

ROXBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023
7:00PM – 9:02PM
COMMUNITY HALL

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

STAFF PRESENT: Selectboard Assistant Tammy Legacy

PUBLIC PRESENT: Dotti Guiffre, Tom Frazier, Mary Bouchard, Arthur Smith, Dave Santi, Bob Ketchel, Wendy Cashman, Ed Dickinson, Richard Porter, Janine Manninen & guest, Liz Reid, Yelena Synkova and family

1. Vice Chair Bouchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. No deletions to the agenda; Rene added web contract question to be discussed under Other Business.
3. Public
 - A) Richard Porter mentioned the heavy rain washed out his culvert. He had received a letter from the Road Commissioner explaining that the Town could not help him. Richard described the area in question, there are beaver dams above him. Dave stated the property is on private property. After a discussion, Dave stated he will try to contact the State for Mr. Porter to see if it falls in their hazard mitigation plan.
 - B) Ed Dickinson mentioned the railroad's brush is leaning on his barn. He is concerned about the brush; it is becoming a safety hazard. Dave will contact the railroad.
 - C) Janine Manninen, as Animal Control Officer, came to hear more about the dog ordinance.
4. Dave moved to approve the minutes of August 21, 2023 as amended. Rene had some changes that he will send to Tammy. The motion was seconded. The Board approved the amended minutes 2 to 0.
5. Road Commissioner's Report
 - A) Equipment is in good shape; trucks are getting inspected for winter.
 - B) The road crew are gaining on the road repairs. Culverts will be delivered so some culverts will be replaced.
 - C) Dave mentioned he met with FEMA along with Town staff. The staff is updating the financial reports on damages to roads. Permanent repairs may help with replacing Tenney Road Bridge. Smaller projects can be combined into one work order. FEMA will cover 75% of the cost, the State will cover 12.5% and the Town will pay the remaining 12.5% for all repairs. To replace a bridge could cost about \$800,000. There is no update from Hoyle Tanner.

6. Financial Report

- A) The Board reviewed the orders. Dave moved to approve the orders with add-ons. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes. The add-ons are to Green Mountain Power and M&T Credit Card.
- B) The Montpelier Roxbury tax check is in the amount of \$320,556.00.
- C) The Town received \$16,695.74 from the State for the 3rd installment of highway aid. The Town received \$34,471.41 for the 2023 PILOT payment.
- D) The Town received \$803,811.24 in current taxes.

7. Unfinished Business

- A) The Board discussed the process for enacting the Solid Waste and the Outdoor Storage of Junk and Junk Vehicles Ordinance. No action taken.
- B) Tammy is working on the Wastewater Project funding application. No action taken.
- C) The Board discussed the Community Hall project. Dave would like to move forward. The energy audit will be available in a few months. He does not want the project to be piece meal, he feels the Town should hire an architect to review the building and provide a scope of work. Rene suggested applying for grants, i.e. REDI, Preservation Trust of Vermont, Efficiency Vermont and MERP. The architect could apply for grants for the Town. The Board knows that accessibility is a priority along with removing lead paint. It needs to be decided how much of the historical contents should remain. There is still a water issue in the building. Dave would like to send out RFPs to architectural firms. Rene will contact REDI about assistance with architect costs. Dave would like to discuss the RFP at the next meeting.
- D) The Board discussed the proposed changes to the Dog Ordinance. It was noted that there are dogs out there that the Board may not be aware of that are not licensed. If dogs were removed from their home, they would be taken to the Central Vermont Humane Society. There was a discussion on whether there should be multiple rabies clinics during the year. No action taken.

8. New Business

- A) The Board received three bids for updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Town had received a FEMA grant to cover the cost of the update. The bids came from Threat Owl, OPH Consulting and Seam Solutions. The Board discussed the bids. All three are reputable companies. Dave moved to go with Threat Owl, to contract with them to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded and passed 2 to 0.
- B) Cemetery mowing was discussed. The Board will put the mowing out to bid in November. There were concerns the cemeteries were not getting mowed per the contract and it was mentioned that it has rained a lot this summer and the grass grew fast.
- C) Water issues on railroad property off of Route 12A was discussed. Basements on 12A are getting water in them. Rene suggested contacting environmental conservation division for their opinion on the dog river channel. It was noted that people should contact their Senators and Representatives for help. Rene will draft a letter that will be sent to the Governor, State Senators and State Representatives.

9. Other Business

- A) Request for town policies to be put on the town's website.
- B) Webmaster contract has been signed by the Chair once the suggestions had been put in the contract. The webmaster signed the contract.

10. Executive Session –None

11. With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Tammy Legacy, Selectboard Assistant
Approved on September 18, 2023