

Derby Line, Vermont
Trustees Meeting
June 18, 2019
Derby Line Village Hall

Call to Order:

Present were Trustees Richard Creaser, Lindsay Brainard and Keith Beadle.

Also, present were Jaret Judd, Robert Joyal, Buzzy Roy, Colleen Sealander, Karen Jenne, Armand Belisle, Raymond Fortin, Richard Cotreau, Mr. & Mrs. Ian Hamby, and Madeleine Roy, Assistant Clerk & Treasurer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Creaser at 6:30 pm.

Added to the agenda was the Vacant Building Ordinance.

Lindsay moved that the reading of Rules of Procedure be waived. Keith seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of June 4, 2019 Meeting:

Lindsay pointed out that a correction is needed in the VTrans Meeting section on Page 2. Even though \$175,000 will be available for Derby Line, only \$120,000 will be accessed for repair of Baxter Ave. Considering the 80/20 share process, Derby Line would be responsible for \$24,000 of this \$120,000. He also noted a correction needed in the next sentence, which should read: "The Trustees noted that this \$24,000 should be included in next year's budget, and instructed Brian to only fix what is needed, like potholes, on Baxter Ave. for this year.

Keith made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 4, 2019 meeting with the above-mentioned corrections. Lindsay seconded. Motion carried.

Tabled Items:

- 1) Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant Reconstruction – to be discussed at this meeting
- 2) Louis St. Sewer Line – to be discussed at this meeting

Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant Reconstruction:

Keith read an email dated June 5, 2019 from Attorney Paul Guiliani in response to Keith's of the same day in which he posed the possibility that Derby Line is not officially an owner of the sewer plant as the original agreement stated it being "Rock Island's treatment plant". If so, it might disqualify Derby Line from the \$2 million funding already in place for us. When that question is answered, we would either ask Stanstead for 50% ownership or have them pay the entire cost of the reconstruction and treat Derby Line as a customer moving forward. Guiliani's opinion is that (extraterritorial ownership isn't a problem as long as the acquired property is dedicated to furthering pollution abatement."

It was also noted that the bid opening for this reconstruction was postponed a second time because potential contractors still did not have enough time to put together their bids. The new bid opening date is set for 1 pm on June 25, 2019. Keith is planning to attend this bid opening.

Keith stated that a meeting needs to be set up between the Derby Line Trustees, Stanstead's Mayor and Stanstead's Town Clerk. Richard Creaser stated that it should be a special meeting. Lindsay stated that we need to first find out if Derby Line can still receive the grant if ownership is a deciding factor. Jaret, who has been daily recording sewer system flows, noted that it looks like there is a lot of ground water going through the sewer system (300 gallons per minute at 5 am). If this persists and Derby Line becomes a customer of Stanstead, we would be paying a lot of money for sewer service by Stanstead.

Water Testing and Flushing of Hydrants:

Jaret stated that all hydrants have now been flushed and all sewer manholes have been cleaned out. The company hired by Stanstead to do their flushing has agreed with Brian to contact him in future years so that all flushing can be done in a timely manner.

He also stated that Brian has contacted Laramie Waterworks to do the water testing in different locations in the village at different times of the day. Keith stated that Stanstead has agreed that they will pay for testing in Derby Line, per Jean Charles Bellemare, Stanstead's General Manager & Town Clerk.

The trustees will be meeting in two weeks with Stanstead's Mayor and Town Clerk to insist that Derby Line gets notified when something is done, or not done, that affects both them and us.

Line of Credit Extension for Caswell Ave. Sidewalk Project:

Because final documents and invoices for the completion of this project still have not been received, Keith made a motion to authorize the Trustees to sign the Line of Credit Extension from the Community National Bank. Lindsay seconded. Motion carried.

Louis St. Sewer Line:

For those in attendance, Richard Creaser summarized the problem with the sewer line to Richard Cotreau's residence on Louis St. He stated that Brian Fletcher has researched the issue and found that the problem lies in the spur from the main line, not in the main line itself. In this particular case, when Richard Cotreau's house was built in the late 1960's, the sewer line was run from the main line across other people's property (today owned by the Hamby's) to reach Cotreau's rather than extending the main line down the middle of the street. In view of this, it is the homeowner's responsibility to fix the problem. Richard Cotreau stated that he had misunderstood when he assumed that the village would be responsible for the fix.

Keith suggested that the village crew go to Louis St. with Mario Paul Excavating to see what options are available for repair of this problem. Jaret agreed to tell Brian about this and to get estimates. The homeowners involved would then be consulted. The Hamby's and Richard Cotreau agreed that this was a good starting place.

Local Project Certification and Acceptance:

The Trustees tabled this issue as the form in question has not been completed. After completion, they will re-visit and sign it at the next meeting.

Vacant Building Ordinance:

Jaret stated that the village crew will be going around the village to see which vacant property owners need to be contacted because of such things as lawns that need to be mowed or buildings that need repair. Jaret agreed to provide that list to the village office after which the office will send out letters with copies of the signed ordinance.

Business from Trustees, Treasurer and Road Foreman:

Parking Area on Main St. in Front of Derby Line Gardens: Jaret voiced concern about residents at Derby Line Gardens parking their vehicles on the cobblestone area along Main St. Some vehicles are somewhat longer than the width of that area either extending over the sidewalk or somewhat into the road making it difficult for the sidewalk plow in the winter and regular traffic on Main St. Is there anything that can be done so that they do not park there? Buzzy Roy stated that when Arthur Postman acquired this property and turned it into subsidized housing, the village gave him permission for parking there. Keith suggested that Rural Edge owner of the property, be notified with these village concerns. Richard Creaser also suggested to Jaret that they take photos of the vehicles that are overlapping onto the sidewalk and/or street.

Drainage Cut on Caswell Ave: Colleen Sealander noted that the old storm drain in front of the Rural Edge building at the beginning of Caswell Ave. that is now under reconstruction needs to be filled in and repaired. It is now very dangerous when driving up through there. Richard Creaser asked Jaret to approach the contractor at that location one more time.

St. Jean Baptiste Holiday: Lindsay asked if the village should hire the Sheriff's Dept. to monitor traffic over the coming holiday weekend. All agreed that this particular holiday is not usually busy enough to warrant hiring a sheriff.

Sheriff Dept. Mobile Speed Limit Sign: It was noted that the Sheriff's Dept. will be bringing their mobile speed sign to Derby Line occasionally again this summer and fall.

New Business from the Audience: None

Old business from the Audience (5-minute limit unless otherwise directed):

Armand Belisle asked for information about the proposed cell tower in Derby Line. Richard Creaser summarized the presentation that was made to Derby Line at a meeting on May 21, 2019 by AT&T representatives for a cell tower at the eastern end of Baxter Park, just off Breakneck Hill. This cell tower would basically expand cell coverage for I-91. The developers of this tower have not yet filed their petition with the Public Utilities

Commission, but when they do Derby Line will be filing to become an intervener to give people a right to voice their concerns. Derby Line is not convinced that this is the ideal location for this tower.

Executive Session: None

Next Meeting: The next regular Trustees' meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2019.

Review and Sign Bank Statement: No

Warrants were Reviewed and Signed: Yes

The Last Check Printed: #15063

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk