

BROOKLINE SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 7, 2015

Members Present: Bernardine Hoard, Bruce Mello, Mike O'Donnell, Stanley Noga, Dot Maggio

Others Present: Mark Bills, Win Clark, Jay Wilson, Greg Record, Mike Winot, Tom Brooks

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Bernardine Hoard, Chair. Bernardine noted that bids for Greer Road Bridge, plowing, and winter sand were closed, and no more bids would be accepted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Bernardine Hoard to enter into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. for Human Resource issues. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dot Maggio to resume the regular portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bruce Mello. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

September 11, 2015: The minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Bruce Mello to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mike O'Donnell. The motion carried unanimously.

September 16, 2015: The minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Dot Maggio to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Bruce Mello. The motion carried unanimously.

September 29, 2015: The minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Mike O'Donnell to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Scheduled Members of the Public:

NewBrook Fire Department: Members of the NewBrook Fire Department were present to discuss the Mutual Aid dues and town assessments. Jay Wilson presented a spreadsheet

showing mutual aid dues and other expenses of the department, along with town appropriations, showing the decline in their balance each year.

Greg Record noted that as times get tougher, fundraising is less successful, but they do continue fundraising efforts. He noted that while they are not sinking, they used to be able to put money aside for future necessary purchases, and they are currently needing to use that money on operating expenditures.

NewBrook requested that the Board consider adding Mutual Aid dues to their budget each year, in addition to the yearly appropriation they give. Mutual aid dues are assessed by the towns' grand lists.

The Board will continue discussing during budget time. Jay Wilson noted that the budget figures would be available in December.

Unscheduled Members of the Public:

There were no Unscheduled Members of the Public.

OLD BUSINESS

Greer Road Bids: Two bids were received. Bernardine opened the bids and read them into the record as follows:

- Daniels Construction: \$27,500.00
- Kerry Bourne: \$4,980.00

The Board reviewed the bids. Discussion ensued regarding insurance requirements and the completion dates.

Mark Bills reported on the locust to be provided by town for the project. The price for the locust will be \$550.00 per 1,000 board feet. Mark estimated that they will need approximately five locust trees, which will amount to approximately 750 board feet. He noted an additional charge of \$75.00 per hour for cutting and processing. Mark estimated that materials should be less than \$2,000.00. He questioned whether the Board would be interested in purchasing extra locust for rub rails and replacement beams, should they find rotted beams when they take the deck off the bridge.

The Board asked about the locust on town property. Mark Bills explained that they were not as straight as they'd hoped, and in order to get to the straight trees, it would cause damage to other trees, and the town would still need to pay for labor and milling.

Discussion ensued regarding the load rating and the responsibility of the town regarding the bridge. Stanley Noga shared information provided by Garrett Baxter at VLCT, as well as guidance provided by "The Orange Book," distributed by VTrans.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Stanley Noga to accept Kerry Bourne's bid, contingent on a certificate of insurance naming Town of Brookline. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.

Mark Bills reiterated his question regarding extra locust. The Board deferred to him on that issue. Mark noted he would purchase 6 trees and use pressure treated for the rub rails.

Plowing Bids: Two bids were received. Bernardine Hoard opened the bids and read them into the record as follows:

- Fitzpatrick Excavating: \$31,000.00
- A.S. Clark & Sons: \$32,000.00

Discussion ensued. Dot Maggio asked about plowing out the church. Win Clark stated that plowing along the building would not increase the cost outlined in the bid.

A motion was made by Stanley Noga to award the bid to A.S. Clark & Sons for \$32,000.00. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried with four in favor and Mike O'Donnell abstaining.

Sand Bids: Two bids were received. Bernardine Hoard opened the bids and read them into the record as follows:

- Fitzpatrick Excavating: \$16.50 per cubic yard
- A.S. Clark & Sons: \$20.00 per cubic yard.

Discussion ensued regarding the difference between prices offered to Newfane compared to Brookline. Also discussed was the size of the sand. Win Clark noted that if awarded the bid, the size of the material would not change the bid price.

Dot Maggio noted a difference of \$700 between the two based on 200 yards.

A motion was made by Dot Maggio and seconded by Bruce Mello to award the bid to A.S. Clark & Sons for \$20.00 per square yard. The motion carried with four in favor and Mike O'Donnell abstaining.

School: Bruce noted he met with Peter Noble, who noted some other issues with the heating system. He will continue to go with the repairs outlined in the proposal for \$2,000.00 and make recommendations from there.

Mike and Bruce will go over and look at the building and heating system.

Church: Stanley Noga reported that the committee requested him to seek approval for \$5,300.00 to come from the Ladies Benevolent Society and \$5,300.00 to come from the former Revolving Loan fund, for a total of \$10,600.00 to complete the window repairs by Momaney.

Stanley also reported on some updates regarding the church:

The Committee has applied for three separate grants for structural repairs.

Peter cut down some of the smaller trees and Kerry went in with an excavator and cleared the stumps.

There will be an open house event in conjunction with the round school house from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Saturday before Columbus Day.

Alyssa Sabetto of Windham Regional Commission suggested that the church could serve as an emergency relief center; however they were unclear as to telephone requirements.

The Committee is continuing with fundraising efforts, particularly with Helen's efforts. They will be organizing another mailing as well.

Stanley re-raised the issue of the windows and the request for \$10,600.00. Dot reiterated her concerns that Ann Cousins had recommended doing the windows last. If the building isn't usable, there is no sense in fixing the windows right away.

Bruce noted that he had planned on attending the window workshop and trying to do the windows with volunteers, but the Committee disagreed. The Committee decided that the windows should be repaired by a professional.

Discussion ensued. Dot proposed that the Board table the window expenditure until some of the structural repairs are done.

Bruce noted that there would be another workshop being held in May. Mike O'Donnell proposed that the town pay his expenses to attend the workshop.

In keeping with the committee's wishes, Stanley Noga made a motion to approve the \$10,600.00 expenditure to repair the windows, with \$5,300.00 to come from the Ladies Benevolent Society and \$5,300.00 to come from the former Revolving Loan Fund. The motion was seconded by Bruce Mello. The motion failed with two in favor and three opposed.

Discussion ensued regarding the May workshop and covering the expenses for Bruce's attendance. It was noted that repairing the windows in house would save approximately \$900.00 per window.

Roadside Mowing: Mark Bills noted that the roadside mowing is almost complete. Bernardine asked Mark to get in touch with the contractor, as Newfane would like to speak with him about finishing theirs. Mark will touch base with him.

Capping Culverts: Mark Bills reported that Archie had been in touch with O'Brien Paving. If it isn't going to happen soon, Mark will add gravel.

Ellen Ware Road: Mark Bills noted that he'd graded Ellen Ware Road, but there have been people tearing up the roads immediately after grading, causing more damage.

NEW BUSINESS

Bruce asked about the emails regarding activities on Merrill Drive. Discussion ensued regarding issues around town. Dot noted the only way to do anything is to get pictures, license plate numbers, etc. and get the police to issue a ticket and go to court.

Dot noted that Newfane is interested in purchasing a tractor to do their own roadside mowing. She inquired as to whether the Board might be interested in having Newfane do Brookline's roadside mowing. Mike O'Donnell noted that Vermont Local Roads has been encouraging towns to do equipment sharing when possible. Discussion ensued.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received:

- Emails from Tracey Brooks and Nicole Lee regarding Merrill Drive
- VLCT News
- Vermont Local Roads Workshop on Winter Maintenance
- Fire Mutual Aid Contact Information Update
- BDCC
- Town of Putney Tax bill
- VLCT Planning and Zoning Forum

PAY ORDERS

A motion was made by Bernardine Hoard to approve Payroll Warrant No. 12 in the amount of \$1,362.94. The motion was seconded by Dot Maggio. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bernardine Hoard to approve Payroll Warrant No. 14 in the amount of \$1,437.18. The motion was seconded by Stanley Noga. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bernardine Hoard to approve Payroll Warrant No. 13 in the amount of \$32,551.82. The motion was seconded by Mike O'Donnell. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 21, 2015

Board members will email Bernardine with agenda items.

Mike O'Donnell apologized to the board, particularly Stanley Noga and Bruce Mello. Both accepted. Stanley Noga also apologized.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Bernardine Hoard to adjourn at 9:33 p.m. The motion was seconded by Bruce Mello. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Meckle