

Derby Line, Vermont  
Trustees Meeting  
August 20, 2019  
Derby Line Village Hall

**Call to Order:**

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

Also, present were Colleen Sealander, Karen Jenne, Laurie Moss, Clerk & Treasurer and Madeleine Roy, Assistant Clerk & Treasurer.

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

No additions or deletions were made to the agenda.

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

**Approval of Minutes of August 6, 2019 Regular Trustees Meeting:**

Keith made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular Trustees meeting of Aug. 6, 2019 as written. Lindsay seconded. Motion carried.

**Tabled Items:**

- 1) Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant Reconstruction – to be discussed at this meeting
- 2) AT & T Road Access Permit

**Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant:**

Keith stated that the new draft agreement has been received from Attorney Paul Guiliani, which includes the recommendations from both Derby Line and Stanstead. Included in it is the use of a two-flow meter system rather than the three-meter system Stanstead wanted. This should be all right depending on the number of lines going into the plant from Stanstead.

Lindsay would like the agreement to state more specifically what half Derby Line will have to pay for. Will Derby Line have to pay half of the Derby Line and Rock Island sewage being treated or Derby Line's and the entire municipality of Stanstead?

Colleen Sealander noted that the agreement should be strengthened to allow Derby Line to inspect the financial records periodically. Keith stated that Article 8 includes that inspection of financial records is allowed, especially since Stanstead is not required by the Canadian government to have an audit done after construction is complete. As the project is underway, Derby Line will have the right to inspect records.

Lindsay also noted that the agreement only includes that the Administrative Committee or Board of Commissioners will meet annually. This needs to be more specific as per the agreement made in the July 18, 2019 Special Meeting with Stanstead. At that meeting, it was agreed that this agreement is to be reviewed annually by both Boards. It was also agreed that during the construction project, both Boards are to meet quarterly and after construction is complete and the plant is operating, the Boards are to meet semi-annually or annually.

The Trustees agreed that this agreement should include more specific language stating that they will meet four times per year for the first year, two times per year in the second year and annually thereafter.

Lindsay would also like something added at the end of the agreement stating that in the event Stanstead wants to end this agreement and buy out Derby Line, Derby Line would be given ample time to find an alternate place to send sewage, and that during that time Derby Line would still be able to send sewage to Stanstead.

The Trustees agreed to these additions and changes. Keith agreed to send them to Paul Guiliani for inclusion in a new draft. The Trustees will hold off on approval until a future meeting. **Tabled.**

**AT & T Access Road Permit:**

Brian Fletcher still has not heard from the AT & T representative. **Tabled.**

**Gazebo in Baxter Park:**

Lindsay has heard from several people in the village that it would be nice to have a gazebo in the park where concerts and other activities could take place. It has always been the understanding that no structures can be built in the park. Laurie found the original deed, which Lindsay read at this meeting. It states that permanent structures can be erected, but only after affirmative vote by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the voters. Getting  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the voters to approve might be difficult, but it might be accomplished by getting the required number of signatures on a petition. However, the deed does not specifically restrict moveable structures in the park. Lindsay would like to look into the legalities a bit more, especially since the park ownership by the village will reach 100 years old in 2023. It would be nice to have something in place by then for a possible celebration.

**Smoke Testing of Sewer Lines:**

The village road crew conducted smoke tests on Aug. 13, 14 and 15 and found a few problems here and there that will require minor fixes. The one major problem that was causing the large amount of water flow through the Main St. pump station stems from Denis Ducharme's apartment house on Caswell Ave. across from the Haskell Library where there is a natural spring. It appears that at some point in time a pipe was run from that spring diverting the water into the sewer line rather than the stormwater line.

A letter will be sent Ducharme explaining the problem found and indicating that this needs to be fixed as soon as possible. The letter will also include that he can request help from the village to determine the location of the pipes and which one to properly divert the water to. If he has questions, he can attend the next Trustees meeting.

**Community Day:**

Lindsay noted that despite the occasional rain, it was a good day. Most vendors did well and were happy with the results. Colleen did mention that more advertising should be done, possibly in Canada, to get more people to attend.

Goob's has requested that next year the village allow a beer tent. Discussion included that it might be best to have a beer tent from 5 pm on rather than during the day when children are present. All costs (policing, insurance, fencing, tent, etc.) would have to be the responsibility of Goob's. The village could also sponsor a craft beer event and invite several brewers rather than just Goob's. We would also have to find out if there are any alcohol restrictions in the park.

Karen stated that the village could use the craft beer tasting event as a fundraiser for the gazebo on a different day than Community Day.

**Tax Rate:**

Laurie recently consulted with Town Clerk, Faye Morin, on the proper way to figure the village tax rate. The new rate for the upcoming village tax bills is \$0.2928, up approximately 2 cents from last year. Keith moved to set the 2020 tax rate at \$0.2928. Lindsay seconded. Motion carried.

**Business from Trustees, Treasurer and Road Foreman:**

Heating Oil Prices for Winter: Madeleine stated that a letter has been received from Oil Supply Corp. with their quote for this coming winter. She will contact other local fuel oil dealers to compare prices and provide a report at the next Trustees meeting. **Tabled.**

Sunset Terrace Paving: Lindsay stated that the hole on Sunset Terrace created when the new house was installed there has been paved.

**New Business from the Audience:**

Karen asked for clarification of what Stanstead will have to pay for the new sewage treatment plant. She was told that they will have to pay 20% of their half of the total cost with the Canadian government providing the other 80%. She asked for the total bid amount, which was \$6,266,136.00 in Canadian funds. Derby Line's letter of financial support was hand delivered to the Stanstead Council by Keith. She also asked, if the \$300,000 bond vote is approved by Derby Line voters, what will the new sewer rates be? At this point, it is nearly impossible to calculate. Laurie agreed to post the Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> informational meeting and the Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> bond vote on the outside sign at the village hall.

**Old business from the Audience (5-minute limit unless otherwise directed):** None

**Executive Session:** None

**Next Meeting:** The next regular Trustees' meeting is scheduled for Sept. 3, 2019 to include the informational meeting on the sewer treatment plant and related bond vote.

**Review and Sign Bank Statement:** No

**Warrants were Reviewed and Signed:** Yes

**The Last Check Printed:** #15184

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk