

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting
7:00 pm
Tuesday, October 18, 2016
Town Offices

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

Visitors: Bridget Kipp, Bruce Gepfert, Dan Morse, Dean Gilmore, Alan Mayer, Erin Baslow, Norma Norland and Chris Huston

Adjustments to the Agenda: Green Mountain Stage Race / asphalt results / First Class mail / start budget process / North – South Highway / Town Plan / Alan Mayer – Workers Comp claim for volunteer firefighter

AGENDA RESULTS:

VISITORS BUSINESS:

- 1. North South Highway** – Bruce Gepfert, Norma Norland and Chris Huston who live next to the Class 4 HWY were in the audience. They are concerned that all of a sudden there has been some brush hogging taking place along the old road bed, and into the wetland. Road Commissioner, John Roleau has said he has not authorized any work on the highway. He has only been on the highway twice, and the most recent was to meet with the District Wetland Ecologist, Zapata Courage. Zapata has told John and Doug that all work on the North South highway within her jurisdiction - wetlands and setback areas - needs to stop until she has given her site summary.

Doug referred back to a past Selectboard meeting where it was discussed about the Road Commissioner's suggestion of having volunteers go in and start working on the highway, because the road crew has too much to do. Doug had a group of 5 volunteers including himself in there clearing brush. John feels the 3 acres the town owns off the highway needs to be accessible to the public. Doug claims the Town is obligated by statute to maintain culverts and bridges on Class 4 roads per Vermont law.

John Roleau said this it is not a future road project; and to him it is not perfectly clear where the road is. He said it is fairly obvious where the ditch line is, but it is very over grown, and you really have to know what you are looking for.

Steve Dupoise said there was no clear plan on having the volunteers to go in there, the boundaries are not clearly defined; and it should have the approval of the whole Selectboard.

Kathy Barrett asked if the volunteers were covered by workers comp insurance. Doug Tolles would like to have the road open so the 3 acre parcel donated to the town by Andrew Johnson is accessible.

Kathy Barrett asked if the parcel was accessible from Route 17.

Doug said yes, but you have to gain access through the Choquettes' property.

Jim Walsh would like to have the Town Attorney write letters to all the neighbors of town owned property so the neighbors are fully aware of it being owned by the town.

Jim Walsh made a motion to hire a surveyor to survey and pin the North South highway, seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no

Kathy Barrett made a motion to have all work cease on the North South highway until the survey is done, seconded by John Roleau. Doug pointed out that the motion would be unenforceable and in violation of law. Vote taken by roll call 3 yes / 2 no (Tolles / Walsh)

The neighbors would like to be informed prior to any work being done on the highway as a common courtesy, as they were not informed at all prior to the recent work that was done. Doug reminded them that they all received a letter last year telling them the road exists, and that work would be performed on it to maintain it.

Jim Walsh made a motion to have the survey done by December 1, 2016; barring any extenuating circumstances; seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no ** Doug Tolles will contact the surveyors; he has the Boards permission to hire one of his choosing, up to \$5,000.

2. **New Haven Vol. Fire Dept. Chief, Alan Mayer:** Fire Chief Alan Mayer requested an executive session to protect the privacy of a firefighter. Doug Tolles felt this would violate the open meeting law, so this was discussed in open session. One of their volunteer firefighters had a significant medical incident during a recent fire call. Alan wanted the Selectboard to be aware as the firefighters are covered under the town's insurance policy for workers compensation; they are considered town employees.

3. **New Haven Vol. Fire Dept. Chief, Alan Mayer:** They are here to discuss the purchase of a used fire truck to replace the aging tanker (1991), with funds coming from the Fire Truck Fund. They have been gathering information about a used truck from a company out of Illinois called Osco. Two other area towns have gotten trucks from this company and are pleased. They have spec'd a tandem truck and tanker with new tires; will meet DOT inspection, Fire Safety regulations and new standards will cost approximately \$125k - \$128k; delivered. Osco requires a 20% deposit, and it is a 5 month build. There is currently \$133k in the Fire Truck fund. Alan would like to get the Selectboard's approval for a check for the deposit. Barb Torian stated that

by this should be an article on the warning at Town Meeting. John Roleau is concerned about the price for a used truck. He would like to see the specs.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Town Hall Application: None**

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Defer minutes from 10/4/16

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Doug Tolles made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 10/8/16, in the amount of \$4,259.46, seconded by John Roleau. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
2. John Roleau made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 10/15/16, in the amount of \$4,120.27, seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
3. Jim Walsh made a motion to approve the pay orders (outside agencies) for the week ending 10/18/16, in the amount of \$264,017.02, seconded by John Roleau. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
4. John Roleau made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 10/13/16, in the amount of \$121,783.31, seconded by Steve Dupoise. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
5. Kathy Barrett made a motion to approve the pay orders (School District) for the week ending 10/18/16, in the amount of \$3,296,530.00, seconded by Steve Dupoise. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
6. John Roleau made a motion to approve the pay orders (paving) for the week ending 10/18/16, in the amount of \$294,137.62, seconded by Steve Dupoise. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
7. Steve Dupoise made the motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 10/17/16, in the amount of \$14,589.17, seconded by Doug Tolles. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
8. Doug Tolles made a motion to approve Conley & Foote pay Carole Hall \$200.00 from September 2016 out of the Vermont Green Line (Anbaric), seconded by Jim Walsh. Vote taken by roll call 5 yes / 0 no
9. Doug Tolles made a motion to accept the financials and Highway fund for the first 9 months of the year, seconded by Jim Walsh. Vote taken by roll call 4 yes / 1 abstention (Barrett)
10. Selectboard received copies of the financials and bank statement.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Green Mountain Stage Race:** The Selectboard received a less than pleasant response to the letter the Board sent to them in regards to the many issues the town and neighbors along the route encountered.
Doug Tolles made a motion to ban Green Mountain Stage Race from New Haven roads forever. There was no second to the motion.
Doug Tolles made a motion to ban Green Mountain Stage Race from New Haven roads for the next 10 years, seconded by Jim Walsh. 3 yes / 2 no (Barrett / Dupoise) Steve Dupoise voted no because the same people could come back under a different name. It should be considered by a case by case basis.
2. **Solar discussion** – There is a Supreme Court Hearing on October 25th Doug will be attending, he would like to charge for mileage – no one had any objection. Doug has spoken with the developer for a 500kW array on Stan Livingston's property off Main St. Developer was insistent it will not be visible from the neighbors or the road. Namaste Solar is willing to make a contribution to the town for not fighting the project. Doug will come back to the Selectboard with a settlement offer. Still waiting on Peck Electric / Field Days and Russell Farm. Doug asked the Board if he should have Town Attorney, Cindy Hill pursue the non-existent (dead) plantings at Cross Pollination. The Board agreed to have Doug talk with Cindy.
3. **Vermont Green Line (Anbaric) update:** Steve Dupoise said they had a recent phone conference. They discussed the System Impact which was completed on October 11, 2016. Bids went out on the Impact Study on January 20, 2016 and are set to expire on October 23, 2016. VGL is set to go the PSB on October 21, 2016 for a CPG. There are approximately 15 projects in the bidding process; VGL is hoping to be in the top 2. There are 3 options in the bid process 1) Just allow to expire 2) ask to re-bid 3) choose one. VGL has approval from Beekmantown, New York, the only town they are still negotiating with is Ferrisburgh. They also have approval to go under Lake Champlain. Jim Walsh asked about the impact study for VELCO. Steve said there is a possible line upgrade from New Haven to Williston. One line would increase by 1/8 ", VGL plans to fight the upgrade.
4. **Pest Control** - defer
5. **Personnel Policy** - defer

ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

1. **Road Update:** Grading gravel roads / doing cold patch while the weather is warm / Cut trees along Daniels Road. Chris LaPete will be installing a 6" riser on Daniels Road, work will start next week.
2. **Equipment Update:** Loader will be out for service at the end of the month. Chris LaPete will transport it to Burlington for repairs for \$500 round trip, which is less money than if the Town crew transported it.
3. **Final inspection – Nash Bridge:** Dan Morse, Scott Busier and John Roleau met with Project Manager on the Nash Bridge. John is not prepared to send the final letter until he is sure the claims (long term well issue and damage to their cellar from pile driving) with the Regans have been addressed. John will email the Regans this week.
4. John received a call from Hilary Anderson on Munger St. She has concerns about the pull off where the public swimming hole is. The parking area is her property. She is hesitant to post it because people will still swim there, and then she can be held liable if someone gets hurt. She has seen increased drug activity and it has become a dump zone. She wants to close off the parking area with a ditch, rocks or plantings. John said he could put stones there, and Hilary could plant shrubs behind the stones.
5. **Quaker Village Road culverts:** The culverts have been reinforced. One end has been dammed up and one side is open. It needs to be patched and filled. Scott Busier suggested a company that puts sleeves inside old culverts, but John is not sure he wants to go that way.
6. **Pearson Road:** The northern end of the road is in rough shape. John was thinking about grinding it this year, and leaving it dirt through the winter, and paving it in the spring. Cost for grinding - \$12,362. Defer until next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Zoning Administrator, Dave Wetmore is asking for permission to attend a 4 day FEMA Flood Plain workshop in Massachusetts. Kathy Barrett made a motion to authorize Dave Wetmore to attend the workshop in Massachusetts, and have the town pay his expenses, seconded by Steve Dupoise. Doug said that Mr. Wetmore is "always stating his plate is full" and that since Mr. Wetmore has not addressed several issues in a timely manner, he certainly does not have time to go on this trip. Vote taken by roll call 4 yes / 1 no (Tolles)
2. Zoning Administrator, Dave Wetmore issued a Notice of Violation for an illegal subdivision on Delineation Corporation. He wanted the Selectboard to be aware of it.

- 3. Asphalt numbers from paving done by D & F Paving on Campground Road, Hallock Road and Quaker Village Road were distributed by Jim Walsh. There were no standards listed, but Jim Walsh said the numbers were good.
- 4. First Class mail – Jim Walsh asked why a piece of mail addressed to him with the towns address was opened. Pam Kingman and Barb Torian said any mail that has the Towns address gets opened and stamped received regardless of who it is addressed to. Jim will follow up with the New Haven postmaster.

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Addison County Sheriffs activity logs
- 2. Madden Correspondence

There will be a Public Hearing on the proposed Town Plan on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 in the Town Hall Cafeteria at 7:00 pm, the public is invited to participate.



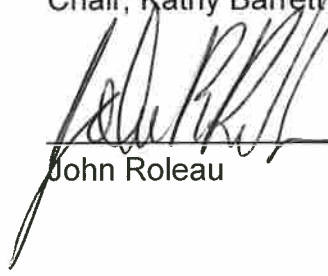
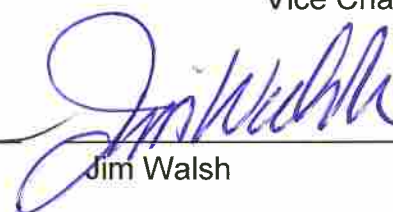
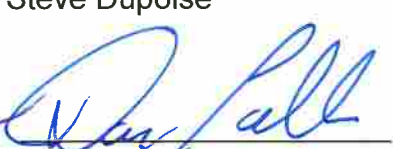
The next scheduled meeting is on November 1, 2016.

Adjourn:

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:

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