

ROXBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2022
7:01PM – 9:45PM
THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON AT COMMUNITY HALL

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Chair Jon Guiffre, Ryan Johns and Road Commissioner Dave McShane

STAFF PARTICIPATING: Tammy Legacy

PUBLIC: Tim Martin, Carol Randall, Don Randall, Mike Dickinson, Tom Frazier, Dave Santi, Sean Cummings & children, Rene Bouchard and Mary Bouchard

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. Municipal Grant-in-Aid was added to the agenda under Road Commissioner's Report. No deletions.

Chair Jon Guiffre stated Tammy had reminded him that she would not be at the next meeting and Jon would like Tammy as Selectboard Assistant to be there to do the minutes (when discussing the draft junk ordinance). So, the discussion on the draft junk ordinance would be held at the October 3rd meeting. There will be no town attorney present at that meeting.

Jon informed the members of the public that many of the meetings have been unpleasant for various reasons (lack of decorum and civility). The free-wheeling demeanor isn't working, not getting business done in a timely manner. The Board will be working on adopting a Rules & Procedures Policy. This is not to exclude the public but to get things done efficiently. The meetings are not Town Meetings, they are meetings of the Selectboard that are done in public. The commentary of the public will be reduced to a few minutes and this is not to muzzle people. The agenda items will be reduced to a few minutes, the public should speak to the Board not to members of the public. Don Randall mentioned a good model is Capital Fire's. This policy would bring order and civility to the meetings. The Board will work on drafting the procedures.

3. The Board reviewed the minutes. Dave moved to approve minutes of August 15, 2022 as submitted. The motion was seconded. The motion passed 3 to 0.
4. Public
 - a) Rene Bouchard asked where would the public have to discuss things. Jon stated during Public (part of meeting).
 - b) Sean Cummings mentioned he did not think Hummingbird Properties was a legal entity. (Hummingbird Properties LLC is on the agenda under New Business).
 - c) Dave Santi talked about the law and public meetings. He thinks people should speak in vehement manner.
 - d) Tom Frazier suggested an open house be held at the town garage. He would like people to know what the road crew go through. Dave McShane stated they are working towards that. The Board thought Tom's suggestion was a good idea.
 - e) Dave Santi asked how much to build new garage. Dave McShane stated 1.2 million dollars is the last estimate.
5. Road Commissioner's Report
 - a) Roads are in good shape.
 - b) Equipment is good. The road crew is working on getting tires and winter equipment. Cutting edge steel blades are \$61 a foot, new ones are \$82 a foot and going up. Tires are a premium right now. Recaps are six months out now. Tires are \$500 a piece for

new version. The Town works with three different companies. Trucks will be undercoated.

- c) Dave discussed speed radar signs. On Route 12A, a state permit is required. Certain signs won't work due to internet issues. \$5,300 works with State with data collection; \$4200 without data collection. New posts would be required. Discussion on Safe Routes to School Grant. The Board would need to work with School to qualify. The Board could work with School now or wait until new sidewalk happens. The Board will contact Roxbury's representatives to the Montpelier Roxbury School District. Dave Santi mentioned the road crew did a good job trimming the rose bushes. (Rose bushes in front on Santi house that hang into the road). The signs would be battery operated/solar.
- d) The municipal Grant-in-Aid was awarded to the Town. The project will be on Winch Hill Road in conjunction with the Better Roads Grant. By consensus, the Board agreed to have Jon as Chair sign the grant agreement. Stormwater was mentioned.

7. Financial Report

- a) The orders were reviewed. The New England Municipal Consultants check has not been sent yet. The Listers are reviewing the contract and there is still some training to be done. Dave moved to approve the orders with add-on of the Montpelier Roxbury School District. The motion was seconded and passed 3 to 0.
- b) The first installment to the Montpelier Roxbury School District is \$256,000.00.
- c) The Town received \$736,961.90 (which includes the prebates from State) in current taxes.
- d) The Town received \$37,111.81 from the State in ARPA funds.

8. Unfinished Business

- a) Rene Bouchard submitted to the Board some ARPA information regarding CVFiber. The ARPA Committee is recommending the Board give CVFiber \$30,000 and the State will match the donation. The funds would be used to offset the installation cost to Roxbury residents who sign on with CVFiber. The deadline for the donation to CVFiber in order for them to get the matching funds is September 15. There was a lot of discussion on CVFiber, TDS Telecom and ARPA Funds. There was concern that the committee is still working on getting feedback from people on what to spend the ARPA funds on so why spend it until feedback is received. The ARPA committee has been working hard and having many meetings. Some felt this was a good opportunity to give CVFiber funds so they could get matching funds. CVFiber is coming to Roxbury but not until end of 2023 to early 2024. Things have changed since residents moved here to live in the country, internet is now a necessity for many for various reasons. There are 318 locations in town that CVFiber could hook up to. After discussing how much to contribute to CVFiber and how much should be the amount used to offset the cost for residents and a couple of motions and seconds that were rescinded, Ryan moved to approve the revised contract and appendix. The motion was seconded and passed 3 to 0. The amount of contribution is \$20,000.00 and the amount to offset cost to residents is \$125.00. Any funds not used by August 31, 2024 to offset the cost will be returned to the Town. The Town must receive these funds by September 15, 2024 so the funds can be allocated to a different project before deadline of December 31, 2024. Chair Jon Guiffre thanked the committee for their hard work. He also mentioned this was a good conversation with pros and cons.

9. New Business

- a) Hummingbird Properties LLC requested the Board discontinue a portion of Shaw Road. Hummingbird Properties LLC is owned by Eric and Anne Sigsbey. Eric and Anne own land at the end of Shaw Road, Hummingbird Properties LLC owns another parcel.

There was a discussion on the request and what the impact is to Roxbury to discontinue a road. Shaw Road has the classification of a Trail. Hummingbird Properties being an LLC was mentioned. When a request comes in to discontinue a road, Forest & Parks must be notified. The Board will need to set the date for the required Public Hearing. The Board will need to do a site visit.

- b) Duane Natvig, Deputy Health Officer, has submitted his resignation. Dave moved to accept his resignation and to send a letter of thanks as Deputy Health Officer. The motion was seconded and passed with all ayes.
- c) Dave discussed with the Board the need to have the septic tanks at the garage and Town Office pumped and scoped. After discussing the quotes Dave received, Dave moved to hire Kingsbury to pump and scope. The motion was seconded and passed 3 to 0. The septic tanks have not been pumped for almost twenty years. The reason to have the scoping done is to see what condition the septic is in.

10. Other Business

- a) Rene Bouchard mentioned VLCT's Katie Buckley spoke with the ARPA committee. Katie had told the committee that ARPA funds could be used to replace the town garage. Don Randall said there are no grants available to replace town garages. Tom Frazier mentioned maybe Efficiency Vermont funds would be available.
- b) Dave Santi submitted his comments to the Board regarding the draft junk ordinance. He told the Board what his opinion is.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Tammy Legacy, Selectboard Assistant
Approved on _____