

Strafford Selectboard Minutes 4-11-18

Members present: John Freitag, Brian Johnson, Lauri Berkenkamp

Other citizens present: Roz Finn; Mary Ann Wakerlin; Jennifer Brown, reporter for the Herald; Bill Burden, Ellen Bagnato, Jody Lowes, Lauren Phelps

Meeting called to order 6:03 pm

1. Citizen's Concerns

Roz Finn: wants to build another wall on her property and believes some of the land is on town right of way. Brian and John MacKinnon will review the location. Roz is also concerned about erosion near the bridge. Roz also had a public health concern. John recommended contacting Steve Marx, the Strafford Health Officer.

2. Town Highways and Equipment Update

Equipment is fine

A) TRORC—TAC Appointment: Board approved a motion to have John MacKinnon reappointed to the TAC.

b) Caldwell highway access request on Miller Pond Road: The board approved this highway access.

c) BR #19 on Old City Falls Road (license approval request): A temporary bypass is necessary to repair the bridge near Kendall Road, and Logan Scelza, the local landowner, will allow the town to use his land to do so. The town agrees to replace every tree taken down due to the bypass on privately owned land with two new trees.

3. Village Center designation presentation:

Brian and John participated in a tour of the villages with Richard Amore, the Vermont Housing and Urban Development liaison. Village Center designation will allow for tax credits to encourage improvements in village centers. This will comply with our town plan. The board approved applying for South Strafford and Strafford as village center designations.

4. Approve Minutes of March 28:

Board approved the minutes of March 28

5. Correspondence:

a) Elizabeth Mine Update: Follow up to sink hole on side of the Mine Road. Poses no danger to the road at this time. EPA will fix in time.

b) Email John Schmelzer re: Tyson Road Bridge and EPA trucks. Board will correspond with Pam Thurber in support of an inspection of the bridge before and after the project so that the town infrastructure can be monitored for damage.

c) Town speeding: citizen interested in knowing if the town receives payment for speeding violations in town. The answer is yes. The board will write back to confirm.

d) Farmers Market: this will be tabled until the next meeting on April 25.

6. Tree removal around Town Office building:

Estimate to remove the trees, grind stumps, and remove debris to the end of the building: \$900 by Eli Mintz Lisa will follow up with Phoebe Mix, abutting property owner, regarding permission. Board approved this expense.

7. Playground beside the Tyson Gym:

Representatives from the preschool and recreation board presented plans to replace one of the existing play structures at the preschool. Board spoke with the town's insurance carrier; because it is on recreation area land, the town is responsible for it any time the preschool is not in session. Insurance provider had specific recommendations for compliance. The Board recommends that the preschool work with the insurance carrier and the rec board for wording on appropriate signage on the structure. John will talk to the town attorney to create a draft agreement between town and preschool over use of the land and responsibility.

8. a) Liaison appointments and updates—EOP Bill Burden:

Bill has updated the EOP resulting from Town Meeting and meetings with the fire chief. Brian signed off on the EOP.

b) Removing Pole Lines update:

Dotty Shnure reported that the lines from Strafford to South Strafford are the responsibility of GMP, although Fairpoint is responsible for removing the poles once all equipment is gone. Toni will follow up with Fairpoint.

c) VELCO update:

VELCO expects to send the same number of trucks on the roads as 2017. The town is keeping track of the number of trucks passing through. Road crew foreman will meet with them before trucking commences.

d) Governance Committee Recommendations, follow up:

The board will submit an article in the Strafford News every month focused on town government. This month John will submit an article on the town website.

e) Town House UPS cost:

Mary Ann Wakerlin (representative of the Strafford Historical Society) requested that the town contribute to the cost and share in the ownership of a donated model of the Townhouse. The cost of crating and shipping was \$800. The board agreed to cover the costs not raised by the historical society, up to half of the cost of shipping and crating (up to \$400). Final cost to the town will be determined by August.

f) Fire truck Loan:

the Board signed the loan for the fire truck.

9. Other:

Stone Soup Liquor License

The board voted to approve the Stone Soup's liquor license

Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:15.