

This meeting was called to order at 7:02PM at the Town Office in Dummerston Center, Vermont.

Members Present: Chairman Paul Normandeau; Vice Chairman Shorty Forrett; Clerk Lester Dunklee; Jack Manix, and Cindy Jerome.

Also Present: Kendall Gifford, Jean Momaney, Road Foreman Wayne Emery, and Administrative Assistant Linda McCulloch

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2004 and December 15, 2004 meetings and to pay Warrants 13 and 13P. Cindy asked that paragraph 6 on page 1 of the December 8, 2004 minutes be corrected to read that Eesha Williams had inquired about the Town installing a culvert and had been advised that it is the Town's policy that new culverts will be installed by the homeowner and maintained and replaced as necessary by the Town. Wayne will advise Eesha of the correct size so it will be effective. Cindy moved that the motion be amended to approve the December 8, 2004 minutes as corrected. Shorty seconded and the motion passed.

Linda McCulloch advised the Board of the duties of the Drug Free Workplace administrator and those of the CDL Drug and Alcohol Testing contact person. A motion was made and passed to appoint Linda McCulloch for both positions as of today.

The Board recognized visitor Kendall Gifford from Windham Regional and visitor Jean Momaney from the Community Center. Mr. Gifford presented proposals from two contractors for work to be done at the Community Center. Both proposals exceed the funding available by about \$8000. There could be \$3000 to \$4000 available from the Vt. Community Development Program. Mr. Gifford discussed the differences between the bids and the Board asked questions about how to cut the costs of the project. There is no money available in this year's budget to assist with the funding gap. The Board discussed options of presenting a warning article at town meeting or including funding in next year's budget or the capital plan. It was decided that Kendall will clarify the amount available from Vt. Community Development and pass the information to Lester before the Board's budget meeting next Wednesday night.

Wayne Emery reported as Road Foreman that the Town can expect approximately the same amount of state highway aid as last year. Regarding the wear on the deck of the Covered Bridge, Wayne met with Neil Daniels who examined the bridge. Mr. Daniels advised that grinding is not an option because it will reduce the strength of the bridge. He advised either doing nothing until the wear reaches the point that the deck has to be replaced; or turning the existing floor over. Only the floor between the protective blocks would have to be turned. If the floor were turned and planking was installed, some height would be lost. No cost information is available as yet. Jan Lewandoski has not responded to Wayne's call. Paul will touch base with Susan Scribner from the Historic Bridge Division about funding.

Thaddeus Betts from Southern Vt. Engineering looked at the specifications from the State for replacing the Canoe Brook Road culvert and visited the site. He sent a letter to Wayne itemizing project costs that were not included in the estimate. Paul clarified for the Board that in order for there to be a possibility of increased funds from FEMA for engineering, the Board should get two or three estimates from engineers.

Wayne reported that the plow on the 550 Ford broke down during the last storm. It has been welded and is ready to be reassembled.

Jack distributed rough draft copies of a Capital Plan for next year. The Board discussed it and made suggestions.

A motion was made and passed to sign the dog warrant.

Cindy has read through the revised Dummerston Emergency Response Plan and would like a little more time to study it then would like to invite Larry Lynch to a meeting to discuss it.

The Board moved into a time of discussion about next year's budget.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM.

Approved: _____

Paul E. Normandeau, Chairman

Lester L. Dunklee, Clerk

Minutes: Linda McCulloch, Administrative Assistant