

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting
7:00 pm
Tuesday, July 9, 2019
Town Offices

Selectboard: Chair, Steve Dupoise, Vice Chair, Kathy Barrett, Taborri Bruhl, Jim Walsh, Absent: John Roleau
Town Administrator / Zoning Administrator: Aaron Brown
Treasurer: Barb Torian
Selectboard Assistant: Pam Kingman
Road Foreman: Tim Rich
Visitors: Bruce Many, Bev Landon and Marcia Dupoise

****Adjustments to the Agenda:** Hazard Mitigation Plan / J. Madden lawsuit / Munger St. Cemetery fence / Attorney Hill response to Peck Solar – next agenda / PFOA Foam pick up from Fire Dept. – Jim Walsh emailed Fire Chief, Alan Mayer to see if and when the foam was picked up, he had cc'd the email to Clerk Pam Kingman. Neither of them heard back from Alan Mayer. Steve Dupoise asked Aaron Brown to contact Chief Mayer.

Steve Dupoise opened the meeting by welcoming new Town Administrator and Zoning Administrator, Aaron Brown.

ROAD REPORT: given by Road Foreman, Tim Rich with input from Bruce Many

1. Road Update:

- Working on ditching roads. Lime Kiln Road: all culverts are done, and it still needs some ditching. Then they will move on to River Road and Halpin Road. They are concentrating on problem areas on dirt roads. Ditching materials are being trucked back to the pit for future use.
- Nash bridge (on River Road) VTRANS has inspected the abutments and found they are down, but they are not worried about it. They said it looks bad cosmetically, but doesn't harm the structure. The State is more concerned with the erosion from recent high water. There is a large tree wedged under the bridge the road crew will remove while water is low.
- Pike Industries will return on July 23 to finish paving Dog Team Road; then move on to finish River Road.
- Dog Team Road on the hill (south of Rivers Bend Rd) there is water seeping up through the base coat of asphalt and causing it to heave. Tim and Bruce have dug this up once and thought they corrected the

problem. They will have to dig a trench and add a 6" perforated pipe for better drainage and to prevent further damage to the road.

- Line striping will happen in August.
 - Looking at grant money from ACRPC to help ditch Cobble Road. Middlebury has completed "their side" of the road; the crew would like to get our side done so the whole road is done during the same summer.
 - Reclassifying Pearson Road: Danielle Cummings called the State, we already have the max amount of miles of Class 2 roads, and are unable to add any more.
2. **Equipment Update:** No issues. The MAC recently sold. (Was it sold or taken to Clarks for Clarks to sell for us?)
 3. **Update on Road Access on Dog Team Road:** No one has heard anything from the News. Steve Dupoise gave Aaron Brown an overview of the issue.
 4. **Otter Creek Engineering request for reimbursement:** Taborri Bruhl made a motion authorize Steve Dupoise to sign the request for reimbursement from the grant from the State of VT for the Otter Creek Culvert project. Motion seconded by Jim Walsh. 4 yes / 0 no ** This project will happen in 2020
 5. **Other**

VISITORS BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSSINESS:

1. Jim Walsh had a question about budgeting for next year, if projects will need to be cut because of the large school bill we incurred. He didn't see it reflected in the tax rate. Treasurer, Barb Torian said the tax rate can only be set to raise the amount approved by the voters. She suggested they could change the wording of the article at Town Meeting. Steve added with the Beaver Creek project not happening this year will help. It's a constant up and down, it's no different if we had a huge wash out we had to fix. Jim said they should address it next March to the voters as it is a 150% increase. Steve said the road budget is high, maybe next year it won't be. It is premature to discuss now.
2. **Set Tax rate:** Steve Dupoise made a motion to set the penalty at 3%, seconded by Kathy Barrett. 4 yes / 0 no
Kathy Barrett made a motion to set the Municipal tax rate at .4193, seconded by Steve Dupoise. Discussion: Jim was saddened, he asked Barb for a rough guess on tax rate, her guess was \$.39, he was banking on that amount, now its \$.42. Kathy Barrett said at the time there were too many unknowns for the grand list. 4 yes / 0 no

3. Kathy Barrett made a motion to accept with regret and gratitude, Dave Wetmore's resignation as acting Zoning Administrator. Motion seconded by Taborri Bruhl. 4 yes / 0 no

TOWN OFFICE:

1. Town Hall Applications: None

ONGOING:

1. **Update on dehumidifier in Town Hall:** Kathy Barrett met with Jim Moore from New England Air Systems last month. He emailed Kathy three different suggestions for the Town Hall. There recommended solution was quoted between \$30 - \$40k; which the board does not feel comfortable bringing before the voters. Steve asked Aaron to take over this project.

MINUTES:

1. Kathy Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes from 6/18/19, seconded by Steve Dupoise. 3 yes / 1 abstention (Bruhl)

FINANCIAL:

1. Kathy Barrett made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 6/22/19, in the amount of \$3,988.83, seconded by Taborri Bruhl. 4 yes / 0 no
2. Taborri Bruhl made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 7/1/19, in the amount of \$3,707.39, seconded by Kathy Barrett. 4 yes / 0 no
3. Kathy Barrett made a motion to approve the payroll for the week ending 7/6/19, in the amount of \$3,240.06 seconded by Taborri Bruhl. 4 yes / 0 no
4. Taborri Bruhl made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 7/8/19, in the amount of \$54,986.61, seconded by Steve Dupoise. 4 yes / 0 no
5. Jim Walsh spoke to Superintendent, Patrick Reen in regards to the humidity monitoring system in the Town Hall. Patrick has agreed to reimburse the town \$500 as the schools portion for monitoring.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:

1. Steve Dupoise asked if the Hazard Mitigation Plan is in place, it is.
2. John Madden's court case has moved to the Supreme Court, this is in regards to the natural gas in the town hall. Court date is scheduled for August 5, 2019, Attorney Hill will attend.
3. Munger St. Cemetery Fence – The Board received an email from the Cemetery Association saying they will be replacing the chain link fence with a split rail fence. The town does not own this cemetery, it is an independent organization.. Jim is concerned that we budget money for them every year, and they are

taking out a perfectly good fence. Invite Munger St. Cemetery Trustees to the Selectboard next meeting.

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Sheriff's Activity logs

Adjourn:

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved on 7-23-19

Chair, Steve Dupoise



Taborri Bruhl



Vice Chair, Kathy Barrett



Jim Walsh