

DRAFT/UNAPPROVED

Duxbury Selectboard Meeting Minutes

7/13/20

ZOOM Meeting

Selectboard Members Present: Kevin Garcia (chair), Dick Charland, Jerry McMahan, Mari Pratt, Dan Schillhammer

Others Present: Maureen Harvey (Town Clerk/Town Treasurer), Jonathan DeLaBruere (Selectboard Assistant), Kara Ramsdell, Loretta Mariott, Jeff Poitras, Jill Smith, Henry Amistadi, David Specht, Myra Perry, Shawnee Perry, David Wendt, Jonathan Wilson, Ruthavern?, Jeremy Hansen

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Changes to the Agenda:

No additions or changes to Agenda

Citizens and Visitors to Address Selectboard:

Jeff Poitras-Main Street is washing out. He shoveled gravel out of the road.

Kevin-Ben is aware and it's on his radar, possibly for this week.

Dick or Kevin will pass it along to Ben this week.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

6/22/20 Correction to Kevin's name with an i

Dan moved to approve SB minutes for 6/22/20 with name correction

Jerry 2nd

No discussion

AIF

Motion passes

Mari moved to approve SB minutes for 6/26/20

Dan 2nd

No discussion

AIF

Motion passes

6/29/20 Kevin requests correction made re conversation with Ben K to be reworded that D&K and John Turner were discussed

Mari moved to approve SB minutes for 6/29/20 with correction above

Dan 2nd

No discussion

AIF

Motion passes

Dan moved to accept SB minutes for 7/6/20

Mari 2nd

No discussion

AIF

Motion passes

REPORTS

Highway:

Ben has received a resume, but no application for seasonal position. Kevin will reach out to the applicant tomorrow in terms of dollar amount and see if the applicant would still be interested. Mari offered that Andre started at \$17/hr for seasonal.

Treasurer:

Mari- after reviewing the report, it appears the town is "not in the hole" for last year, and might possibly be \$6,000 over.

Dick-are all bills paid?

Jonathan-no outstanding bills

Maureen- no highway invoices at this time

Selectboard Assistant:

Jonathan-nothing new to add to the report

NEW BUSINESS

Correction in Proceedings from 6/22/20

Mari-explained there was a procedural error re salt shed conversation. Dick moved to bring this to the next meeting agenda, she seconded it, and the SB failed to vote on it. It was an unintended mistake in following procedure.

Crossett Hill Slope Stabilization

- a. Selectboard Assistant, MPM, hours

Kevin explained that the Selectboard Assistant's position is capped at 20 hours/week. The Crossett Hill Stabilization work requires an MPM, Municipal Project Manager, and Kevin doesn't have the time or the knowledge to do this. Suggesting that SB Assistant take on this role and if over 20 hours a week, then his hours would be reimbursed through the project once it closed out. It might look like his hours are over the 20 hour/week limit on the budget line item, but on the end of the project and payment is made, the town ledger will balance out to reflect 20 hours/week for Assistant salary.

Dick not convinced that SB Assistant would need to go over the 20 hours/week already allotted to do this work as MPM. Feels the resident engineer that is hired for roughly \$44,000 is enough to oversee the project, and no need to extend Assistant's hours.

Maureen questioned what SB Assistant would be doing as MPM.

Kevin 2 meetings a month, possibly site visits, answering questions

Mari suggested checking invoices

Maureen- Dubois and King are oversight and town's advocate as resident engineer for \$44,000 plus Golder at \$20,000. Dubois and King's scope is to check the invoices.

Jonathan (SB Assistant)-If it's the Board's wishes to keep me at 20 hours, then anything over that will fall to Kevin.

Jerry-Jonathan has the expertise

Dick-Resident engineer is the one who will take care of the invoices and there isn't much else going on in Duxbury, so Jonathan will have time in his 20 hours

Dan-We can authorize over 20 hours and then not use it, if we don't have to...good to have as a backup plan.

Jonathan-there will be questions that come up the first couple of weeks of construction, but I don't know what those will be or the time in advance. In another town, where he is MPM, the residential engineer comes to me as representative of the town.

Kevin-We will let Jonathan's hours stand at 20 hours a week.

2b This is a statement for the minutes to residents:

This is a statement for the minutes to residents: Please be aware there will be a point in time when Crossett Hill will be closed during this project. Also there will be increased truck traffic on Morse Rd. The Selectboard will do it's best to keep you informed.

Public Comment Opened

Kara Ramsdell-several questions as a resident on Morse Road

How many truckloads of dirt will be traveling on Morse Road?

Will they be tandem trucks?

Did the dirt that is being taken from the site and then moved to Dave Specht's property on the Morse Rd side go out to bid to Duxbury general public?

Concerned that a lot of dirt will be dumped over and the river is below and will this be okay? What will happen when it rains and where will the dirt go?

General maintenance of Morse Rd--road crew does a great job plowing in the winter; summer maintenance not much this summer. Ditches not being cleaned out on Morse Rd.

The town was sued about 20 years ago by a resident on Morse Rd due to a drainage issue.

There was a culvert with a big sinkhole. The road crew fixed it, but what will all of the truck traffic do?

Will the town come up and keep drain ditches cleared? Will there be a curb cut for Dave to have the dirt dumped?

There are many children who ride their bikes and play on Morse Rd. How will that work with tandem trucks on the road?

Kevin explained that a lot of the dirt taken from the slide is actually on David Specht's land and it is being moved to another piece of his land that is actually quite close by and will save the town considerable money in trucking. Because it's dirt from his land, he has first dibs on the dirt. Could be a \$45,000-50,000 increase in trucking costs if dirt had to be trucked further.

The culvert on Morse Rd is only a four footer and has a steel plate cover. It needs another steel plate put in, but, road crew hasn't gotten to it yet. It is designed to take substantial loads.

The town will increase chloride to keep dust down.

The erosion control and sediment handling will be monitored by the contractor.

Not sure when the ditches will be cleaned out. Town has only two road crew members at this time. All roads in Duxbury need to be ditches cleaned. It's going to be a 3-4 year process.

There will be 400 truckloads over an 8 week period on Morse Road.

With more traffic on Morse Rd, there will be more attention to the road, but not seeing that the ditches being cleaned out are going to help.

Kara-how will the town's 2 person road crew take care of the road with 400 trucks?

Kevin-ditches being cleaned out is a maintenance issue, not a traffic issue. If we start to see wear and tear or run off, we will have to address it. It will be inconvenient for residents on Morse Rd. We will need to keep an eye on it.

Jerry-it will be about 10 trucks/day, five days a week for 8 weeks.

Mari-the trucks are supposed to go slow.

Kevin-you should have a better road then you started with when it's finished

David Specht-sent letter today with a concern re: insurance question to make sure he's insured on this project. Kevin will pass it on to Jonathan and to the attorney.

Kevin-there will be more public meetings re: Crossett Hill project

Dick-when will we approve the contracts?

Kevin-D & K's is in the hands of the attorney, and JP Sicard is drafting one. Hopefully they will have both contracts in hand next week, and will have to have a special selectboard meeting to approve them.

Ryan Road:

Culvert got extension until possibly Dec. 31 \$26,000 total project cost. Kevin, Jonathan and Alan May met and looked at the engineering estimate from John Grenier.

Kevin-it appears there are some options such as headwalls, inlet, outlet, raised box, etc that will be a substantial savings. There may be some easement issues. The Grenier design was a "cadillac" and not necessary once the hydrological survey revealed this was not a perennial stream. By that time, Grenier had already done the approx \$10,000 design work.

Dick- wants to have original engineer, Grenier, talk to the Board; and where did the SB make the decision to hire the engineer?

Mari- the state thought we needed special accommodation for a perennial stream that meant a box culvert, but that didn't turn out to be the case.

Kevin will discuss with Grenier and see if he will come to the next regularly scheduled meeting (July 27).

As it stands now this project was supposed to be completed June 30, 2020 Approx. \$10,000 spent on Grenier engineering, leaving approx \$11,000 grant money and town's responsibility of 20%, approx. \$5,000.

Extension is actually until Oct. 31, 2020 for completion of construction and Dec. 31, 2020 for completion of paperwork.

Maureen-get it on paper in writing and a drawing from Alan May and put it out to bid.

Kevin-possibly take pieces out of the Grenier's engineering report that we can use; I should have been more persistent in communication with the engineer. Frustrated that phone calls were not returned. Kevin will reach out to John Grenier and Alan May this week.

CVFiber:

Henry Amistadi, Duxbury resident and Jeremy Hansen of CVFiber presented a slideshow describing this Communications Union District (CUD) wanting to offer high-speed broadband internet service in areas that currently have poor or no connection options. Currently an 18-town district and they are looking to offer Duxbury the opportunity to join.

Questions asked of the Board and Public with responses from Jeremy:

Is there a state statute about having to lease land?

That is our issue

Is it like the junction box on Scrabble Hill?

It is different from that one.

What type of equipment will you need and what is the size?

Size of a small shed and needs to be accessible to our technicians to service; there would be networking equipment, supported by a generator and possibly a propane tank to run the generator if power is out.

Is Camel's Hump included?

Yes (referred to the area on the map). The blue shaded areas that look like lakes are the areas CVFiber is interested in servicing as they are places where the federal govt. is going to pay to develop and we're going after those areas for funds. They are areas with little to no connection options

We may ask to lease some land in Duxbury.

Is there anything negative for us as a town to join?

I'm biased, but honestly we're a community business and we will begin construction and offering Duxbury to join. Initial focus would be only for folks who currently only have DSL.

Given the number of towns you have now, how many miles do you plan to put out?

It's a 7 year build out. We plan 850-900 miles in that time.

EC Fiber is another CUD. CVFiber and ECFiber communicate weekly and collaborate.

Jonathan Wilson, Duxbury resident, explained that his family has no internet connection in Duxbury, so conducting business from home isn't possible, and puts Duxbury residents at a disadvantage locally and internationally.

David Wendt, Duxbury resident, is on Duxbury Planning Commission and works from home and needs consistent, high speed internet, as does his other family members. Supports joining CVFiber and shared that Duxbury could always join another CUD later, and CVFiber would even help the town with that...the CUDs all cooperate with each other.

Can you force people to sign up?

No. We're a public and competitive entity. We could not and would not strong arm our way into a monopoly.

Will you offer phone service?

Phone service would be optional and it would be a voice over internet service.

Mari moves The Town of Duxbury enter into the Communications Union District (CUD), known as CVFiber under the provisions of 30VSA, Chap. 82, subsection 3051b

Kevin 2nds

Discussion

Kevin asked Jeremy, Henry and David if that motion works? All three agreed it did.

Vote: AIF

Motion moves forward

Mari moves that Henry Amistadi represents the Duxbury Selectboard on the CVFiber Board, and David Wendt to be the alternate representative.

Kevin 2nds

Vote: AIF

Motions passes

Henry and David accept

Dowsville Connector/Ward Hill Loop:

Dick-Culvert on this class 4 road is in terrible shape and suggests the board begins the process of disconnecting that part that is about 1.14 miles; turn it back into a town trail.

Maureen-there may be a statute about not being able to move a structure. If there's not, suggests to get rid of Hayes Rd, too. Mill Street Bridge is class 4. Hayes Rd had an upgrade to a bridge by Friends of the Winooski with a box culvert and the town is on the hook if anything happens.

Suggestion to put it on the next meeting agenda and to call VLCT (Vermont League of Cities and Towns).

Jerry-was the hydrologically water ways checked?

Mari-yes, hydraulically, we can do it

Dick will email VLCT.

Free Stuff on Side of the Road:

Some problem spots where people are dropping off piles of unwanted furniture, toys etc.

Intersection of Route 100 and Stevens Brook Road; Ward Hill, Pull out by corn fields near old school; Green Mtn Power Rd fields/boat launch

The road crew has had to haul off pieces of furniture several times (15). It's littering and against the law. If someone is seen leaving their unwanted belongings on the side of the road, call state police and report them. Game camera suggested.

There's possibly a \$500 fine for littering. Possibly community service would be considered.

Jill Smith, what about the health officer?

Mari-It's not that type of trash/garbage

Maureen-no association of who's doing it and

Dan-if town keeps scooping it up, then essentially people will keep doing it. :\$500 fine adds up to a lot of trips to the dump.

Jerry will put a statement out on FPF to not leave "free" piles on sides of roads.

Bid Opening: Table to next regularly scheduled meeting

Municipal Volunteers: Table to next regularly scheduled meeting

Dowsville Rd. US Army Corps/Compliance Update:

Wood chips need to be removed as discussed in a previous SB meeting. Kevin is trying to pinpoint how many and how to remove. Originally thought an excavator could go up and get them, but wetland and it would disturb the soil and plants.

Mari contacted the Engineer for the Dowsville culvert and the wood chips were there prior to them taking over. We hired someone to cut down the trees.

Maureen-engineer should have overseen that

Mari-he said the wood chips were there when he got to the job.

The project was completed in October of 2018.

Maureen-were their pictures of the close out?

Mari-he only had one picture of the structure.

David- took a look at the site; two guys, a rake, a shovel and a garbage can could do this in 4 hours

Kevin and Ben will go up and assess it to get it cleaned up

Town Garage: Table to next regularly scheduled meeting

Dick inquired about steel panels put on the roof and the estimate was \$100,000 with no one giving 50 year warranties

River Rd Reimbursement:

Town received second and final payment from Waterbury project

Road Crew position will be advertised in Seven Days (Mari), VT Local Roads (Jonathan), VLCT (Jonathan), Unemployment Office (Mari), Duxbury FPF(Jerry), Moretown FPF(Brenda), Mad River Valley FPF (Brenda).

Maureen also suggested Craig's List.

Mari will forward the ad to Jerry, Jonathan and Brend to post in respective places.

Dick moved to adjourn

Dan 2nd

AIF

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hartshorn