

Derby Line, Vermont  
Trustees Meeting  
September 7, 2021  
Derby Line Village Hall

**Call to Order:**

Present were Trustees Richard Creaser, Keith Beadle.

Also, present were Philip Letourneau, Brian Champney, Jay Johnson, Jaret Judd, Karen Jenne, Laurie Sanville, Village Clerk & Treasurer and Madeleine Roy, Assistant Clerk.

The regular meeting was called to order by Trustee Richard Creaser at 6:30.

**Additions or Deletions to the agenda:** None

Keith made a motion to waive the reading of Rules of Procedure. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes of the August 17, 2021 Meeting:**

Keith made a motion to accept the minutes of the Aug. 17, 2021 meeting as written. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

**Tabled Items:**

1) Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant Reconstruction:

Keith stated that he has been advised by Stanstead that the reconstruction is just about completed. They are just waiting for Hydro Quebec to hook it up for power. Afterwards, Derby Line will be put on line.

2) Local COVID Relief Funds – to be discussed at this meeting

**Haskell Library & Opera House Funding:**

Jay Johnson attended to discuss the capital improvements needed at the Haskell, which include a new slate roof, air circulation system, and new windows. He also indicated the new LED lighting has been installed and that, in order to make better use of the building, they would like to expand the open hours through the winter. Stanstead College has expressed a desire to use the building during the school year. With this in mind, Jay is looking for grants to fund all these efforts and already has commitments for matching funds. One of the grants he is pursuing is from T-Mobile, which requires five letters of support from community businesses or groups. He already has four and was here to ask the Derby Line Village Trustees for a similar letter from the village.

Jay also asked if some of the village's American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds could be used toward the upgrades needed at the library. Richard did mention that one of the provisions for use of ARPA funds is that community groups must have been adversely affected by COVID. Jay stated that the library has had to be closed since March because of the border closure and has definitely been adversely affected by COVID. Richard agreed that the Haskell is definitely an icon in our village. However, since residents have been advised that their input will be sought on how to spend these funds, the Trustees cannot in good conscience commit monies before presenting it to the voters at the annual meeting next April. Richard asked Jay to provide a formal proposal before the end of 2021 that can be included in the discussions for the annual meeting.

Keith made a motion to provide a letter of support to T-Mobile for the Haskell Library & Opera House to help secure funding for their improvements. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

**Fire Hydrant in Holland:**

Phil Letourneau and Brian Champney attended to request that a fire hydrant be installed off the Holland Pond water line near the Champney farm for occasional use for his pond. Keith advised that the Village of Derby Line is unable to give permission for this hydrant since the water line is owned and maintained by International Water Co (IWC). Their annual meeting will be held sometime in November 2021 before which Champney should request to be put on their agenda. The Stanstead Town Manager has told Keith that this hydrant installation would have to conform to the rules of the fire district, which in this case would be the Town of Holland. Champney was also told that it would be better to locate the fire hydrant near the road so that it can be used for fire protection for other properties in the area. Otherwise, it would look like the hydrant would be for one property owner's use only and that would most likely not be acceptable to IWC. They would be more likely to agree to this if other properties could benefit from its fire protection. The Town of Holland is not a member of IWC, so IWC would not be willing to pay for any of the costs involved. Champney indicated that he is willing to pay for the hydrant, which

Jaret indicated would cost in the vicinity of \$3,500 plus labor. It was also suggested that Champney should ask the Town of Holland to use some of their ARPA funds for this project. Champney agreed to attend one of their Selectmen's meetings to make this request.

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

Unpaved section of Sunset Terrace: Laurie stated that she had received a concern from a resident of Sunset Terrace that the unpaved section of that road is getting very bad and asked if the village was planning on paving it anytime soon. Laurie told her that it will not be paved soon, but as soon as the village's new Road Paving Fund has ample monies in it, all streets will be assessed for paving.

Baxter Ave Paving: Jaret indicated the approximate \$6,000 increase in the cost of the recent paving of Baxter Ave. by Pike Industries is due to their extending the parking area in the park by several parking spaces as requested of them by Brian Fletcher, and putting in a swale in the hill going down Baxter to take care of water runoff. Most of this extra cost was for the extra tonnage of tar. The village will eventually end up paying only 20% of all the cost since the State of VT is covering 80%.

Caswell Ave Manhole, Kingsbury St Hydrant & Stumps in Park: Jaret reported that these repairs are scheduled to be done in Sept. & Oct. by Denis Ducharme.

Sewer System Pumping: Jaret stated that he is still taking readings of the number of gallons being pumped into the sewer system. Since repairs were made in the last year to some of the pipes that had stormwater previously being pumped into the sewer, the readings have gone down from about 300 gallons per day to 18 per day.

Flushing of Hydrants: Jaret advised that flushing will be done the weeks of Sept. 20 and Sept. 27.

Brush at End of Pelow Hill: Jaret advised that the village road crew has disposed of the pile of brush left at the top of Pelow Hill. Keith suggested that in the next village newsletter a notice be included that anyone leaving brush and branches on village property will be charged for time and equipment for removal by the village crew.

**New Business from the Audience:**

Phil Letourneau brought up the spring in his sugarbush that belongs to IWC, which used to run down to the reservoir (not the main reservoir) and appears to no longer be active. He would like IWC to give up their rights to it and surrender it back to him. He was informed that, like the hydrant in Holland issue, he needs to make his request to IWC at their annual meeting in Nov.

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

**Executive Session:** None

**Next Meeting:** Richard stated that he will not be available for the next regularly scheduled meeting of Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. It was decided to meet on the following night, Sept. 22, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

**Review and Sign Bank Statement:** Yes

**Warrants were Reviewed and Signed:** Yes

**The Last Check Printed:** #16613

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk