

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

December 6, 2006

This meeting was called to order at 7:30pm at the Dummerston Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

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

Also Present: Larry Lynch, Lester Dunklee, Wayne Emery and Laurie Frechette

Kevin moved and Paul seconded to approve the minutes from November 21st & 29th, as well as Warrants 12, and 12P.

Road Foreman Wayne Emery reported that the road crew has been working on cleaning ditches. He presented the Board with the Annual Mileage Report, which is due before February 10, 2007. This will be discussed at the January 3rd meeting.

Wayne reported that the road crew has been addressing erosion control issues at the gravel pit. Paul reminded Wayne that no work can be done at the pit after December 15th, as stipulated in the Act 250 permit.

Paul questioned Wayne about one of his employees taking a sick day the day after Thanksgiving. There is nothing in the Town's personnel policy stating that taking the day before or after a holiday is not allowed.

The Board reviewed an email received from Michel Lapointe from the USDA-NRCS regarding the upcoming Salmon Brook project. Lewis is working on this project and will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed an Act 250 permit application for the VT-NH Veterinary Clinic to replace a failed septic system. Laurie was instructed to contact Linda Matteson at the District 2 Environmental Commission and convey the Board's request to have any areas of washout restored to their former state as well as being covered with a minimum of 4" of topsoil, seeded and covered with erosion control mats.

The Board recognized Larry Lynch and Lester Dunklee from Emergency Management. Cindy reviewed the minimal changes in the recently revised RERP; most of the changes that have been requested by the Town have not been implemented. The Board does not accept the new RERP. Cindy will contact John Angil to discuss the Board's decision. The Board is considering other ideas for the annual \$5000 grant, particularly options that may address their concerns about the RERP.

Larry questioned the Board on why they did not accept either bid submitted to construct an Emergency Exit from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), located in the upstairs of the Town Office building. He reminded the Board that the \$9000 in grant monies is earmarked for this purpose; the Town will not receive those funds if the exit is not constructed. Cindy asked if the Town could request to use the \$9000 for another Emergency Management project; Lester advised that we would need to re-apply in the next fiscal year. This topic will be put on the agenda for the December 20th meeting.

The Board reviewed an updated request from MaryAnn Runge for \$190 from the Miller Fund for a Dummerston student to participate in the Brattleboro Hockey Association. On a motion from Kevin and a second by Tom, the Board unanimously granted this request.

Lewis reported to the Board on a workshop he attended recently regarding Ancient Roads. All ancient roads in town will need to be identified and claimed by the Town prior to the 2009 deadline. Tom and Lewis will put together a committee to work on this project.

Cindy reported to the Board on a meeting she recently had with Interim Town Treasurer, Michelle Cherrier, as well as a follow-up email sent by Michelle to the Board. The email was inadvertently sent only to Cindy; the remaining Board members did not receive the message and had not reviewed it. Cindy will invite Michelle to attend the next Board meeting on December 20th to discuss concerns from the Board members as well as Michelle's concerns regarding her job responsibilities and job performance.

Paul reported to the Board on a conversation Shorty Forrett had with Nick Mercede regarding Sugar House Road and Paul's follow-up conversation with Attorney Tim O'Connor. Mr. Mercede wants to deed Sugar House Road to the Town of Dummerston. Attorney O'Connor is preparing a deed to do so and will forward the proposed deed to Town Attorney Bob Fisher.

At least one member of the Selectboard will attend the Windham County Budget Meeting on December 14th in Newfane.

Cindy presented the Board with a spreadsheet of health insurance options, provided by Barbara Harris at Richards Group. Paul introduced the idea of having town employees contribute to the cost of their insurance premiums. On a motion from Lewis and second by Paul, the Board moved to use CIGNA through VLCT for the ensuing year.

Tom advised the Board of the changing nature of the Broadband project. A \$50,000 grant was received for the four-town project, but it is unlikely that these funds would have a significant impact on Dummerston needs. Between our rugged terrain and the fragmented footprint of current Broadband accessibility, solutions will be costly to implement.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Approved

Cindy Jerome, Chair

Kevin Ryan, Clerk

Minutes: Laurie Frechette, Administrative Assistant
Kevin Ryan, Clerk

