

Strafford Selectboard
Special Meeting 6-27-18

Members present: Brian Johnson, John Freitag, Kate Siepmann, Toni Pippy, Lauri Berkenkamp
Others present: Lisa Bragg, Jon MacKinnon

The board went into executive session at 5:30 p.m.

The board came out of executive session at 5:54 p.m. Per the personnel policy, a motion was made and seconded to support Jon MacKinnon's decision to dismiss an employee. This termination will include 40 hours of accrued vacation and insurance coverage through July 31, 2018. Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Strafford Selectboard
Regular meeting 6-27-18

Meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

Members present: Brian Johnson, John Freitag, Kate Siepmann, Toni Pippy, Lauri Berkenkamp
Others present: Lisa Bragg, Jon MacKinnon, Janet Hardy, Jennifer Brown for the Herald of Randolph

1. Citizens Concerns:

There were no citizens' concerns

2. Town Highways and Equipment Update

a) Equipment, roads, and roadside mowing. Paving and mowing are in progress. The town crew has mowed most of the chervil before it went to seed. Ditching grant work is almost done — Maple Hill and Alger Brook are completed. The crew built up the road through Maple Hill to mitigate erosion. Hydroseeding will cost \$1500. Guard rails on Route 132 near Vince Robinsons will be replaced at a cost of \$13,000—this is covered in the materials budget.

b) New tractor bids due. The board received two bids: HB Fairfield at \$139,153 and Pete's Equipment at \$127,250. Jon MacKinnon will provide more information about each bid at the next meeting.

c) FEMA update: Town is current with all FEMA requirements for reimbursement. All claims are moving forward.

3. Approve Minutes of June 13

Board voted to approve the minutes of the June 13 meeting.

4. Correspondence

a) Email from Paul Kifner. The board acknowledged receipt of email.

b) Emails from Ed Hathaway re: blasting protocol and blasting fact sheet. Board discussed how to notify town when blasting would occur during each week and will ask the EPA for the blasting schedule on the Friday prior to each week's blasting. The board will post the notice from the EPA on the town listserves and will also post on the town website. Notice is also on the EPA website. Board members will attend a site visit to the mine on Thursday, July 28 at 5 p.m.

c) Letter from Orange County Sheriff's Office re: increase in hourly rate. New rate is \$46.00 hour. Rather than having the town pay more, they are reducing their hours serving Strafford.

d) Letter from Vermont Land Trust re: potential farmland conservation. Board acknowledged receipt of letter. No action required.

e) Letter from Hughes Smith Atwood & Mullaly re: Furnace Flat Road/Whitcomb Hill. Board confirmed a meeting with all parties on July 25 at 6:30 to address concerns presented by landowners' attorneys. As a courtesy, all work will cease until after the meeting.

f) Letters from Steve Willbanks and Janet Cavanaugh thanking the town road crew and board for mowing chervil. Board acknowledged receipt of letters.

5. Janet Hardy—update—One kitten is left at the Claffey house, which Janet will catch. Two other cat problems in town: one on Beacon Hill and another in the Upper Village. No one has claimed either cat. Janet will try to catch them. Board approved paying Janet an annual \$1,500 stipend for her animal control work rather than pay her an hourly rate. She will also be reimbursed for any expenses up to \$500. Both items are in the approved 2019 budget.

6. General:

a) Liaison updates. Request to use Murray Field for a Wednesday night exercise class. Baseball tournament was a success. A new lid arrived for the recycling center.

b) Sign agreement between between Town and Creative Pre-School. Agreement was signed by Toni Pippy on behalf of the board.

c) Sign response to Miller & Candon. Letter was signed by Toni Pippy on behalf of the board.

d) Sign Memorandum of Understanding re: miniature Townhouse. Document was signed by Toni Pippy on behalf of the board.

e) Review of Selectboard letter to Vermont Council on Rural Development. The board reviewed the letter and had no suggested changes to the body of the letter.

f) Governance Committee Recommendations: Appreciation of Strafford volunteers event is tentatively planned for Sunday, August 19 at 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome. More details to be determined at the next meeting.

7. Other

Delinquent tax update: Most are on payment plans. On July 1 delinquent tax collector will start the process for tax sales on those who have not made any payments or arrangements for payment plans.

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Notice of Intent: Toni Pippy signed on behalf of the board to comply with storm water management mandates.

Board discussed protocol for citizens' concerns and recommends people attend meetings or send correspondence for discussion.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauri Berkenkamp
Recording clerk