

MEETING OF THE
STRAFFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
April 23, 2014

Approved Minutes

Pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 312 (b)(1) Selectboard meeting minutes include

- (A) All members of the public body present;
- (B) All other active participants in the meeting;
- (C) All motions, proposals and resolutions made, offered and considered, and what disposition is made of same; and
- (D) The results of any votes, with a record of the individual vote of each member if a roll call is taken.

Although meeting minutes have complied with 1 V.S.A. § 312 (b)(1), any additional information is included as a courtesy.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members of the public body present:

Rod Maclay, Chair, Tori Lloyd, Steve Marx, Brent Cadwell, and John Freitag, Members

Other active participants:

Jennifer Brown, Reporter Herald of Randolph; Dori Wolfe, Wolfe Energy; Amy Metz, Conservation Commission, Dave Kendall, Fire Chief; Bill Burden, Emergency Management Director; Ron Rhodes, North Country River Steward, Connect River Watershed Council Inc.; Rocky Fuller, Town House Advisory Group; and Dori Wolfe, Wolfe Energy.

1. **CITIZENS CONCERNS:** Bob Murray sent a letter to the Selectboard concerning putting town property maintenance out to bid. He asked that Rod read it aloud and attached it to the approved minutes.
2. **MINUTES:** Approve minutes for 4/9/14 and 4/11/24. John made the motion to approve both 4/9/14 and 4/11/14 minutes. Brent seconded. All in favor.
3. **TOWN HIGHWAYS:** There are some issues with culverts that are being examined. There is a Watson Bridge site visit at 2 pm on April 28, 2014 necessitated by the replacement bridge being relocated.
4. **GENERAL:** Amy Metz of the Conservation Commission (CC) brought Ron Rhodes of the Connecticut River Watershed Council to the meeting to discuss the Maple Road Culvert of which its replacement was initially proposed three years ago and has been designated as a high priority by Rich Kirn, Fisheries Biologist, of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife. The culvert has scouring and surrounding riparian and livestock concerns. Amy outlined three possible projects associated with replacing the culvert: i) relocating an existing dry hydrant, ii) creating a riparian buffer, and iii) excluding livestock from the water which is a land owner project. The projects will be funded with grants; Fish and Wildlife and Vermont Better Back Roads may be sources for funding. The CC has mitigation enhancement funds of \$7,000 that can be used for this project. The Town may provide in kind work as matching funds. The total cost of the project has been estimated to be

close to \$23,000, but complete plans and a firm total estimate do not yet exist. The relocation of the dry hydrant will be addressed by Dave Kendall and the riparian work will be addressed with the CC. Dave, in conjunction with Troy Dare who manages the Dry Hydrant Program, is considering new location on Miller Pond Road. Any future work done by the CC will be put out to bid.

Rocky presented the latest version of the Town House brochure created by Peter Revers to the Town House Advisory Group (THAG), and the response was very positive. The Town House clean-up day will be April 26 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The THAG builders will meet May 4th to continue construction of the back house. Peter Duveneck has agreed to lay the slate floor in the Backhouse and Doc Bagley has agreed to smith the hardware. Lisa completed a spreadsheet that defines the types of donations THAG has received. For example, usage fees, peg sales, event fees, and donation box contributions total \$22,919. THAG projects have used \$12,325 with a balance of \$10,665 remaining. Rocky thanked Lisa for the helpful spreadsheet.

Bill updated the Selectboard on emergency management activities and offered a summary of his duties as Emergency Management Director (EMD). EMD provides support and information to the Selectboard during an emergency. He identifies recourses to match various emergencies and recommends training for the town compatible with state and federal regulations. Bill updates the Town Emergency Operation Plan every yea, handles administrative matters with the state, and takes trainings for emergency management. IBM has donated a desk, two chairs, and a credenza to be used on the second floor of the Town Office where Bill operates during an emergency. Vermont Alert is now operating and trainings are being offered to towns to learn about sending out messages to residents in the event of an emergency. This system would allow the Town to contact all residents by phone or internet and is at no cost to the Town. Bill is researching possible Vermont Alert training dates and times. Bill noted that many grants now require that Selectboard members complete two incident command trainings (ICS402 and IS100) as a prerequisite to applying for certain communication grants. The repeater has been installed in the Town Garage and is working well. Tower is now 65ft, 15ft taller than the first tower, and requires ACT 250 paperwork that Bill is completing.

Dori Wolfe presented a revised Letter of Intern (LOI) to the Selectboard regarding the proposed 65Kw solar array project under Strafford Energy LLC. The following language was added to the LOI first draft to clarify the purpose of the LOI: The parties agree to negotiate in good faith to execute a net metering credit purchase agreement containing the following proposed terms. John moves that the Selectboard approve and sign the LOI. Steve is seconded. Rod recused himself. Four in favor. John made a motion that Tori sign on behalf of the Selectboard. Steve seconded. All in favor.

The Town received two bids for the clearing of the Town Common and the Town House: one from Shannon Higgins and one from Dana Colson Property Management. John made the motion to approve Shannon Higgins's bid for cleaning and debris removal from the Common and Town House Grounds for the 2014-2016 contract period. Steve seconded. All in favor.

The Town Garage has a longstanding issue of water condensing between the roof, the insulation and the walling. There is inadequate air flow as a result of the initial construction. The fire alarm sensor has been damaged, and the heating system needs to be repaired. Additional information is being gathered before any decisions on next steps are made.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm Tori made the motion. Brent seconded. All in favor.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Lloyd