

Derby Line, Vermont
Trustees Meeting
October 5, 2021
Derby Line Village Hall

Call to Order:

Present were Trustees Richard Creaser & Keith Beadle.

Also, present were Dustin Horne, Karen Jenne, Jaret Judd, Brian Fletcher, 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 September 22, 2021 Meeting:

Keith made a motion to accept the minutes of the Sept. 22, 2021 meeting as written. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

Tabled Items:

- 1) Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant Reconstruction – nothing new on this issue per Keith
- 2) Local COVID Relief Funds – nothing new on this issue except that Richard did note that VLCT is doing some seminars on qualifying projects

Yard Waste Left on Village Property:

Keith reported that he had found that the Town of Derby has an existing ordinance for yard waste, which also includes dumping of recyclables and dumping in containers. VLCT indicated that the State of VT has a specific law on the books pertaining to yard waste left in a town's right of way leading to a \$1,000 fine. It was discussed that Derby Line should probably have its own ordinance, but the problem remains how to catch the perpetrators. Richard mentioned that there is no sense in having such an ordinance if it is not enforceable or even difficult to enforce. It might be better to amend an existing ordinance, like the Town of Derby's, than to create a new one for Derby Line, but only if it is enforceable. The town constable would be the one to give out fines. Dustin Horne stated he thinks it would be good to have our own ordinance that Derby Line can fall back on if the problem persists.

Keith agreed to call Bob Kelley at the town to see if their ordinance can be amended to include Derby Line Village and its properties, and report back at a future meeting.

Dashner Circle:

Horne noted that the grant he is pursuing for drainage work on Dashner has a deadline of November, so there is plenty of time to complete the application. He also stated that he is aware that some property owners there will lose some of their property because of the road needing to be made wider in some areas. Richard stated that there is value in widening the road where needed, but property owners must understand that some of them may lose some of their property if this is done. Brian Fletcher reported that he had researched Dashner Circle in the town records and found nothing regarding the original layout of the road, and it may have been just a verbal agreement several decades ago before State specifications needed to be adhered to. Jaret Judd noted that he had spoken with the school district's bus superintendent who said there is no problem in driving a school bus around Dashner to pick up children. People just need to ask them to do so. Brian stated that the first thing to do, before any drainage work is done, is to determine what the village's right of way is. Richard reiterated that this needs to be determined before any drainage work is done that the grant would fund. He estimated that this street is about 4/10 of a mile and it would not take a large amount to get it upgraded to proper State specifications. Laurie noted that the Paving Fund now has \$58,000 in it with another \$30,000 to be added after tax revenue comes in for 2021, for a total of about \$88,000. Richard also stated that should a decision be made to pave Dashner, it would be wiser to wait to do the proposed drainage work and maybe do both projects at the same time.

Business from Trustees, Treasurer and Road Foreman:

Road Between Mike Blake and Former Bouffard Apt House: Laurie stated that Mike Blake recently asked if the road that goes between his property and the adjacent apartment house belongs to the village. Brian stated that

Ducharme Dr. which goes in from Caswell Ave. up past the apartment buildings is a village road, but Ducharme takes care of it himself. To Brian's knowledge, the road that goes down next to Blake's is not a village road, and it has never been plowed by the village. Mike had stated that he asked Bob Kelley about it who said that it is a village road. This is a narrow road, and if it is definitely determined that it is a village road, plowing might have to be done with the sidewalk plow. Laurie agreed to find out for sure from the town.

Overnight Parking on Streets: Brian asked for information about overnight parking, especially during the winter, on village streets. There is a permit available for those needing overnight parking, but Laurie stated that no one has requested one for years. Notices are occasionally placed on violators' windshields. The village's Parking Ordinance was reviewed. Keith suggested that this ordinance should probably be amended to streamline the dates and times listed regarding Winter Parking and Non-Resident Parking.

Stumps in Baxter Park: Jaret reported that the stumps have all been removed and landscaping will be completed this week.

Paving of Streets & New Hydrant: Jaret reported that paving repairs are complete on Patenaude, Caswell, Main Sts. and that the new hydrant has been installed on Kingsbury with that paving also done.

New Village Truck: Brian noted that the new truck is out of commission at this time as the lights on the body were not working. The truck should be repaired and returned soon.

Properties on Border and Questionable Water & Sewer Charges: Laurie stated she had spoken with the Town of Stanstead about the mischarges made by them to BMS Holdings, Deb Baum and Edward Gosselin, Jr. (property owners on the border), and they have agreed that BMS Holdings and Baum are ours to charge for both water and sewer and that Gosselin is ours to bill for water only. Stanstead has been billing all three for water and sewer and has stated they will write each of them a letter to advise that their charges will be coming from Derby Line in the future as described above.

New Business from the Audience: None

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

Karen Jenne asked if a date has yet been set for the November International Water Co. annual meeting. No one has heard yet.

Executive Session:

Brian asked for an executive session. Keith made a motion to discuss the "appointment or employ or evaluation of a public officer for employees." Richard seconded. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on October 19, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Review and Sign Bank Statement: Yes

Warrants were Reviewed and Signed: Yes

The Last Check Printed: #16667

The meeting was adjourned at 7.47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk