

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting
7:00 pm
Tuesday, June 21, 2016
Town Offices

Present: Chair, Kathy Barrett, Vice Chair, Steve Dupoise, John Roleau, Doug Tolles, Jim Walsh, Treasurer, Barb Torian and Clerk, Pam Kingman

Visitors: Sue Ford, Sam Carlson, Nicole Burke, Bridget Kipp, Erin Baslow, Dan Morse, Rebecca Kennedy, Alan Frost and Dean Gilmore,

Adjustments to the Agenda: Lee Litigation / town building security service / vermin control in town buildings / S260 Energy Bill and the PC / Rattlin Bridge / Defer the Personnel policy / The Scherers will not be attending tonight's meeting

AGENDA RESULTS:

VISITORS BUSINESS:

1. **Delinquent Tax Collector, Sue Ford** – is preparing for tax sales, and looking for permission to hire an attorney for legal assistance. She has 8 properties that are 2 years delinquent.

Doug Tolles made a motion to authorize the Delinquent Tax Collector to hire Attorney, Jim Ouimette for legal assistance with the tax sales, with the costs being paid by the party paying the taxes at tax sale. Motion seconded by Steve Dupoise. 5 yes / 0 no

Steve Dupoise made a motion to authorize Town Treasurer, Barb Torian to bid on the properties if there are no bids; then the town takes the responsibility for the properties. If the Treasurer is not available, an Agent from the town will step in. Motion seconded by Doug Tolles. 5 yes / 0 no

Sue Ford said there is no date set for the tax sales yet, the earliest would probably be at the end of August.

2. **Sam Carlson, Green Lantern Solar** – Proposed 500kW solar array on the Russell Farm on Route 7. He is requesting the Selectboard drop the appeal to the Vermont Supreme Court. They are ready to begin construction, but have held off, because they want the Selectboards blessing. Green Lantern has their Certificate of Public Good from the Public Service Board and has all the necessary permits from VTRANS. Carlson asked if anyone has read the brief, Doug said he has read it. Carlson reviewed the brief. Carlson said Green Lantern will be filing their rebuttal tomorrow. Steve Dupoise and John Roleau both said

they could support the project if it were a 300kW array, which is what our town plan calls for. They both feel this would set precedence for future arrays in New Haven. Steve added if the Selectboard were to give up now, then we do we stop getting run over? John agreed, saying this was put to a town vote, this is what the townspeople wanted the board to do, we're not fighting solar, we're fighting the size of the array. The Selectboard has asked repeatedly for Green Lantern to shrink the array to conform to the town plan, and Green Lantern has chosen to ignore the repeated requests. Jim Walsh asked Sam Carlson to explain how he got \$50k for taxes to the town. Carlson said their CFO said it would be approximately \$2000 per year; the payment to the town would be \$44k over the next 20 years. Jim asked where the RECS are going. Carlson said it is up to the customer. Kathy Barrett said the Board will discuss the matter of the array later in the meeting, and thanked Sam Carlson for coming.

3. Nicole Burke from Golden Well Farm & Apiary (Old Nash Farm) which is located on River Road right next to the Nash Bridge. The bridge is currently under demolition for replacement; the new bridge is scheduled to reopen on August 27, 2016. Due to the bridge construction, Golden Well Farm has seen a huge decrease in their farm stand business. Nicole asked for permission from the Board to put up 6 signs to let motorists know they are still open. Nicole said she would like to put up signs at the end of Hunt Road, because right now that is the easiest way to get to the farm. She would also like to put signs up on River Road and Halpin Road letting folks know they are open.

John Roleau made a motion to authorize Golden Well Farm & Apiary to put up temporary signs (no more than 6). They need to get written permission from the landowners where said signs will be located (copies of written permission from landowners to the Selectboard), the signs will be removed upon the bridge re-opening and the signs will not obstruct the view from passenger vehicles. Signs may only contain information that the farm stand is open and which routes to take. Motion seconded by Steve Dupoise. 5 yes / 0 no

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Jim Walsh made a motion to approve the use of town roads for the Tour de Farms Bicycle ride on Sunday, September 18, 2016; at approximately 9:00 – 11:00 AM. Proof of insurance will be available just prior to the ride. (The ride will begin in Bristol and start times will be staggered) Motion seconded by Steve Dupoise. 5 yes / 0 no
2. John Roleau made a motion to accept the letter of resignation with regret from Steve Dupoise as Health Officer, effective as of July 1, 2016. Motion seconded by Jim Walsh. 5 yes / 0 no

3. Steve Dupoise made a motion to appoint Carol Charbonneau as Health Officer, beginning on July 1, 2016, seconded by Jim Walsh. 5 yes / 0 no

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the minutes from 5/3/16, seconded by John Roleau. 5 yes / 0 no
2. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the minutes from 5/10/16, seconded by John Roleau. 4 yes / 1 abstention (Barrett)
3. John Roleau made a motion to approve the minutes from 5/17/16, seconded by Steve Dupoise. 4 yes / 1 abstention (Tolles)
4. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the minutes from 5/23/16, seconded by Jim Walsh. 3 yes / 2 abstentions (Roleau / Tolles)
Doug Tolles made a motion to approve the minutes from 5/24/16, seconded by John Roleau. 5 yes / 0 no
5. John Roleau made a motion to approve the minutes from 6/7/16, seconded by Jim Walsh. 3 yes / 2 abstentions (Dupoise / Tolles)
6. July 2016 meeting schedule: The next meeting will be on the July 5, 2016, as there was no indication that there would not be a quorum.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. John Roleau made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 6/11/16, in the amount of \$3,767.26, seconded by Steve Dupoise. 5 yes / 0 no
2. Doug Tolles made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 6/18/16, in the amount of \$4,124.51, seconded by Steve Dupoise. 5 yes / 0 no
3. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 6/21/16, in the amount of \$52,596.47, seconded by John Roleau. 4 yes / 1 abstention (Tolles)
4. Doug Tolles talked with Tom Telling from Telling & Associates about the late year adjustments from 2015. They worked for 2 hours, but are still \$45k apart. Telling agreed their audit firm will start earlier in the year with the audit process. Steve Dupoise made a motion to approve the outside audit from Telling & Associates, and thanked Doug for his doing due diligence. Motion seconded by John Roleau 4 yes / 1 abstention (Tolles)
5. Kathy Barrett made a motion to approve the General fund and Road fund financials from December 2015, seconded by Steve Dupoise. 2 yes / 2 no (Tolles, Walsh) / 1 abstention (Roleau) *Doug said there is still the unexplained difference in the December financials. Motion failed.
6. Doug Tolles made a motion to approve the General fund and Road fund financials from May 2016, seconded by Jim Walsh. 5 yes / 0 no

ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

1. **Open Mowing Bids:** Only one bid was received from David Miner: \$45 per hour at 108 hours, mowing two swaths each mowing \$4,860. Total for mowing summer & fall: \$9,720.

John Roleau had previously discussed with Dan Morse and Road Foreman Jeff Terry about how fast the grass was growing, they decided to have David Miner go ahead with the first pass. John and Dan are in the process of locating someone with a boom that can mow and cut back brush in an 8' swath. Thereby eliminating the need for the Road Crew to have to cut so much brush. They have not found anyone as yet. They have also done some research on the cost for purchasing one, possibly in the coming years. Discussion about purchasing a boom that would fit onto the front of a loader. John said there is also a wet blade you can get that adds herbicide to the brush to prevent it from growing back. But if you do that, you need a driver specially licensed to spread herbicides. For now they will have Miner do the first roadside mowing, and hold off on the second one. Doug Tolles made a motion to reject the mowing bid by David Miner, seconded by John Roleau. 4 yes / 1 abstention (Barrett)

2. **Road Update:** Work continues on Campground Road in preparation for paving. The culvert on the Pearson Road end needs replacing. John and Dan Morse met with Chris LaPete, he will be starting the ditch fix on Field Days Rd this Wednesday. John asked VT Gas for as much stone as we can get; VT Gas agreed, the stone has been trucked to the town garage; the crew will screen it and then deliver it to Field Days Road to be used where Chris LaPete is working. Field Days Road will need a culvert replaced while LaPete is out there. John added when VT Gas is done, the town will receive a large amount of stone that VT Gas must remove from their temporary accesses.
3. **Equipment Update:** The 2014 International had a brake issue, John and Dan are hoping to fix it tomorrow. The parking brake on the loader has been fixed.
4. John said he does not want the crew out cutting brush when the temps are near 90 degrees. He has had them checking culverts on Hallock Rd, and doing an inventory at the same time.
5. Paving Bid discussion – Katie Reilley has typed up paving bids for Campground Road / Hallock Road and Quaker Village Road. She has asked the Selectboard to review her draft. Changes to include: contractors can bid on one or all items and to check the paving widths compared to the reclamation widths.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Personnel Policy** – defer
2. **Lee Litigation update** – Doug Tolles wanted to be clear that the last minutes stated we were waiting for the judge to render his decision. Before that could happen, Attorney Hill had to enter our final brief which wasn't due until Friday, June 17, 2016. So, the minutes were incorrect. Now that the final brief has been submitted, we are now awaiting the judge's final decision.
3. **Solar Update:** Doug Tolles and Attorney, Cindy Hill recently went to Montpelier. Doug said the appeal to the Vermont Supreme Court is still viable re: Russell Farm. He added that because ACT 260 has changed again, the Planning Commission may have to hold another public hearing on the Town Plan. Doug said they are still waiting for decision on the Vandal array on Field Days Rd. There have been no new applications and no construction, Green Mtn Power has hit its limit. Doug praised Attorney Hill for her hard work.
4. **Vermont Green Line (Anbaric project) Update:** Steve Dupoise said Dick Saudek has been on vacation for the past 2 weeks, so nothing new has happened. When Dick returns he will dig into the agreement / contract piece. Steve said it would be roughly 6 weeks before we see a draft. Doug Tolles said he would like the Board to pass a motion to intervene, so we get party status. Steve said he will have Dick work on that. Discuss how the town will spend the money if the project goes through. Steve reiterated what Kathy Barrett had said about getting a committee of towns' people with Fire Dept members and the Selectboard.
5. **Jim Walsh** is concerned about the security of the town buildings. He would like to see them monitored for temperatures too low / too high. He doesn't think it would cost too much to add these to the security contract. He referred to the King House when the pipes froze because no one had been in the building. Jim Walsh will call Marshalls Alarm Service to inquire about additional costs.
6. **Jim Walsh** is also concerned about rodent control in all the buildings. Discuss setting traps at the town garage. Pam Kingman will call Orkin and Family First Pest Control.
7. **S260 bill** – This new bill states towns will need to designate areas in their town for renewable energy generation. Jim Walsh is concerned about the length of time it is taking the Planning Commission to get the Town Plan current. He wants to be sure the Board is ready. Once the Selectboard approves the Town Plan, we can bypass the Regional Planning Commission and go straight to the Commissioner for approval. Doug said the Town Plan must be specific as to the areas where solar should be and where it should not be located. But how does the Selectboard choose where solar should go? It was suggested to put something in the newsletter asking folks who may want to host arrays.

8. **Rattlin Bridge** – Jim Walsh was down at the bridge with Dan Morse. They have noticed several boards are in need of replacing; Jim thought it would be a good idea to determine what kind of lumber would work the best and how much will be needed. In the past this has been a shared expense with Weybridge. Budget for next year.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Doug Tolles made a motion to go into executive session at 9:25pm to discuss personnel; John Roleau would like Dan Morse to be present during the Road Crew discussion. Motion seconded by John Roleau. 5 yes / 0 no

Steve Dupoise made a motion to come out of executive session at 10:57 pm, seconded by Doug Tolles. 5 yes / 0 no **No action taken.

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Addison county Sheriff's Activity Logs




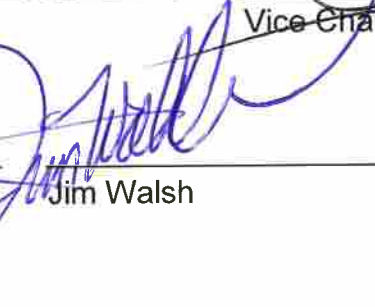

The next scheduled meeting is on July 5, 2016.

Adjourn: 10:57 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:

 _____ Chair, Kathy Barrett	 _____ Vice Chair, Steve Dupoise
 _____ John Roleau	 _____ Jim Walsh
	 _____ Doug Tolles