

Village of Derby Line, Vermont
Trustees Meeting
June 21, 2022
Derby Line Village Hall

Call to Order:

Present were Trustees Richard Creaser, Sarah Webster and Sandra Garratt.

Also, present were Jaret Judd, Assistant Road Foreman, Karen Jenne, Deb & James Hrdlicka, Andrea Peden, Lillian Kelley, Bucky Shelton, April Bodette, Jacinta Jones, Priscilla Blair, Duncan & Sabine Gannon, Laurie Sanville, Village Clerk & Treasurer, and Madeleine Roy, Assistant Village Clerk.

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

Additions or Deletions to the agenda: None

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

Approval of Minutes of the June 7, 2022 Regular Meeting & June 16, 2022 Special Meeting:

Sarah made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 7, 2022 meeting as written and the minutes of the special meeting of June 16, 2022 with the addition that she would work with Brian, the village road crew and those others who attended this special meeting to get the names of the minors causing the vandalism in the village. Sandra seconded. Motion carried.

Tabled Items:

- 1) Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant – nothing new on this issue
- 2) COVID Relief Funds (ARPA) – to be discussed in this meeting

ARPA Funds & Payroll Increase:

The Trustees reported that payroll for the village road crew was substantially increased this month retroactive to the beginning of this fiscal year (March 1, 2022). Since ARPA fund restrictions have been basically done away with by the federal government and in light of the current job and economic market in our country, it seemed fair to make these increases. When creating this year's budget last winter, not enough money was allocated for these increases since the market did not seem as dire as it does now. Because of this, it was decided that ARPA funds could augment the budgeted amount for payroll and that the idea of fitness equipment in the park would be suspended. The comments received from village taxpayers showed that this fitness equipment was not popular.

Other ideas discussed for use of ARPA monies:

- Tetherball units for the playground area at \$737.00 each, which the village crew could install
- Swinging benches for parents to use while watching their children in the playground. Sarah agreed to research for next meeting
- Small pavilion-type structure to provide shade. Richard informed all that this might be a problem since the covenant established over 100 years ago by the donors of the park to the village states that no permanent structures are to be erected in the park. Legal decisions would have to be received to determine what constitutes permanent structures. Then, it would have to go through Probate Court. A change to that covenant would have to be voted on by 60% of the village voters. Laurie agreed to see if a copy of that covenant can be uploaded to Derby's website for everyone to read. Richard suggested that this item be put on the agenda for the next annual meeting to see if voters would like the Trustees to pursue a lawyer to research the covenant.
- Walking path around the park. The village road crew could build it, but it would not be maintained (plowed) during the winter.
- One or two dog waste stations with bag dispenser in the park which would cost from \$300.00 to \$450.00 each. Laurie agreed to research the cost of bags (plastic or compostable) and report at next meeting.

Vandalism in Derby Line:

Sarah briefly reported on the special meeting with Sheriff Jennifer Harlow that took place on June 16, 2022 regarding the recent vandalism in the village. Harlow was very receptive to hearing of the problems and willing to help if possible. However, with the Sheriff Dept. being short-staffed, it is nearly impossible for them to respond

to every call that comes in. She did say, however, that residents should continue to call in to them when seeing the perpetrators causing the vandalism. The more calls they get, the better they can determine responses to these events. They do log all calls received. Harlow also asked that the village try to find out the names of the minors causing the damage. Cameras installed in the park were suggested by Harlow, strategically placed so they cannot be vandalized.

Sarah made a motion to have the village acquire two or three cameras at a cost not to exceed \$600.00 to provide oversight of Baxter Park and the Derby Line Cemetery. Sandra seconded. Motion carried.

Business from Trustees, Treasurer and Road Foreman:

Painting Lines: Jaret reported that they have been unable to start painting because of the weather. But they do plan on completing this project soon.

Reservoir: Jaret stated that the State of Vermont has issued some maintenance items that need to be taken care of. Because International Water Co. (IWC) cannot do work on the American side, they have contracted with Phil Laramie to do the work. Some of the items that need to be done are sealing the beams of the cover, changing some rusted hinges and having the tank cleaned.

Lead Sampling: The State of Vermont is requiring lead sampling of a certain number of homes in Derby Line. If a certain amount of lead is found, an additive would have to be put in the water. Phil Laramie will be doing this testing.

New Business from the Audience:

Sandra noted that she had heard a story on NPR of a person wanting to do performances in every village and town in the State of Vermont. She contacted him to possibly come to the Haskell Opera House or some other venue in Derby Line. She will research further and report at a future meeting.

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

Derby Line Community Day was briefly discussed. There will be music, several vendors, food and fireworks.

Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on July 5, 2022, at 6:30 pm here at the village hall.

Executive Session:

Richard stated that an executive session is needed to discuss the employment or evaluation of public employees.

Sarah made a motion to go into executive session. Sandra seconded. Motion carried.

The Trustees came out of executive session at 8:15 pm. The action taken was to increase the salary for the Village Clerk from \$18.00 to \$22.00 per hour, and for the Assistant Village Clerk from \$16.20 to \$20.00 per hour, all retroactive back to the beginning of the fiscal year.

Review and Sign Bank Statement: No

Warrants were Reviewed and Signed: Yes

The Last Check Printed: #17180

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk