

TOWN OF DERBY, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Minutes
August 21, 2023

Present: Steve Gendreau, Brad Shattuck, Grant Spates, Karen Chitambar, Brian Smith.

Others: Mark Linton, Craig Ellam, Doug Spates, Vivian Spates, Faye Morin, Matthew Wilson, Patrick Hurley, Peter Emerson, Paul Patenaude, Candy Patenaude, Joe Profera, Bob Kelley.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M.

Warrants #17A in the amount of \$26,756.51 and #17B in the amount of \$64,377.45 were signed.

APPROVE MINUTES:

Brian moved to approve the minutes of August 7, 2023, with Brad seconding. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Route 5 Land – VT Fish & Wildlife – A sticking point on the sale is the dry hydrant on the property. Fire Chief, Craig Ellam says they need this dry hydrant because of Fred’s Fuel depot on the other side of the road. This dry hydrant has been used multiple times. The State would like to remove the dry hydrant to restore the stream to it’s natural flow. Also the pond is ready to fail, water is running around the outlet culvert. Installing a dry hydrant in Kids Pond was discussed, but that location will not work for the Fire Department. The State is willing to keep the dry hydrant until another suitable location can be found. Another site visit will be scheduled to look at this issue. The State is also purchasing a 1.8 acre site from Paul Patenaude off of Beebe Rd. and would like a letter of support from the Town. Brad moved to write a letter of support for the State’s purchase of the Patenaude property, seconded by Brian. Unanimous.

Ratify Road Foreman – This will be discussed in Executive Session.

Errors & Omissions - Listers – The property is owned by Stephen & Amy Wheeler and the change is due to land size error. Brian moved to approve the Listers Errors & Omission, seconded by Steve. Unanimous.

Land Donations to the Town – Doug & Vivian Spates are starting a project to buy 25 acres at the top of Shattuck Hill from Andrew Delabruere in order to preserve the view. It is acknowledged that this spot has one of the most beautiful views around. They are hoping to work with Vermont Community Foundation and after the land is purchased they want to donate it to the Town. The purchase price is \$750,000 and the Spates’ have committed a minimum of \$100,000 to the project and are in hopes of finding like-minded individuals and businesses to contribute. They will be asking for a minimum donation of \$50,000 and it is a tax write off. The goal is to raise enough for the purchase of the property and extra to build a scenic pull-off with signage and funds for the perpetual upkeep of the property. The fields will need to be hayed and the trees cut as needed to preserve the view. They are asking if the Town is willing to accept the property at no cost with details to be worked out. Brad moved that the Town of Derby get behind the project and support it in any way they can, seconded by Brian. Unanimous.

Update on Welch Grant Funds for New Park and Other Grant Application – New Park – The grant is for \$517,750 and so far \$8,150 has been spent on the Environmental Assessment. The Environmental Assessment should be completed, we are waiting on the State to confirm this. Next step is to hire an architect to design the park so that we can put it out to bid. It looks like work will begin next spring. There is a group of Pickleball players led by Al Loukes that want to discuss the new courts with, possibly at your next meeting. **Better Roads** – The Town has a \$20,000 grant to replace 4 culverts on Salem-Derby Rd and associated ditching & road resurfacing. 20% match

required. **Grants-In-Aid** – The Town has a \$15,000 grant to do work on hydraulically connected road segments. Location has not been determined yet. 20% match required. **HSIP Small Scale Local Safety Grant** - The Town has a \$20,300 grant for signage on N Derby Rd, Nelson Hill Rd, Hayward Rd, Cross Rd, Shattuck Hill Rd, Darling Hill Rd, and Elm St, tree removal on Crawford Rd and Fontaine Rd, and pavement markings on West St. There is no match required. **Highway Structures Grant** - The Town has a \$19,800 grant for engineering to replace a culvert at the end of 4H Rd. The design work has been completed and the only thing left to do is the construction inspection when it is built. 10% match is required. The Town has been told that we will get funding for the construction next year. **Highway Structures Grant** - The Town has a \$10,629 grant for engineering to replace a culvert on Bushey Hill Rd. The design work has been completed and the only thing left to do is the construction inspection when it is built. 10% match is required. **Highway Structures Grant** - The Town has a \$132,283.80 grant to replace a culvert on Bushey Hill Rd. Expenditures so far is \$53,380 for the purchase of the box culvert. 10% match is required.

Review & Sign Article for 2024 Warning – Orleans/Essex VNA & Hospice Inc – They are requesting a \$13,600 appropriation. This is the same as the last 3 years and does not need a petition. The Board approved adding this to the 2024 Warning.

TA/ZA Report - DRB/PC: The DRB has 2 permits for next week. The Planning Commission will be meeting to discuss zoning map changes for Prouty Drive and Crawford Rd. **Permits:** There have been 78 permits submitted this year to date. **FEMA:** I have a call scheduled with FEMA on Wednesday morning to go over our damage and what our next steps are. Most of the work has been completed. Jason has been very good about tracking the man hours, equipment hours and supplies for each location. **Beach House Roof:** Grant has drafted a request for proposal. Building dimensions, roof slope and pictures need to be added. It will be posted in the newspaper and on our website.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legislative Update – Brian’s Committee had a tour of the Casella Landfill. The State keeps a close eye on the landfill. The landfill has 20 years left on their permit.

ROAD REPORT:

Most of the damage from the July storms has been cleaned up.

RECREATION COMMITTEE: None.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:08 p.m. Brad moved to go into executive session for a personnel issue, seconded by Brian. Out of executive session at 7:24 p.m. Steve moved to hire Tom Pratt as the new Road Foreman at \$30/hr, seconded by Brian. Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT:

There will not be a meeting on Labor Day. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Monday, September 18, 2023. Brad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m., with Steve seconding. Unanimous.

Submitted by Bob Kelley, *Unofficial until approved.*