

Strafford Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 28, 2022, 6pm at Town Office
227 Justin Morrill Hwy, Strafford, 05072

Members participating: Toni Pippy, Jeff Solsaa (via zoom), David Paganelli, Brian Johnson, Mary Linehan

Others participating via zoom: Rodney Sloat, John Freitag, Stephen Dycus, Mary Thompson, Phoebe Mix, Rett Emerson, Kevin Lynch, Greg Colling, Kate Cassidy, Rocky Fuller.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Public Concerns. None.
2. Highway.
 - a. Roads and equipment. Jeff Solsaa updated the board on status of the highway department. PD is out sick, the crew continues with hauling sand. The culvert on Whitcomb Hill has been removed and the repair work was done properly. Jeff and PD have confirmed that the job is complete, noting that the driveway permit was approved in Oct 2021.
 - b. Tyson Bridge. Tyson bridge repair is underway, and will require approximately two more weeks of work, weather permitting,
 - c. Additional Radar Speed Limit signs. Solar-powered for a radar sign cost estimate is \$3,500. Jeff will look for a better price. Discussion re speeding concerns in both villages, Chair proposes to bring Sherriff in to monitor.
 - d. Open forum on Position Vacancies. PD attended the forum held in Norwich. Jeff will follow up to see what was learned.
 - e. Stone wall, Breese property. Mary confirmed that stones along Downer Forest Road have been removed, but stones along the Breese driveway remain. Board is waiting for PD's review and advice.
 - f. Potential applicant for Road Crew has been identified and will be reviewed by the board.
 - g. Treasurer advised that sand expenditures for the year have exceeded the budgeted line item.
3. Approve the minutes of the 9/14/22 regular meeting. Motion passed to approve the minutes with the following addition to agenda item 3: "The board agreed that scope or purpose of the proposed feasibility study first and foremost is to address the Town Office needs for workspace, state-legislated file and record storage, health and safety consideration and other critical aspects of functionality which is detailed in the Town Office Planning Committee Report, dated September 7, 2021. Also, to determine the physical changes, land acquisition and building expansion that is required to renovate and add on to the current Town Office building with a full and detailed estimation of costs" and to remove inaccurate statements. Toni, Mary, and Jeff voted in favor; Brian opposed; David abstained due to absence from the Sept 14th meeting.
4. Budget to actual as of 9/19/22. Chair gave brief update on the status of the budget.
5. Acknowledgement of Correspondence
 - a. Recreation Committee, RE: 9/12/22 minutes
 - b. Kaitlin Norton, RE: Speeding near the Common
 - c. R. Byron Breese, RE: Stone wall

- d. John Freitag, RE: 3rd Town Office Committee
- e. Chris Burgess, RE: Perpetual Lease Land (Glebe Land)
- f. Steve Dycus, RE: Town Office Renovations
- g. Shane Murray-Smith as possible new dog officer

6. Liaison Updates.

- Planning Commission is getting close to finalizing Unified Bylaws and conduct a public hearing.
- Conservation Commission contacted David Paganelli to note that someone has mowed the top of Whitcomb Hill and expressed concern for the trails and liability. Selectboard would like to avoid creating any ill will among trail neighbors and would appreciate a sensitive approach from the Conservation Commission.
- David Paganelli was requested to inquire as to plans for removal of the skatepark trappings from the Park and Ride before winter.

7. Motion passed to enter executive session to discuss an application of employment at 6:38 pm. Exited executive session at 6:58 pm. Motion unanimously passed to authorize Jeff Solsaa to conduct an interview and undertake negotiations and to make a suitable offer within the salary limits discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Linehan
Recording Secretary