

Village of Derby Line, Vermont
Trustees Meeting
August 15, 2023
Derby Line Village Hall

Call to Order:

Present were Trustees Richard Creaser and Sarah Webster.

Also present were Bruce Muir, Karen Jenne, Belinda Webster, Hollie Linn Tutwiler, Ed Barber, 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

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

Approval of Minutes of the Aug. 1, 2023 Regular Trustees Meeting:

Sarah made a motion to approve the minutes of the Aug. 1, 2023 Trustees meeting as presented. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

Derby Line Community Day Update:

Belinda reported that the day went very well. The new layout seemed to work very well and the new entrance from Baxter Ave was much better. Three or four vendors as well as non-profit organizations did not show for various reasons. Those who were in attendance seemed very happy with the turnout of people and their sales. The fireworks were excellent. A couple of suggestions for improvement: 1) Parking needs to be done by adults as several people would not adhere to the kids' suggestions for parking. 2) Parking needs to be kept away from the Baxter Ave entrance as visibility was bad there, especially at dusk and after dark.

Belinda noted that the committee will be gathering soon to recap this year's Community Day and contact vendors and performers for next year. Plans for next year's event must be done earlier to insure even more success.

Village of Stanstead Final Bill for New Sewer Plant Construction:

Laurie reported having received Stanstead's final bill, which is \$251,593.71 more than what they agreed to in the Memorandum of Understanding. The total construction cost billed is \$6,742,305.31 with Derby Line's half figuring to \$3,371,218.14 (Canadian funds). Laurie has already paid them \$820,104.78 in US funds (\$1,025,130.97 in Canadian funds). This would leave a balance due of \$2,346,087.17 in Canadian funds (or \$1,806,488.93 in US funds based on today's exchange rate). Yet, the MOU states our total project cost is not to exceed \$2,375,000.00 in US funds. The Trustees agreed that Derby Line should not have to pay any more than \$1,554,895.22 balance in US funds as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding. $\$820,104.78 \text{ plus } \$1,554,895.22 = \$2,375,000.00$. And, we are not to withhold the final payment since we are legally bound to pay it. However, before paying it, Derby Line will wait until Sarah contacts Stanstead to set up a meeting to discuss several issues. In addition, it was noted by Richard and Jaret that Stanstead needs to meter their flows, like we do, in order to determine the proper distribution of cost to each municipality.

Sarah made a motion to authorize the village Treasurer to issue a check to Stanstead per the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding in the amount of \$1,554,895.22. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

Business from Trustees, Treasurer and Road Foreman:

Caswell Ave Retaining Wall Project: Jaret has spoken with Eric Pope from VTrans, who has met with the new engineer. The engineer wants to look this project over more thoroughly as he does not like the original suggestion of a block wall. He prefers a stone slope like was done in the Derby Line Cemetery. However, the State of VT funding only applies to block walls. Pope will look into this matter and see if the state will allow the stone slope or a combination of blocks and stones. The original quote was \$200,000 for this project and today's cost would rise to about \$300,000. The state will only fund 90% of a project up to \$200,000. Jaret also suggested trying to get a 25-foot easement from the owners of the Butters house so the contractors can get equipment onto the site. Laurie will contact Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC to get this paperwork started. In conjunction with this project, Jaret will try to find out from VTrans what their time frame is and the type of work they will be doing regarding paving of Caswell Ave so the two projects can hopefully be coordinated.

Shoulders on Newly Paved Streets: Still waiting for dry weather.

Holland Pond Dam: Jaret has received the paperwork from the recent inspection of the dam, which lists several suggestions to be made.

Property Taxes: Laurie is waiting for the Town of Derby to send her the new grand list so the village tax rate can be determined. Setting the village tax rate will require a special meeting of the Trustees.

New Business from the Audience: None

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

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting will be on September 5, 2023 in the village hall at 6:30 p.m. A special Trustees meeting for setting the new property tax rate will be determined and posted as soon as the new Grand List is received from the Town of Derby.

Executive Session: None

Review and Sign Bank Statement: Yes

Warrants were Reviewed and Signed: Yes

The Last Check Printed: #18050

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine C. Roy, Assistant Village Clerk