

SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - JUNE 3, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Board members: Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, Linda Schmidt, Karen Tendrup. Also present: Elizabeth Daut, Jim Henderson, Sheila Kearns. Minute taker: Sandy Reidy.

CORRECTION TO ZONING BYLAWS: Sheila Kearns points out a mathematical error regarding the dimensions of accessory buildings requiring a permit. The minimum size requiring a permit is 8 feet tall, 150 square feet (erroneously listed as 84 square feet). The Board votes to approve the correction; all in favor.

EGG MOUNTAIN: The Board discusses the potential purchase of 2,300+ acres (currently owned by the Conservation Fund) in Sandgate by the State of Vermont, to become a new state forest. Linda Schmidt proposes a Town-wide vote. More discussion follows on multiple aspects of a sale, to the state versus other types of buyers. Joe Nolan makes a motion for a Town-wide vote; John Phelps seconds; Joe, John, Charlie, and Linda in favor; Karen opposed. The Selectboard will write a referendum to be included on the ballot for the August 13 primary election, concerning whether Town voters do or do not want the Town to endorse a sale to the State.

CITIZEN CONCERNS: Jim Henderson says the Town has been awarded \$20K as a **Better Back Roads grant**, for culverts and ditching on West Road. More work on West Road is being considered for a Grant in Aid to follow this summer. Sheila says the **energy audit of Town Hall and the Town Garage** has been completed; results are to come. The only concern expressed initially is that there are dead mice in the heating system in Town Hall. This problem will be addressed before the heat is turned on in fall. Once energy-audit results arrive, the Town will work with the BCRC to address energy-related improvements.

OTHER BUSINESS: Linda has looked into the process of **road reclassification** (for portions of Campbell Road and Tate Hill Road) and will work with Sandy to schedule the necessary meeting for the Board at the sites involved. Joe says the Road Crew will begin cleaning debris from **dry hydrants**. Suzy dePeyster contacted Troy Dare to resolve the delay in getting dry hydrants in Town inspected but has not heard back. Karen Tendrup will contact Josh Carvajal for help.

ROAD REPORT: Joe says there have been requests for more **weed-eating** in Town. Sandy Reidy would like to weed-eat for \$25 per hour. Sandy and Karen will look for others interested in this work; Sandy will ensure that anyone doing the work will be old enough, will receive a 1099 form, and will be covered under the Town's insurance. Joe notes that, unlike Arlington, Sandgate does not use Roundup weed killer. Joe says the Road Crew is finishing work on **Wuerslin Road**. The Road Crew wants to buy a **grading bucket for the excavator**. This was discussed last year as a future purchase, and the Road Crew has found a used bucket for \$7,500 (it would be \$12K new). There is money in the equipment budget for this purchase. In addition, Sandy says some money will be drawn from the Rainy Day Fund (until the July rollover of the budget) to pay for a recent **purchase of gravel**.

SIGN ORDERS.

REVIEW OF MAY 20 MINUTES: Joe makes a motion to accept the minutes; Karen seconds; all in favor.

ADJOURN: Charlie makes a motion to adjourn; John seconds; all in favor.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY JUNE 17 AT 6:00 AT SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy and Linda Schmidt.

A complete recording is available by request at Sandgate Town Hall.

June 3, 2024