

Derby Line, Vermont
Trustees Meeting
December 15, 2020
Derby Line Village Hall

Call to Order:

Present were Trustees Richard Creaser, Sarah Webster and Keith Beadle.

Also present were Jaret Judd, Sandy Madey, Brian Fletcher (by phone), and Laurie Moss Village Clerk.

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

Additions to the agenda:

- A. Highland Ave. Sidewalk
- B. Status of Office Hours because of COVID-19

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

Approval of Minutes of the Nov. 16, 2020 Meeting:

Keith made a motion to accept the minutes of the Nov. 16, 2020 meeting as written. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

There were no minutes to approve for the regularly scheduled Dec. 1, 2020 meeting as that meeting was cancelled.

Tabled Items:

- 1) Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant Reconstruction & MOU – no new information on this project.
- 2) Ditch along Maple St. – no new information on this project.
- 3) Soil Contamination/Drilling Issue at old garage – to be discussed at this meeting

Quote for Soil Contamination/Drilling Issue at Old Garage on Ducharme Dr:

Keith reported that a proposal has been received from Bowes Environmental, LLC of Barton, VT that includes a detailed description of sampling groundwater at this site, testing it, and, if needed, drilling three (3) monitoring wells. His quote for this work is \$7,043.00. To cover this cost Keith feels that the village's investment portfolio includes a stock investment account with Community Financial Services Group (CFSG) of about \$180,000. This account was originally set up with excess monies from the water project. The intention at that time was that some of these funds could be used for any water problems the village might be faced with. This is a project that should be taken care of before the village can sell the old garage.

Sarah moved that the village enter into an agreement with Bowes Environmental, LLC of Barton, VT at a cost of \$7,043.00 as quoted for testing and continued monitoring of three wells at the old garage site on Ducharme Dr. Keith seconded. Motion carried.

Keith agreed to call Bowes on Dec. 16, 2020 to advise of this vote. Bowes had told Keith that the work can be done around mid-January 2021.

Comparison of BCBS and MVP Health Insurance for Employees:

Laurie provided a spreadsheet of coverage and premium comparison between Blue Cross Blue Shield (present carrier) and MVP for village employees. For the same coverage and deductible, the premium would be approximately \$100.00 lower per month with MVP. Also discussed was MVP's Platinum plan for which the premium is approximately the same as what the village is now paying BCBS for their Standard Gold plan. However, it was suggested by Richard that the village consider staying with a Standard Gold plan and deposit the approximate \$100.00 premium difference into a Health Savings Account (HSA) for each employee. He noted that it behooves the village, in order to keep good employees, to provide them with the best benefits package the village can afford. He also stated that an HSA account provides more flexibility for medical bills than even the best insurance plan.

Keith made a motion to change the village employee health insurance carrier from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Gold Standard plan to the MVP Gold Standard plan and deposit the approximate \$100.00 monthly difference into HSA accounts for each employee. Sarah seconded. Motion carried.

NEMRC Software Agreement:

Richard explained that NEMRC provides very helpful accounting services throughout the year resulting in the village accounting now being more accurate with reports that are more helpful and easily readable.

Sarah moved that Richard Creaser be authorized to sign the Software Support Agreement with NEMRC to continue their licensing and support services for another year. Keith seconded. Motion carried.

Highland Ave. Sidewalk:

Brian Fletcher, by phone, reported that he had received a call from a Highland Ave. resident who was concerned about children walking in the road to the end of the street because the sidewalk there is not plowed in the winter. That particular sidewalk is in very bad condition to the point that it damages village equipment when plowing. Brian told the resident that they would still not be plowing it and wanted the trustees to be aware of this. This should not be a big issue since there is very little traffic on Highland Ave. A short discussion ensued about how to repair this sidewalk in the future. No action was taken except to bring up Pedestrian Access on Highland Ave. and Pelow Hill at the next annual meeting.

COVID-19 & Holiday Office Hours:

Laurie noted that over the last couple of years, there has been very little activity in the village office during the holidays and she suggested that the office close from Dec. 21, 2020 through Jan. 3, 2021. She agreed to post this information on the outside of the office door and the Town of Derby's website. She also agreed that the mail and any items left in the locked drop box will be picked up and taken care of.

Regarding Trustees meetings during COVID, Derby Line has been following the protocol put forth by VLCT.

Business from Trustees, Treasurer and Road Foreman:

Plowing Snow at North end of Main St. on Border: Jaret reported that they are still having some problems plowing snow at this location, but Keith reminded him that they can call the border inspectors to get the gates opened earlier.

New Business from the Audience: None

Old business from the Audience (5-minute limit unless otherwise directed): Sandy Madey mentioned that she appreciates receiving agendas and minutes of Trustees meetings.

Executive Session: No

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Jan. 5, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Review and Sign Bank Statement: Yes

Warrants were Reviewed and Signed: Yes

The Last Check Printed: #16050

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk