted from the agenda Roxbury Donor's Fund Park Development Committee.
3. Dog/Noise Complaint – Janine Manninen

Dave McShane had not been able to visit the property the last couple of weeks. Shane Ryan had visited Janine's Doggy Daycare. Janine stated this has been going on for a few weeks. How long is this going to take? Shane stated he had observed that it was orderly and controlled. The dogs had barked in the van. Katie Vinton mentioned that the dogs are under control. There was no solution. This will be taken up at the next meeting. The Board is still waiting on the legal advice on Dog Ordinance.

4. Public

- a) Nina Govoni asked about Warren Mountain Road closure. The road will be closed to through traffic but residents will still have access to their homes. The closure is near the town line. Tom Frazier asked if a temporary access could be installed so the road wouldn't be closed. Dave McShane stated a temporary access would double the cost. There will be two cast-in-place culverts installed. Tom was not happy the road would be closed for three weeks. Tom had issues with the way the Board handled the project. Clare stated that it effects more than just Tom and that Dave had done his homework. Dave tried to explain the project to Tom.
- b) Elizabeth Carney mentioned that she walks in the village and can not use the sidewalk in front of Francis Jones' property. There is trash on the sidewalk and it smells. It was stated that the Board needs to be more concerned. Broken glass and trash on sidewalk which is public property. Clare read some statutes regarding this issue. Tom Frazier asked if it would be advantageous to hire an attorney to find out what can be done.
- c) Carmeta French mentioned the State is looking for new employees. There is a state-wide issue concerning tenants.

5. Road Commissioner's Report

- a) Roads are getting better from the rain.
- b) Equipment is in good shape.
- c) On July 20, 2021 there was a storm. No emergency declaration has been issued for Washington County. The Town may qualify for emergency grant through the State.
- d) Highway Grants – Closing Warren Mountain Road for a Structures Grant and a Class 2 Road Grant on August 16. At this time, there was discussion about riprap in ditches and the need for ditches to be cleaned. Tom stated that in his opinion there are culverts that need to be replaced.

6. Financial Report
 - a) The orders were reviewed. Clare moved to approve orders. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes.
 - b) Tammy updated the Board on income received.
7. Unfinished Business
 - a) F. Jones Property was discussed under Public.
8. New Business
 - a) Tammy mentioned Tech Group suggests the Town renew the Sonic Wall contract for cyber security. After discussing the contract, Dave moved to renew the Sonic Wall Security Contract and the payment of \$805 to the orders. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes.
 - b) Nina Govoni submitted a letter to the Board regarding removing trees on her property. Clare read the letter. Dave sees no issues.
 - c) Proposed Burial Ground – The Board and Michelle Acciavatti discussed the proposed funeral home and natural burial ground on Beaver Meadow Road. Michelle is filing for Act 250. The Board has no issues with the project. Michelle explained to the people attending the meeting what her project is and what a natural burial ground is. This project would have to have oversight by State. It will be a non-profit. Discussion on what happens if the non-profit no longer exist. The Town would take the burial ground over if that happened; the perpetual funds in an account would then go to the Town. There are strict rules for non-profits and cemeteries. Dave Santi wanted it on the record that he thinks it is a stupid idea.
9. Other Business
 - a) Tammy mentioned she received a request to have a gathering at the Community Hall. She asked if the Board was allowing gatherings on Town properties. After discussing, the Board decided they did not want any gatherings in Town buildings due to the Delta/Covid issue. At this time, Tom Frazier brought up the Village School. At this time, people discussed what they thought might be the future of the Roxbury Village School.
 - b) Clare received a request from Charlie Morse for support of the Northfield Senior Center for grant funds. The Northfield Senior Center is applying for a matching grant for Meals on Wheels for food security. Roxbury residents receive Meals on Wheels. Clare read a proposed letter of support. By consensus, the Board agreed to send a letter of support.
10. Discussion on Junkyard Ordinance. At the next meeting, the Board will have reviewed the statutes and draft ordinance. Tammy stated that the voters had previously voted to have all petitioned ordinance votes be by Australian ballot. Dave Santi did not think that was legal. Tom asked the Board to put in the minutes that the Board will seek legal opinion about how the voters will vote if ordinance is petitioned (Australian ballot or in person meeting) and on the draft ordinance.
11. Dave moved to approve minutes of July 12, 2021 as amended. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes.
12. Executive Session – Clare moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel issue and the vacant highway position with an invitation to Tammy Legacy to join them. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes. The Board entered executive session at 8:40 p.m. The Board exited executive session at 9:00 p.m. No action taken.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.