



Regular Selectboard Meeting

June 13, 2022

Unapproved Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Cathcart and Diane O’Classen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Thomasina Magoon

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Sabatini, Aaron Todd, Cecile Todd, Barb Walsh, Fran Viko, Jim Hayes, Marci Hayes, Vickee Whiting, Suzanne George, Bill Mathis, Leo Zhelnin, and Andrea Raymond.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	Jeff Cathcart called the meeting to order, Diane O’Classen 2nd.	7:01
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CHANGES TO AGENDA none

MEETING MINUTES	Tabled until the next meeting as Jeff was not present thus can not vote on the minutes and Thomasina is absent.	3 min
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NEW BUSINESS		42 min
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Treasurer Business Vickee and Suzanne were present to discuss the finances of the Town. Currently there is not enough money in the Town Checking Account. They are requesting to transfer \$30,000.00 from Road Account to Town Account. Vickee stated that the Road Account has been spending under budget. Diane O’Classen motions to have the Treasurer transfer the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Road Account into the Town Account, Jeff Cathcart 2nd. Suzanne recommends putting some in a paving fund. Jeff Cathcart stated that the paving fund is something separate and is a voted amount annually by the people, thus is more complicated than a simple transfer.

MOTION TRANSFER OF MONEY



South Hill
Hearing
MOTION
SOUTH HILL
ROAD

Jeff Cathcart makes a motion to keep the former South Hill section before the road was altered as a trail and formally adopt the created alternative section as a Town Road being a part of South Hill Rd. Diane O'Classen 2nd. Aaron Todd thanked the Town. Dave Sabatini thanked Marci for doing the work on this. Cecile inquired if the State will need to know this information. Marci will get this to the State and District 3 while at the office tomorrow.

Road and
Bridge
Standard
MOTION
ROAD AND
BRIDGE
STANDARD

Jeff stated this agreement has not been filed yet for this year, he stated that the Road and Bridge agreement will be adopted as of today, this has been signed and Marci is to send the paperwork to VTrans tomorrow. Jeff Cathcart motions that the board accepts the States Road and Bridge Standard, Diane O'Classen 2nd.

Tax Sale

Vickee reported that she has scheduled a tax sale with the Town Attorney (Fritz Langrock) for the property of 184 Hayes Rd, owned by Roy Kinsley and Hannah Rice. The total amount owed is \$3,300.83 this includes unpaid taxes, interest, fees, and penalty, there will be additional legal fees and advertising fees added. Vickee would like a selectboard member present on Saturday July 30th, at 10 am at the Town Hall for the tax sale. Jeff Cathcart and Diane will both be there. This is the fourth consecutive year a tax sale has been called for this property.

Town Vehicle
and Building
Theft and
Vandalism

Jeff Cathcart reported that Friday night someone took an ax to the Town Garage door, rifled through the garbage truck. Jeff Cathcart has purchased a camera and it will be installed. This will come out of constable wages. Marci stated that the ax was taken out of the garbage truck and is missing, and the inspection sticker was attempted to be stolen as well. Jim stated that the door knob has been replaced as it was bashed in, Jim would like to have a deadbolt on the door as well. Thankfully the individual was unable to get into the building. Jim stated that the garbage truck keys were moved, he believes the individual tried to steal the vehicle. The garbage truck was parked down there because it broke down on the run, therefore even though the truck started the forward



gears were not working, thus the vehicle was unable to be moved. Jeff stated that he will give the camera to Marci to have installed. He would like everyone to know that there will be a camera for the Town Garage, Sand and Salt Shed. Jeff believes that the Town Garage has wifi already from the Town Office and Hall. Marci does not think it reaches the Town Garage, this will be looked into.

Forest Board Agreement

Jeff Cathcart signed the Forest Board Agreement and sent it back to them. The Forest Service is giving the Town \$15,000.00 for this year. This will have to be used this year, it is broken down with what the Forest Service would like the Town to do with it. Jeff Cathcart will walk with them Thursday to discuss problem areas. Jeff Cathcart would like to have the amount be able to go towards the lower part of Carlisle Hill near the Town Garage. This has been an area in discussion for several years to work on. Vickee inquired if this needs to be done on forest roads as stated. Jeff Cathcart stated that there may be leniency regarding where the money is spent this year, as stated by a Forest personnel. Vickee stated that this will have to be tracked and kept separate for Suzanne's finances. Vickee inquired about funding available until December. Jeff Cathcart told those present about the lost money due to not using it, the Forest gave the town two years time, then in December after only a few months, said that the money was not available and the Town does not have the previously agreed amount. Jeff would like a separate time sheet for Forest Service work to make it easier managed for billing the Forest Service.

Andrea Raymond Property Work

Jeff Cathcart stated that he received a letter from the land owner regarding hiring Tammy Walsh for work to be done on an existing stone wall, Jeff added that there is a retaining wall currently of wood, not a stone wall. Fran inquired about the setbacks for this area, Marci stated that the setbacks for the Town Right Of Way (ROW) is 24'9" from the center of the road, the work being done, material being stored, and the wall itself is in the Town Right Of Way. Jim stated that it is pre-existing and that this is something that everyone should work together on and that the bank should be worked on. He was asked about this from Tammy and Jim staked



out 5' from the edge of the road that he told her the Town needs and to not do any work closer than the 5' mark. Jim said this is necessary because of the winging, ditching, and having a place to push the snow. Jeff Cathcart stated that it is illegal for work to be done in the Town Right Of Way, and for work done in the public road unbeknownst to the Town, and without permission requested from the landowner to the municipality. Fran stated that Tammy spoke with Jim and he marked out where she can begin the work for the wall, she doesn't understand why when Tammy spoke with Jim that there is an issue. Marci spoke up and stated that she was inquired about this project prior to any work being done (3 weeks ago) in the Town Office. Marci told Fran that anytime work is done in the Town Right Of Way the owners need to request permission from the Selectboard, then there is usually an onsite visit between the Selectboard, Road Foreman, and land owner (and contractor if possible) to discuss the project. Marci advised to do this, this was not heeded. Fran stated that Tammy spoke with Jim and a board member separately to obtain permission. Diane O'Classen stated that the first time Tammy approached her regarding the project was after it had begun. Jeff Cathcart stated that Jim is not the Road Commissioner. Marci again stated that it was known prior to work commencing. Furthermore she clarified that speaking to a Selectperson outside of a meeting is not receiving permission from the board, speaking to Jim and receiving instructions is also not sufficient enough. The three members must be informed and it needs to happen within a Selectboard Meeting, additionally Jim's input is weighed in, and the landowner must be involved, it needs to be done collectively with all involved and within a meeting to be official. Jeff Cathcart further stated that Marci called Andrea to invite her to tonight's meeting, this is the owners responsibility, not Tammy's. The owner needs to request permission and needs to be involved, the letter is not requesting board permission. Work will need to stop until the correct procedure is followed. Marci stated that Tammy was good about coming in and giving the Town her insurance as she is closing one lane of traffic while working in the road, thus her insurance was requested.



OLD BUSINESS Jim stated that the garbage truck broke down this past week while 24 min
Garbage Truck doing garbage, the transmission went, while going up the gap, the forward gears stopped working, only reverse works. Jim reported that Jared Lowell found a \$19,500 truck which is a 550 pickup truck, it is a heavier duty truck and would be more conducive for hauling a trailer and doing other work in Town. Jeff Cathcart is in favor of fixing the current garbage truck. Marci stated that this is the third transmission in the truck, the truck is too lightweight to do the work in Town, furthermore things on the truck are starting to go. Diane O'Classen stated she spoke with Marci regarding doing drop off. She would like information gathered with costs and options, she also thought that now would be a good time to do a trial run with drop off, being that our Truck is no longer working. Dave Sabatini suggested speaking with Denton. Marci stated that she has already been communicating with him to discuss the cost of picking up and dumpsters. Jim stated that perhaps garbage should be something that could not be a Town matter at all but go back to the landowners responsibility. He suggested that the Town not handle garbage for the people. This would reduce taxes as it would not have garbage salary, truck fuel/maintenance/insurance, and tipping fee as a cost for the Town. He said to put the responsibility back to the people, they then could manage their waste as it works for them, whether it is drop off or pick up, it would be up to the individual. Marci stated no other Town pays for and picks up garbage like Goshen does. Jim Hayes further added that it is a service that is abused. Cecile Todd stated that the Town of Leicester gives Van Denton money to be parked in Leicester two times a month then people come to Denton and pay Denton for their bags/recycling. Diane mentioned doing drop off here to try and see how it works. Vickee stated that a date should be set for drop off, well in advance and notify the people. Diane O'Classen will work on the garbage drop off option with Marci.

Andrea
Raymond Fran called Andrea to come down to the meeting and introduced her to the board. Andrea introduces herself to the board and stated that she hired Tammy Walsh to build a wall because the wall there is failing. Last spring a big boulder came off the wall and rolled across



the road to the field, this is when she became concerned with the integrity of the wall and approached Tammy to rebuild the wall. Jeff Cathcart stated that it is against the law to work in Town Property. Andrea stated that Jim gave her permission. Jeff Cathcart stated that Jim has input as the Road Foreman but the Board is the Commissioner. They will need to stop work until a decision can be made, Jeff mentioned getting District 3 up to look at the project and perhaps will need to have advice from a lawyer. Andrea stated that she was unaware of the need to request permission. Jeff Cathcart stated any work in the road warrants notification and permission. Andrea inquired what to do, Jeff Cathcart said a visit is necessary on site to discuss the work and what is permitted, the contractor should be present as well. Andy inquired what time a meeting could happen, Jeff Cathcart offered tomorrow at 3pm. This was agreed on with Andrea and Jim, Andrea stated she will have Tammy there as well. Andrea apologized for not doing this work to the satisfaction of the board.

FLAP Grant

Jeff Cathcart stated that the FLAP grant is the Forest is the Forest Agreement, therefore has been covered.

ROADS Dave Sabatini stated that the roads are really good, especially Goshen Ripton Road after the grading. Leo stated that Silver Lake road has potholes and would like to see something done. Jeff Cathcart stated that there is \$6,700.00 grant to fix roads, the paperwork must be submitted by september 30th so the work should be done late August early September. Marci stated that the headwall on Hathaway road on the bridge (the big culvert) needs considerable work. This should be something that is addressed by the Board. Dave Sabatini stated that the brush cutting needs to happen on the bridges and he inquired if he should go ahead and do the work. Diane O'Classen inquired if this will be done by Dave Sabatini as personal contractor or as Dave Sabatini as Town Road Employee. Fran stated that Dave gets \$50 an hour vs, Jimmy that charges \$20 an hour, she stated Dave does good work but is expensive. Marci stated this should be done as Road Employee as it is road work and he is a Town Road Crew

14 min



Employee, Dave inquired how much his wages are as Road Employee, the board stated \$15. Dave inquired about a raise to do brush work. Madine inquired about when the contract for the lawn and cemetery goes out, will it be this year. Jeff Cathcart stated that this will be next year, Dave will continue to do what he customarily does for his contract. Madine inquired about work done in the cemetery. Dave stated that he is aware of work he needs to attend to and will be doing it. Melvin will be contacted regarding roadside mowing.

CITIZENS CONCERNS

Bill Mathis stated that he is working on factoring the National Forest amount of land versus the money that we are getting from them as it pertains to property within Goshen. He inquired about this. Marci stated that if Bill comes to the office he will be able to do research that will be helpful, additionally she said there is a very good map that he may be interested in which shows land in Goshen owned by the Federal Government. Dave Sabatini stated that some private citizens sold back to the government, an example is Tony Clark when he sold a large parcel to the government. Madine stated that it was 50 acres that Tony sold and that there is info at the office. Dave Sabatini said that the Forest Service person, Chris Mattrick is somebody that is easy to work with. Dave Sabatini stated that he is on the Moosalamoo Association Board and he expressed to them that the MA should give more to the Town and build a relationship, this is something he is working on.

6 min

Leo stated that signs were put on private property regarding information for the proposed project from Moosalamoo Association and Vermont Huts to develop a house at Silver Lake, on Federal land. These signs were put on private property with the permission of the land owner. Initially one sign was placed on the corner of Silver Lake Rd and Goshen Ripton Rd, with permission from Susie Reider, this sign came up missing. Leo then had a sign put up on the corner of Flora White Rd and Goshen Ripton Rd, with permission from the Mathis's. This sign was also taken, however a neighbor witnessed the sign being removed from the



Mathis property and identified the vehicle. It was a National Forest truck. Leo filed a complaint with the Constable in Goshen and she advised to also file with the Sheriff Department. The Forest Office was contacted and Chris Mattrick acknowledged that the signs were taken by one of his federal employees, furthermore, both signs were in his office. Leo stated that the signs were both returned, he would like this in the meeting minutes as these are federal employees that should be serving and protecting the people not stealing from private property. He is very disappointed by this as having signs on property is a freedom and right that we have, the Federal Forest employees should know this and not be stealing signs. He is disappointed and upset by the incident.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS Jeff Cathcart stated that the dog census needs to be corrected as he was not on it and needs to be added. 1 min

EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NEEDED

MOTION TO ADJOURN Motion made by Jeff Cathcart, 2nd by Diane O'Classen 8:32pm

Respectfully submitted by Marci Hayes