

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting

7:00 pm

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

Town Offices

Present: Chair, Kathy Barrett, Vice Chair, Carole Hall, Steve Dupoise (via Skype), Doug Tolles, Jim Walsh, and Clerk, Pam Kingman

Visitors: Bridget Kipp, John Kipp, Dan Monger, Dan Collette, Maura Lester, Sam Lester, Jim Dandeneau (Rep. from Anbaric), Polly Darnell, Erin Baslow, Billy Baslow and Dean Gilmore

Adjustments to the Agenda ** Town Hall front Porch / Town Hall cafeteria doors leaking / Liquor License / Vermont Gas / AOT Letter re: Vergennes Bypass

AGENDA RESULTS:

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT:

1. **Road Update:** Due to storms, Road Foreman, Jeff Terry was unable to attend.
2. **Equipment Update:** see above
3. **VTRANS – Middlebury – New Haven NH SURF (55) Paving Project:** Road Crew Staff, Katie Reilley prepared a letter to respond to VTRANS, acknowledging they (VTRANS) will be paving intersections along Route 7 in New Haven. Doug Tolles made a motion to acknowledge the letter, dated 2/1/16 and to ok work to be done in in the towns' right of way. Motion seconded by Carole Hall. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
4. **VTRANS – Grant Applications –** Steve Dupoise made a motion to defer the grant applications, seconded by Carole Hall. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
5. **Review Grant request for New Haven Highways, ditches and studies –** Jim Walsh asked to have this added to the agenda, but he was having a “senior moment”, and could not recall why.
6. **Road Commissioner Job –** 3 applications went out, none came back in.
7. **Pike Agreement –** Jim Walsh met with Pike Industry representatives last week, the presented a draft memorandum of understanding between the Town and Pike for the maintenance, paving and usage of Campground Road. The Selectboard agreed they would like Attorney Hill to look it over, Jim will forward to Town Attorney, Cindy Hill. Discussed that the Board wants it in writing, a signed agreement between Pike Industries and the Town of New Haven. Jim was given advice that the town should contact District 5, and ask if an engineer from AOT would look at the roads with Road Foreman, Jeff Terry. This would increase our odds of getting grants or grants for paving. Kathy Barrett suggested Katie Reilley ride with the engineer.

VISITORS BUSINESS:

1. Most of the people in the audience were here for any discussion on the Vermont Green Line project a/k/a Anbaric. Jim Dandeneau has set up an office above the Village Green Market; he is working as a liaison between the Town and VGL. He encouraged people to call him with questions and concerns; his phone number is 489-6681. He is just getting up to speed on the project; so he may not know all the answers yet. Dan Monger asked if some of the \$75k the town received from Anbaric will be used to hire an expert to evaluate property. Carole Hall said that has not happened yet, but other experts have been hired. Polly Darnell remembered when Anbaric first approached the Selectboard, they'd promised to hire a mutually agreed upon appraiser, as well as helping lower income folks in town with weatherization projects; she said now that has all been pulled. Jim Dandeneau said they are in the process of agreeing upon an assessor, and the weatherization piece is still available. Doug Tolles asked Mr. Dandeneau what his background is, and who he is actually working for. Dandeneau said it is community outreach, and he has been hired by the development corporation for the project. He reports to Joe Rossignoli, from National Grid. Bridget Kipp asked what happens to the railroad tracks when they come through, are they torn up or will they go underneath. She also questioned how often the diesel backup generators would be tested, and if they are loud and smelly. Mr. Dandeneau did not know the answer, but he will find out. Doug Tolles asked how many in the audience who have met with Anbaric, are satisfied. Three have met with them, and none are satisfied. Discussed who is considered an abutter to the converter station property. Doug Tolles explained it in the solar world it is site specific, he is not sure how Anbaric is figuring who is an abutter and who is not. Carole Hall and Steve Dupoise are asking Anbaric to work with all those directly impacted as opposed to just abutters. Including those affected by noise, visual impact and lighting. Steve added New Haven is conducting its own sound study; the experts are looking at the bigger picture. Jim Walsh said the experts are not taking into consideration the noise from the VELCO substation too. Carole Hall said she reiterated to Anbaric at their meeting last Thursday that they need to take the VELCO substation into consideration, as will our hired expert.

TOWN OFFICE BUSINESS:

1. Town Hall Applications - none
2. Appointment of Constable and Dog Warden – Carole Hall made a motion to appoint Wayne Marcelle as the First Constable and Dog Warden, seconded by Steve Dupoise. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no

3. Doug Tolles made a motion to approve the liquor license for COCO Mart a/k/a Jiffy Mart, seconded by Jim Walsh. Vote taken by roll 5 yes / 0 no
4. Town Hall: Pam Kingman said there are ongoing issues with the building. The front porch was sagging, she has had Aaron Napoleon fix it for the time being, but it will need more work in the spring / summer. Also after the heavy snow and all the rain and wind we had this week, Ryan Cormier from the Mary Johnson After School program spent most of his day mopping up water that was leaking in through a crack in the cement by the cafeteria doors. This has been an ongoing issue when weather conditions are just right. Pam again called Aaron who came with a wet vac and set it up. She also called the road crew, and they bought sand bags, but it didn't help. This issue also needs to be addressed this spring or summer.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Doug Tolles made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 2/6/16, in the amount of \$4,292.88, seconded by Jim Walsh. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
2. Jim Walsh made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 2/13/16, in the amount of \$3,040.84, seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
3. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 2/10/16, in the amount of \$27,855.79, seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
4. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the general fund and road fund budgets for December 2015 and January 2016, seconded by Kathy Barrett. Vote taken by roll call 2 yes / 3 abstentions (Hall / Tolles / Walsh) Motion fails
5. Outside Audit contract: Telling & Associates for year ending December 2016 - Steve Dupoise made a motion to sign the contract with Telling & Assoc. for the year ending Dec. 2016, seconded by Kathy Barrett. Doug Tolles said he would rather wait, and meet with Tom. Carole Hall respects that he would like to wait. Deferred until March 22, 2016, Pam Kingman will invite the Auditors and Tome Telling to attend the meeting. Auditor, Polly Darnell said she would like to work with Tom Telling & Associates again this year, they are an easy group to work with. Jim Walsh asked if our Town Treasurer is bonded. Kathy Barrett said no, and it is unclear which insurance covers this area.
6. Kathy Barrett – She received an email from Beverly Landon with some budget questions. The other Selectboard members also received the same questions. Kathy has answered her questions. ** See attached**

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the minutes from 2/2/16, seconded by Jim Walsh. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Interim Zoning Bylaws Solar siting – Doug Tolles said this will play an important role in our Town Plan. A 2.2MW Chelsea solar array was just denied in Bennington, one of the key reasons was because of the language in the Town Plan was specific enough to have it denied. He said it will make all the difference in how our town plan is worded to be able to fight solar arrays that do not conform to our plan. Doug said Cindy Hill is in the process of getting a copy of Bennington's Town Plan.
2. Solar update – There are currently 3 applications in front of the PSB for technical hearings; Attorney Hill has been diligently working on the legal briefs for them. Some arrays in town are considered frozen because there is no longer room for them in the grid, because the grid has hit its cap. These include: Tunbridge Solar, Livingston Solar, Sawyer Sun and Miller Sun.
Doug has also done some research on Field Days Road, finding it is actually a 6 rod road, which now include town owned hedge rows that are crucial to Green Peak Solar who wants to install a 20 acre array of Field Days Rd.
3. AOT Letter – RE: Vergennes Bypass: Cindy Hill had recommended 3 changes, which included recognizing Rt 17 as a scenic highway, and that the Addison Bridge needs replacing. This letter was previously approved by all members, it was signed by them tonight, Pam Kingman will mail it to everyone listed on the letter tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **VT Gas** – Jim Walsh said he has been in contact with Ned Farquhar, he would like to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss the upcoming construction season. Jim said he will at the March 8, 2016 meeting.
1. Fondo Bike race held June 2016 – Doug Tolles made a motion to authorize the Selectbaord Chair to sign the letter allowing the Fondo Bike race to come through New Haven, providing insurance certificate to the town if requested. Motion seconded by Jim Walsh. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no

OTHER BUSINESS:

Carole Hall made a motion to find that premature general public knowledge of the town's contract with Anbaric would clearly put the Selectboard at a substantial

disadvantage, because the Selectboard risks disclosing its negotiation strategy if it discusses the proposed contract terms in public. Motion seconded by Steve Dupoise. Vote taken by roll call 4 yes / 1 no (Barrett)

Carole Hall made a motion to go into executive session at 9:06 pm to discuss the town's contract with Anbaric under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes. Motion seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no

Carole Hall made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:45 pm, seconded by Steve Dupoise. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no No action taken

Carole Hall made a motion to have a Selectboard meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 6:15 pm, or to immediately follow the BCA meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss Anbaric negotiations in executive session. Motion seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Sheriff's Activity Logs

The next scheduled meeting is on February 23, 2016 at 6:15 pm or immediately following the BCA meeting.

Adjourn:

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:

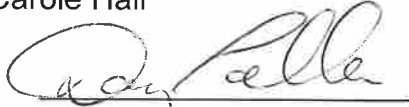


Chair, Kathy Barrett

Vice Chair, Carole Hall

Steve Dupoise

Jim Walsh



Doug Tolles

