

ROXBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF MAY 1, 2023
7:02PM – 10:33PM
COMMUNITY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Jon Guiffre, Vice-Chair Rene Bouchard and Road Commissioner Dave McShane

STAFF PRESENT: Selectboard Assistant Tammy Legacy

PUBLIC PRESENT: Dotti Guiffre, Ed Carney, Elizabeth Carney, Lucinda Sullivan, Bob Ketchel, Arthur Smith, Tom Frazier, Mary Bouchard, Tim Martin, Dave Santi, Heidi Albright, Yelena Synkova and children, Mike Dickinson, Don Randall, Carol Randall, Ryan Zajac, Jerry D'Amico and Christian Meyer

1. Vice-Chair Rene Bouchard called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. No additions or deletions to the agenda.
3. Christian Meyer, Executive Director of Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) introduced himself. Jerry D'Amico is Roxbury representative to CVRPC and is Roxbury's representative on the Transportation Committee. Christian talked about the programs CVRPC offer Towns for instance, helping Town's with municipal plans, hazard mitigation plans, capital inventory, GIS services and Town's sharing services. There is a new program called Rural Infrastructure Assistance Plans (RIAP) which provides technology assistant for federal grants. There were questions asked to Christian by the Board and public. Lucinda Sullivan, member of Roxbury's Planning Commission talked about the village designation that Roxbury received. It was mentioned that Elizabeth Carney is now the Chair of the Roxbury Planning Commission.
4. Public
 - A) Ed Carney asked the park committee discussion be tabled for this meeting.
 - B) Jon Guiffre, Chair of the Selectboard, talked about the public portion of the meeting and having rules/execution of the meetings. The meetings are Selectboard Meetings and are held in the public and there will be an opportunity for everyone to speak during the meeting under Public. Questions were asked by the public about the process. Jon stated it would be at the discretion of the person running the meeting on whether the Board would allow input later on in the meeting. It is not an effort to stifle the people, it is to run the meeting efficiently and timely.
 - C) Carol Randall mentioned the senior lunches are on Mondays at noon at the Community Hall. She requested the Board address the issue of stinky water and toilet issues.
 - D) Dave Santi read some things. He filed an appeal with the Supreme Court on his court case. Dave also stated he is interested in the Emergency Management Director position.
 - E) Tim Martin said he had questions about Green-Up Day. Dave stated there would be a large dumpster for household trash. The Board has not advertised the use of the dumpster. Tim also had questions about the Informational Meeting (Article 20 vote on ordinance). He asked the Board if they would have the answers at the meeting to the unanswered questions from the previous Informational Meeting. Jon stated he will look over his notes. Tim asked how

much the Town has spent on legal fees. Tammy Legacy stated \$4,569.85 (from July 1st to May 1st).

5. Dave moved to approve the minutes of April 19 as submitted. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes.
6. Road Commissioner's Report
 - A) Roads are rough, when it stops raining the roads will be graded.
 - B) Equipment is in good shape.
 - C) Sidewalk Grant – Dave stated the Board needs to decide whether they are going to apply for the grant, the deadline is in June. There was a lengthy discussion on applying for this grant, the pros and cons, and if the Board decides to apply for the wastewater grant, what that would do to the sidewalk. There are 3 large projects the Board is talking about for the future (sidewalks, wastewater and new garage). It would be difficult to financially do them all. There was discussion about applying for additional funds to offset some of the costs to the Town. Drainage in the village is a big issue. It was suggested to have the stones swept off the sidewalk and possibly have some repairs done. Dave moved to table it and revisit it. The motion was seconded and passed 3 to 0.
7. Financial Report
 - A) The Board reviewed the orders. Dave moved to approve the orders with add-on. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes. The add-ons are State of Vermont for dog licenses, Amell Landscaping for site work on park and John Welch for overpayment of recording fees. The Amell Landscaping invoice is paid from the park grant/donations.
8. Unfinished Business
 - A) The Board discussed the process for approving ARPA funds. The Board will hear from the ARPA Committee and will keep their own notes on how they feel about the suggestions. The Board will decide after they hear about all the suggestions.
 - B) ARPA Committee
 - 1) Ed Carney discussed his request for ARPA funds for the village park. He thanked the Roxbury Planning Commission for providing us with a village center because that enabled the committee to apply for and receive funds. He thanked Tammy for keeping accurate accounting on the donations received. Ed is reducing the initial request of \$21,000 to \$6,000 to cover the excess expense that were not covered by the grant and donations. Ed mentioned all that has happened already in the park and what is being planned. Dotti Guiffre mentioned her dream of the park is to have a place where the community can come together for events and get to know each other. Elizabeth Carney talked about the community support of the park and would like not to have to ask for more donations to cover the shipping of the equipment.
 - 2) Rene mentioned burying utility lines – the suggestion came from two different people, one for the village and one for town. Dave estimated the cost to bury utility lines would be \$700,000 in the village. It was mentioned that there was concern about harmful herbicides used near utility lines.

- 3) Fixing Intersections with West Hill Road and Carrie Howe Road. Several accidents almost happened there. Suggestions were made on how to fix the issue. Possibly have road crew work on the area in question to make it safer was mentioned.
- 4) There was a discussion on the proposed three ideas. Jon feels the park request is the only one that should get ARPA funds. Discussion on what ARPA survey results were and how many people donated to the park in support of it. Utility lines are too expensive. Carrie Howe intersection is not an ARPA project was mentioned.
- C) Statement of Qualifications for Engineering Services was discussed. It was agreed that both statements were from qualified firms; both had experience in water and wastewater projects. Rene will contact the references for the firms. No decision will be made until the next meeting. Jon will have someone come to a meeting to discuss the project with the Board.
- D) Green-Up Day is May 6. Rene proposed having an open house for the Town Garage. After discussing the proposal, the Board decided an open house will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Green-Up hours for trash and tires is 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Scrap metal is accepted. No hazardous materials will be accepted. Tires are \$6 per tire. A 30-yard dumpster is for household and green-up trash.
- E) The website was discussed. Dave suggested only having links on the website for the materials that can be found on other websites. There was a lengthy discussion on the need for a webmaster. Tammy will get a notice posted on website and front porch forum for the vacancy.
- F) Library Step – Heidi Albright, Library Trustee, talked about the step. It was decided that if the Trustees do not have any issue with a wood step or concrete step, the Board will decide. Ryan Zajac, Library Director, mentioned having a motion sensor light on the side facing the church.

9. New Business

- A) It was mentioned that there is a proposed ACT 250 Permit for power lines on Beaver Meadow Road. Comments will be accepted until May 15.
- B) The Board set the date for the Informational Meeting on Article 20 for May 25th at 6:30 at the Community Hall. It was suggested having people submit their questions ahead of time.

10. No Other Business

11. Dave moved to go into executive session for legal and personnel issues. The motion was seconded and passed 3 to 0. The Board entered executive session at 9:35 p.m. The Board exited executive session at 10:32 p.m. No action taken.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 p.m.