

SANDGATE VERMONT SELECTBOARD MINUTES - FEBRUARY 17, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Board members: Joe Nolan, John Phelps, Charlie Pike, Linda Schmidt (by phone). Also present: John Grover, Jessica Hill, Margaret Phelps, Rob Viglas. Minute taker: Sandy Reidy.

CITIZEN CONCERNS: Jessica Hill says she wants to know what is going on with plowing. She called each member of the Board this past week to say that Woodcock Road had not been plowed or treated. She does not feel the roads are being maintained this winter as they should be, and she wanted to know the plan for the storm that was to follow this past weekend. Joe Nolan says that while Jay Wilson is recovering from his injury and Skipper Wilson is alone on the Road Crew, the Arlington road crew and several private contractors have volunteered their time and plowed in Sandgate. The Rupert Road crew has also offered to help. Jessica says in three weeks she has seen a Town plow on Woodcock Road three times. Joe says both he and Skipper have plowed or sanded Woodcock more than once in the past day. There is discussion of the number of trips made. Jessica says the Town should hire temporary help for times like this when the Road Crew is short-staffed, and says using volunteer private help raises insurance concerns. Joe says that one day last week when the temperature rose and there was melting, they briefly held off treating the roads to prevent more ice forming when the temperature dropped again later. John Grover says he has been told by the State of Vermont that he can obtain a record of all citizen concerns raised with the Board in the past two years; he wants to know how many have been resolved. John Phelps says the Board must stress with Jay and Skipper that Woodcock Road must be maintained regularly. Linda Schmidt says that so far this winter no one else has raised road maintenance concerns with her. She agrees the Board should stress again with the Road Crew that Woodcock Road needs attention. She will ask the Vermont League of Cities and Towns for advice on insurance coverage when the Road Crew needs extra help. She asks if it is known yet when Jay will be back at work. Joe says it will be at least two or three weeks. He will speak to the Road Crew about maintenance on Woodcock. Jessica asks if the Town would pretreat the roads with calcium chloride, to supplement later use of rock salt. Joe says he will talk with Jay about this.

OTHER BUSINESS: Linda says Troy Dare of Rural Fire Protection will be in Town on April 8 to tour dry hydrants with Jay and with Brian Hawley, the Arlington Fire Chief, and determine which hydrants will need work this spring and summer. Linda says there are three or four hydrants of concern, given that all others were flushed and tested successfully last summer.

February 17, 2025

Linda says that on Saturday February 22, Richard Phelan, Londonderry's Emergency Management Director, will speak at the Community Table on last summer's repeated flooding in Londonderry and how the town prepared for and dealt with it.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Board reviews the report.

SIGN ORDERS.

REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 3 MINUTES: John Phelps says he should be added to the attendance list, as having attended by phone. The minutes will be revised and brought to the next meeting for approval.

ADJOURN: Charlie Pike motions to adjourn; Joe seconds; all in favor.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 5 AT 6:00 IN SANDGATE TOWN HALL.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Reidy and Linda Schmidt.

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

February 17, 2025