

**SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2018 at 6:00 PM**

Those attending: Selectboard: Michael Hogan, Jack Daniels, Fred Ducharme, Ted Domey (by phone), Fred Ducharme

Town: Karen Deasy, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter

Community Members: Ruth Goodrich, Bill Wheeler, Andrew Gilbert, David Pike, Marcy Martin, Irv Robbins, Aldo Nunn, Jeff Haslett and Roland Payne, Jr., Jennifer Miner, Larry Gochey

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Mike Hogan.
2. Approve Agenda – A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Fred. Motion passed.
3. Approve Minutes of October 9, 2018 Selectboard Meeting – A motion was made by Jack and seconded by Ted, motion carried. The October 9, 2018 CCIF Meeting minutes will be approved at our November 6 meeting
4. Public Comment –
  - a. Jeff Haslett suggested that the new sidewalk be added to the project list recently handed out by the board.
  - b. Irv Robbins noted that we were not discussing the Class 4 roads. Mike said that is something the state is talking about. Mike said there will be a whole process of hearings by AOT and the Board will keep him informed.
  - c. Jack would like to commend the library committee for the outstanding project on the playground behind the Willey Building. Also, the highway department for their work.
5. Trails Committee Update & Discussion on Landowner Permission Form – Andrew stated that the committee started work in May and they have recently applied for a municipal planning grant with the help from the CCA. That grant will help plan how to approach trails in the community. Town Forest day work was done mostly by the trail group. Five to six people meet regularly. The committee has developed a trail permission form to receive access to the property owners land. They would like to have a process to have access to land. Currently they do walk thru with the landowners and discuss the basic usage guidelines hoping to make it a courtesy permission. The permission can be revoked anytime by the landowner. They are following the guidelines that VAST uses. Mike would like to put the form on the town website for public comment. Jack would like to have the trails committee be a standalone committee not under the recreation committee. Jack would like to have it voted on at town meeting. Ruth commented that the town's people would vote on that since it will have its own budget. Jack recommended the committee come up with a budget at their November 14 meeting. The minutes need to be posted on the Town website. Mike said he will talk to Andrew, Betty and Michelle regarding this posting. They are thinking of doing some type of fundraising. Andrew is meeting with CCA for money or fundraising.

Mike asked Andrew to give an update on Vermont Internet initiative. He stated that they will be issuing a report describing the whole progress.
6. Emerald Ash Borer Questions – Roland Payne, Jr. –The borers were found in Orange County in the beginning of the year. It's in the south side of Marshfield, however, there are no signs in Cabot at this time. It may be brought into town by firewood. Marshfield and Plainfield and a few other towns have preparedness plans. Preparedness plans would be the first thing to do. 160 miles of roads in Cabot but only 60 miles of roads have these trees. He has surveyed lots of the roads but not all of them. Mike asked if he needs help with drafting a plan and he said yes. Jeff would like to have more information publicized on this issue for people to inspect their own property. VT invasive web site is: vtinvasives.org. Mike asked the board if they can work with Roland. Ted said we need to get more info out to the public. Jack would like to have a plan and asked Roland to get some models to go by. Ruth would like to have some posters put up. Roland will get some materials for town meeting handouts. Jack will help with getting a plan accomplished. Jack would like to thank Roland, Jr. and Roland, Sr. for all that they do. Roland would also to help with the Trails Committee.
7. Water and Wastewater - Karen commented on the water system that there is some good news: the coliform test from last Tuesday has no coliform in the water. Karen passed out a summary sheet of all the additional expenses the town incurred with the school, coliform issues, sand and debris in the water line and the cleaning of the lines. It's estimated to be around \$12,000. Jack asked if this would come out of the retainage. Karen has sent in a claim with the Alliance Insurance Company. The Insurance Company is checking to see if Alliance was in error and will get back to the town in three to four weeks. We do have enough retainage left over to cover this. Larry asked about the black top. Karen had the black top taken off the Alliance items that need to be done by them. The last samples that were taken last Tuesday have zero chlorine in it. They took the sample from Danville Hill road, Deb Bothfelds and the Town Clerk's office. The chlorine has been shut off for about three weeks. The final payment is for \$84,338.92 and the retainage is \$17,805.46. Jack moved to approve the final payment and hold the retainage with a second by Fred. Jeff would like to make sure that the landscaper is responsible for the trees. If the trees die, does it go back on the town or Alliance. Karen has requested Alliance supply a warranty on the trees. She is waiting for Alliance to come back with the warranty. Jeff would like to not to have to pay \$1600 to replace the trees in a year. Larry is wondering if the road was inspected. Aldo said the material was taken from Frye's Quarry and is pleased with it. Motion passed by roll call.

8. Road Commissioner

a. Project Schedule –

1. Pike Industries will be paving this week with weather permitting the following locations: Cabot Plains Road, Main Street, Common Road, a section of Elm Street and Main Street and section of sidewalk along Main Street where it narrows down by the school to the Masonic Hall. Jeff asked how much the snowblower cost. He heard it cost \$15,000 and Karen said that the tractor and the blower was around \$12,000. We are repairing the sidewalk to a four-foot width which is the width of the blower. Jeff was wondering if this is cost affective. Ruth wants to know the cost of the sidewalk improvements. Karen said \$3,000 for repaving and it would cost a lot more to pour cement. Dave is wondering why the intersection is being changed on Cabot Plains Road. Bernie said it is saving money and it will be able to put those savings in the sidewalk. Dave thinks that it shouldn't be changed and that it wouldn't be saved any money. Jack thinks it would be safer with a narrow entrance on that road. Jack thinks it would be a good decision and safer. It will be a better view of coming out onto Route 215. Marcy would like to know about the sidewalk on Elm Street. Karen will talk about that at a later date. Jack would like to have a future discussion on a sidewalk on Elm Street and down to the Larry's ballfield. Fred indicated that the sidewalk has been covered up 25 to 30 years. Andrew said that the trails grant would cover the inventory on sidewalks.
2. Karen has information for the board on a new FEMA program. FEMA has a flood mitigation assistant program to replace the bridge by the lower baseball field. 25 % cost to the town and a 75%. It's old and not properly aligned. The state assesses it every three years. Mike asked how many years out realistically before anything can be done on the bridge. Karen said five to ten years. TAC has funding available for structure assessment, and it would be a good idea to have this done. Jack moved that we have the Regional TAC Committee look over the existing conditions and complete an analysis on this bridge with no cost to the Town, with a second by Fred. Motion carried by roll call. A letter will be sent to TAC. Marcy asked if the Elm Street Bridge has been assessed because there's chunks coming out of it. No information.
3. Larry is wondering about getting water in lower Cabot utilizing a grant. Karen said the residents in Lower Cabot do not want water as noted in a survey of the residents.
4. Andrew inquired about Old Route 2. Karen said there's an opportunity for the state to pay for culvert, ditching, bank re-stabilization at a cost of \$75,000 thru applying for the Better Roads Program. The town would pay \$15,000 which would be included in the next budget session. That would be July 1, 2019-20 fiscal year. This would be work that would be doing normally done by the Town. Ruth is wondering if any discussion has taken place with the state for the use of the trucks being used with the Route 2 project. Larry is wondering how many people were bidding on the black top. Karen said that Johnson and Pike bid on the project. Karen doesn't have the figures on the project with her. Ted said if someone wants to know on the bids to go to the Town Clerk's office. Jack moved that the Town apply for the \$75,000 Better Roads grant which includes \$15,000 cost to the town to preform ditching work with a second by Ted, motion passed. Jack would like to have the cross walks painted white again. Karen says they can do that.
5. Other Business – Ruth noticed on Elm Street that there is hog weed plants. Roland said they are cut down every year and it grows back.

9. Town Clerk

- a. Orders – They have been signed.
- b. EV Charging Equipment Survey – There is a grant from Regional Planning to have the Park and Ride at that Masonic Hall have a charging station. The Town would have to pay 10% to have this done. Jack said until we know the cost we will not go forward. Ted said the state paid for the one in Plainfield.
- c. Other Business
- d. Policies Update – Betty has two policies that need to be reviewed and approved by the next meeting. Policies that the new auditors have recommended. They are Balance Budget Policy and Investment Policy.

10. Other Business – Jeff would like to have the projects list put on the town website with projected costs.

11. Executive Session – Jack moved that we enter Executive Session and seconded by Fred to discuss a personnel issue. Motion carried. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:21 p.m. and left at 7:45 p.m.

12. Adjourn – A motion was made Fred and seconded by Bernie to adjourn. Motion carried by roll call. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer