

This meeting was called to order at 7:32pm at the Dummerston Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members Present: Chair Cindy Jerome, Vice Chair Paul Normandeau, Clerk Kevin Ryan, and Tom Bodett

Members Absent: Shorty Forrett

Also Present: Prospect Hill Trustee Mary Lou Schmidt, Bill Schmidt, Reporter Bob Audette, Town Clerk Pam McFadden, Road Foreman Wayne Emery, and Administrative Assistant Linda McCulloch

The Board recognized Mary Lou Schmidt who reported that both Elizabeth Catlin and Sam Bunker are willing to serve as Prospect Hill trustees. Mary Lou moved and Paul seconded the appointment of Elizabeth Catlin and Sam Bunker as Prospect Hill trustees. The motion passed. Mary Lou will notify them and invite them to the next meeting.

Pam McFadden reported that she had spoken to Sheriff Prue this morning. Sheriff Prue mentioned that an alternative for Dummerston would be to have the State Police contracted as first responders to 911 calls with the sheriff's department secondary. The Board was confused as to why Sheriff Prue is offering alternatives and why she has not begun the enforcement requested in the Board's letter of August 10th. Pam will fax Sheriff Prue a list of suggested roads and times of peak traffic and the Board will review the next bill from the sheriff's department to see if there has been increased activity.

Regarding the delinquent tax situation on the Camp Arden Road mobile home, Pam has discovered the responsible party's place of employment and will contact him there. A second delinquent tax situation exists on Route 5 in East Dummerston. That party has requested a waiver of interest and penalties for 2004 taxes if the taxes are paid. Pam will advise them that the proper channel for the request is the Board of Abatement.

Road Foreman Wayne Emery is still researching information about the possible purchase of a generator for the Town Office building. He will finalize it for the next meeting.

Full funding was received from the Park and Ride grant application and Linda was directed to send a letter of acceptance.

Paul moved that the Board appoint Jack Lilly to the Dummerston-Newfane Loan Committee. Kevin seconded and the motion carried.

Tree warden Charlie Richardson recommends that the Town not cut the Oak tree that leans toward the Bridge on the west side. He does recommend photographing it for future comparison.

Linda met with a representative from Efficiency Vermont on September 16<sup>th</sup> and he will be sending a detailed report with recommendations for the Town Office Building, Garage, Covered Bridge and Historical Society with a cost benefit analysis and rebate information.

Cindy read aloud the resignation letter from lister Beverly Knapp. Tom moved and Paul seconded accepting her resignation. The motion passed.

Tom updated the Board on the Gravel Pit. The figures show that it is still more cost effective to own the new pit with Putney than to purchase gravel. Drilling should take place October 13<sup>th</sup> and will show how much gravel is there and what kind.

The Covered Bridge plaque decision was tabled.

Kevin moved and Tom seconded signing the Grand List amendments dated September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed.

Tom moved and Paul seconded signing the Certificate of Error Corrections dated September 28<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed.

The Board discussed the upcoming resignation of Administrative Assistant Linda McCulloch and the possibility of hiring Laurie Frechette as her replacement. Cindy will call Laurie. On a related matter, Cindy asked the Board for their opinion about hiring a Town Administrator in the foreseeable future. Advantages included shifting the time commitment required of Board members, increased ability to procure grants, and the ability of the Board to focus on goals and long term plans. Disadvantages include the space problem at the Town Office and the expense of that position's salary and benefits.

Rescue Inc. representative Heidi Fischer had spoken to Cindy about the request for next year's budget of \$10/person and the issue of Rescue Inc.'s supplies being used by member towns. Next year Rescue Inc. plans to allow the member towns \$250 in supplies after which they will be charged.

Tom presented a draft of the survey he and two others designed that will provide information about the availability and location of high speed internet service in Dummerston. Paul moved and Kevin seconded that the Board support the survey. The motion passed.

Tom moved and Kevin seconded that Cindy sign the RERP 2006-2007 Budget Application forms. The motion passed.

Tom expressed an interest having discussions with our State representatives about relevant issues. Board members will come to the next meeting with a list of the issues each would like to discuss with these officials.

At 9:22pm the Board entered Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue and a real estate issue on a motion from Tom and a second from Paul. The motion passed.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 9:38pm and there being no further discussion to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:39pm.

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Approved

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Cindy Jerome, Chair

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Kevin Ryan, Clerk