

TOWN OF WESTON
P.O. BOX 98
WESTON, VT 05161-0098
SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 28, 2020 7:30 PM

PRESENT: Denis Benson, Jim Linville, Charles ("Tim") Goodwin, Bruce Downer and Ann Fuji'i

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC: Kim Seymour, Bruce Frauman and Natalie Boston

Denis Benson called to order at 7:31 PM

1. Changes to The Agenda: Quarterly Highway Aid Moneys, VT State Police Letter, Fiber-Optic, and Sand Bids

- **Highway Aid:** Discussion on total, Denis Benson confirms they do \$17,100 every ¼. Jim Linville questioned on amount in budget and Denis Benson explains the number they give is unknown ahead of time.

- **Fiber-Optic:** Charles Goodwin states that he doesn't believe anything can be done with it today (added to Agenda too late) but will be added to the next agenda. Charles Goodwin asks Natalie Boston to reach out to Steve and John for clarification on what he is asking for, more info and can reach out to Charles Goodwin or Jim Linville on this for assistance.

- **VT State Police Letter:** Denis Benson summarizes letter. Jim Linville suggests to leave up to individual Selectboard members to respond instead of a unified response. Annie Fuji'i agrees and think that's a good idea. Jim also notes that if any member wants to reach out to others in the community that's wants to add input they may do so.

- **Sand Bids:** Denis Benson says they received 2 bids: Hunter Excavating: Winter sand \$16 per yard, ¾ inch gravel \$18 per yard, Renaud Gravel Inc.: ¾ inch winter sand \$10.75 per yard FOB (Pick up at the pit), and \$14 per yard Delivered. Discussion on the bids and difference of product. Denis Benson confirms that had used Renaud Gravel Inc. last year. Jim Linville makes a motion to accept Renaud Gravel Inc.'s bid for winter sand at \$10.75 per yard FOB (Pick up at the pit), and \$14 per yard Delivered Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

Natalie Boston is asked to reach out to both and let know the decision.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Survey Contract: Denis Benson explains that Jim Linville had talked to DBS Surveys Inc. about getting land surveyed for the location of the generator to be up and out of the Flood way. They came and took rough measurements and put a stake in the ground that is roughly 5-6 feet tall for how high the generator would have to be. Denis Benson

questions if with the addition on the Town office they had to define the 100 year flood mark and that information should be in the records. Charles Goodwin confirms we should have that on paper somewhere. Denis Benson questions if the survey is needed if we have that information. Charles Goodwin says either way he would be in favor of getting the property surveyed. Denis asks if he has looked at the price for this. Charles asks Jim Linville if he had gotten bids on this and Jim Linville says no, he went with them because was recommended but he was also surprised with the price, expected lower than \$4500. Charles Goodwin thanked Denis Benson for pointing that out. Jim Linville suggests getting 2 bids and also redefine the job, reduce the scope. Outside boundaries of all the properties. Discussion on generator location possibilities. Denis Benson suggests talking with Will Goodwin about permits and floodway. Jim Linville and Charles Goodwin will research and see if elevation was part of the Town Office renovation. Still thinks should get the land surveyed but will get 2 bids as this one is much more than expected. Annie Fuji'i is surprised the town land has not been surveyed before. Discussion on the 3 parcels of land. Bruce Frauman questions why moving away from putting behind The Little School. Jim Linville explains him and Almon Crandall went out to measure how high the generator would have to be to be out of floodway and would have to be up 5-6 feet. It's a big generator and the construction of a platform is a bigger project than wanted to take on. Discussion on type of stand: Steel bars, not solid walls/concrete.

4. **Tax Rate:** Kim Seymour explains, similar to last year. Took out \$250,000 of Trout Club repair (\$170,000 of state and \$80,000 from special funds). Discussion on where amounts came from. Allocation for paving project, have \$119,000 highway maintenance fund, \$80,000 still in budget from culvert on Trout Club, \$50,000 annual appropriation and balance covered by funding from FEMA for last year's damage. Denis Benson questions and expresses some concern as to not count money twice. Jim Linville says he is happy with it, town is down even though state is up, likes the end result. Charles Goodwin makes a motion to approve this year's tax rate of **Homestead: 2.1879 and Non-Homestead: 2.2135**. Jim Linville 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
5. **Grant Doc: Signature:** Jim Linville makes a motion to have Denis Benson sign, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
6. **EMD Guidelines:** Discussion on suggestions and input of Kevin Beattie and Birgit Sutter-Davis on the matter. Jim Linville makes a motion to approve Michael Smilovich submitting 10 hours and may request 5 more if needed to get up to speed. Can ask for additional as they come. Charles Goodwin 2nd. If useful training then should be done, can request as needed. Jim Linville thinks it is important for Michael to know we won't throw him into these stuff cold, if useful trainings he thinks he should know he should go to it. *Unanimously approved.*
7. **VT Alert:** Natalie Boston explains there is a longer phone call where they will explain in more detail what it is and how it works but was unsure if she should do and report back

or if any members would like to be on as well. Jim Linville gives Natalie the go ahead and do the call, learn as much as she can as he is still unsure of what it is exactly.

8. **Review and Approve Minutes: July 14th, 2020:** Correction on Woolmington last name as well as tax rate not a %. Jim Linville Moves to accept with noted corrections, Annie Fuji'i 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
9. **SO # 16 Payroll:** Jim Linville moves to accept SO#16 payroll for the amount of \$7,017.49, Bruce Downer 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
SO # 16 Vendors: Charles Goodwin moves to accept SO #16 Vendors for the amount of \$34,655.64, Bruce Downer 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
10. **New/Old Business:** Annie Fuji'i asks if there was any follow up on the speed cart. Wonders if anything was learned or any results. Charles Goodwin notes that he personally observed and heard others observing that did have effect when coming into town. Even not functioning noticed people did slow down. Noted that this may give a bases for discussion at next Town Meeting. Jim Linville says he got an \$80 radar gun to offer others to use. Discussion on that and Kim Seymour says she would borrow.

Charles Goodwin Moves to Adjourn, Jim Linville 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

Adjourn Meeting at 8:21 PM