

Village of Derby Line, Vermont
Trustees Meeting
July 18, 2023
Derby Line Village Hall

Call to Order:

Present were Trustees Richard Creaser and Dustin Horne.

Also present were Bruce Muir, Karen Jenne, Ed Barber, Joe Queenin, Belinda Webster, Eilish Quirion, Jaret Judd, Road Foreman, Laurie Sanville, Village Clerk and Madeleine Roy, Assistant Clerk.

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

Additions or Deletions to the agenda: None

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

Approval of Minutes of the July 11, 2023 Regular Trustees Meeting:

Because only one Trustee was present tonight who was also at the July 11, 2023 meeting, it was agreed to postpone approval of the minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting until the next meeting.

Role of Park & Recreation Committee:

Richard noted that the Board of Trustees appreciates the Park & Recreation Committee's energy and commitment to leading activities for the benefit of Derby Line, but the concern is that the Committee needs to understand that it needs to be accountable to the Village Treasurer. Several committee members present, after having read the newspaper article of the July 11th meeting, voiced their disappointment in the Board's apparent unprofessionalism and that their comments were hurtful and unjustified. Richard noted that no one on the committee was attacked at that meeting nor was there a long discussion about this issue on July 11th. His only comments at that meeting were that the Board and Committee need to have better communication and that the committee needs to understand its duties to the Village Treasurer. Any other discussion was deferred to the next meeting (that is, tonight's). Karen Jenne noted that as part of creating better communication, the committee needs to post its meeting agendas and minutes in three places in the village. She also stated that she did not find the Newport Daily Express article offensive. Lastly, she noted that Dustin Horne's emails to the other trustees were in violation of Vermont's Open Meeting law. Richard noted that communication by the committee should be done by email, not Facebook as many do not use Facebook. Belinda Webster agreed to be the point of contact between the committee and the village.

Promotion of Haskell Opera House Event:

Richard stated that a letter has been received from performer Jacques Bouchard of Waterloo, QC who wants to put on a Barry Manilow Tribute fundraiser for the Opera House, possibly on Sept. 8, 2023. His letter requests help in promoting this event by local communities, including Derby Line. It was agreed that marketing of this event will be done on Derby's website, Front Porch Forum, social media and that a few signs will be made up, all as soon as the event's final information is available.

Dustin made a motion to spend \$50.00 to post this Barry Manilow Tribute event on the Waterfront Cinema advertising plus four \$12.00 signs for the benefit of the Haskell Opera House. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

Business from Trustees, Treasurer and Road Foreman:

Community Day: Jaret reported he had spoken with Brian Rouleau of NEK Express about bounce houses and his train and where he will be located in the park. Jaret has also consulted with Alan Desroches, electrician, about changing the present electrical system in the park so that it is safer and more permanent, rather than the present plastic box that is underground and fills up with water. The system will now be on an above ground pole. He has also met with three members of the Park & Recreation Committee to map out the park for that day.

Skating Rink: Jaret asked Dustin if he would consider laying the plastic, he has already acquired on the basketball court and covering it with the rink system he intends to buy. Norm Patenaude of Pike Industries has advised that doing it this way, rather than just flooding the basketball court without any covering or insulation, would not damage the asphalt on the court. Dustin, however, stated that the court is probably not long enough for hockey teams to practice.

Shoulders on Newly Paved Streets: Jaret noted that because of all the rain we've had the shoulders have not

yet been finished. They are waiting for the topsoil to dry out.

Flooding: Jaret stated that the village road crew recently helped the Town of Derby with some washout problems on Goodall Road, as well as helping at Tivoly with some flooding that occurred at their plant.

Tree on Corkins St: The road crew, this week, cleaned up a tree that had fallen onto Corkins St.

Water Testing – Ashley Corkins Request: Laramie Waterworks and the State of VT have tested the water at and near the Corkins residence, which has resulted in nothing that would cause Corkins' skin problems.

Meeting with Village of Stanstead: Richard noted that a meeting between Derby Line and Stanstead needs to be scheduled soon to discuss items in the Memorandum of Understanding and the possible change in charges to Derby Line for the amount of flow going to Stanstead. Laurie will contact Sarah Webster to see if she has had any luck in contacting Stanstead.

New Business from the Audience:

Karen asked the status of the professional audit. Laurie indicated that she has engaged Telling & Hillman PC of Middlebury, VT, who has agreed to do the audit on the Caswell Avenue sidewalk and the Stanstead Sewer Treatment Plant projects in 2024.

Karen also asked Laurie if she has made known the Low Income Water Assist Program being offered by the State of VT for those with past due water bills. Laurie confirmed that she has offered it to several water customers.

FEMA Assistance: Dustin asked if we need to contact FEMA for flooding damage in the village. Jaret noted that he has been in contact with Eric Pope at VTrans who stated that no one is in need yet.

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

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on August 1, 2023 in the village hall at 6:30 p.m. ***(August 8th was originally incorrectly scheduled, but Aug. 1st is actually the first Tuesday of the month)***

Executive Session: None

Review and Sign Bank Statement: No

Warrants were Reviewed and Signed: Yes

The Last Check Printed: #17998

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk