

Minutes of the Strafford Selectboard
January 11, 2017

Members of the public body present: Toni Pippy, Stephen Marx, Brian Johnson, John Freitag, Brent Cadwell (arrived at 7 pm)
Other active participants: Lisa Kendall, Roz Finn

Citizen Concerns (at 7:05 pm) Roz had two concerns. First she has been hearing some banging noises mostly in the afternoon and evening and was wondering what they might be. Second, she was told by a man from Miller Construction that she would not be able to stay in her house during bridge construction this summer. This was news to the Board as this has never been mentioned by the State who is overseeing the project. Brent will check out.

Correspondence: An email from Richard Amore from the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development informing the Board that South Strafford village has been de-designated as a village center. This was due to lack of a new Town Plan.

Minutes: Toni moved and Stephen seconded to approve the minutes of December 28, 2016. Minutes were approved with no changes to the draft minutes

Town Highways:

Equipment all good and roads being dealt with as we continue to have challenging weather conditions.

Town Truck replacement: Toni moved and Brent seconded to accept the bid from Gateway of \$85,671 for a new ton truck, plow, sander and extended warranty. Due to fewer payments on other equipment this year this purchase will not necessitate an increase in taxes. Lisa will present finance option at next Board meeting.

Highway Mileage Certification: The Board signed paperwork certifying no change in town highways.

General:

Brian moved and Stephen seconded to adopt Hazard Mitigation Plan developed by Two Rivers and Town Emergency Management Director Bill Burden. All approved.

A new Town Plan time line sent by Planning Commission Chair Steven Campbell was reviewed. If all goes well it will be adopted after hearings by the Planning Commission and Selectboard this spring.

John was designated to write a draft to be reviewed of the Selectboard Report for the 2016 Town Reports.

The Board reviewed work to date of the Governance Committee. The Board is appreciative of all the work the Committee has done and looks forward to their final recommendations. It was agreed for better communication to have a separate line item in this year's budget in the Town Reports for the Selectboard Assistant rather than combining it with other Selectboard expenses as has been done in the past.

The Board reviewed a budget presentation put together by Toni and Lisa. There will be further work on the budget at the Special Selectboard Meeting on January 18.

Other:

The Board discussed the Recreation Board's recommendation not to have the Varney Field be used as a rehearsal site for a play involving a flock of sheep in June days before the annual Strafford vs. South Strafford 4th of July softball game. John will work on helping to find an alternative site.

Toni moved and Brian seconded to adjourn. All approved and the meeting ended at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

John Freitag