

TOWN OF WESTON
P.O. BOX 98
WESTON, VT 05161-0098
SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 2020 7:30 PM

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

ABSENT: Bruce Downer

PUBLIC: Almon Crandal, Cherise Forbes, Kim Seymour and Natalie Boston

Denis Benson called to order at 7:34 PM

1. **Changes To The Agenda-** Delinquent Tax Report: Charles Goodwin makes a motion to have the record show that the Selectboard Members received and inspected the delinquent tax report, Jim Linville 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Road Forman Almon Crandal:** Almon Crandal begins by discussing the access permit for Chester Mt. rd. He says that he thinks it looks good, may need a culvert down the road but good for now. Almon recommends the Selectboard approve the permit. Jim Linville makes a motion to approve the access permit for Jason Okie, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

Almon Crandal goes on to talk about a new Backhoe, doesn't think one that we currently have will make it another 5 years. Got prices on new machine:
CAT 430 (Currently have) New: \$144,500, Would give \$35,000 for the old one for a balance of \$109,500.

John Deer 410 New: \$137,000, would give \$27,000 for the old one for a balance of \$110,000.

Cat 440 New: \$154,500, would give \$35,000 for the old one for a balance of \$119,500.

John Deer 710 New: \$178,900, would give \$27,000 for the old one for a balance of \$151,900.

Annie Fuji asks how much money has been funded for this and Almon Crandal says he believes over \$200,000. Jim Linville checked the town report. Charles Goodwin questions if would be on Financial summary and Kim Seymour says yes. Kim checked the Balance Sheet: \$418,023.69. Denis Benson asks Almon which one he wants and Almon says he would prefer the CAT over John Deer, will need to go farther for parts for CAT. He goes on to say that he would prefer the 440 over the 430. Have the 430 now and running to its limits and been running all summer. Discussion on Grader and Almon says replacing the grader could wait a few years. Annie Fuji asks on a timeframe and Almon Crandal says the sooner the better, current one will start having more and more problems. Jim Linville agrees and says he doesn't see any advantage to waiting. Denis Benson makes a motion to Approve Almon Crandal to pick and get what he wants (CAT 440), Jim Linville 2nd.

Unanimously approved.

Annie Fuji'i asks Almon Crandal about the painting of yellow lines in intersection and when it will be done. Almon says it was supposed to be done last week but not sure why it hasn't been done yet, said he will check in and find out. Goes on to say it is not Fuller doing the job but an independent contractor. Jim Linville questions if white stop lines will be done as well, Almon explains it is the double yellow only, the white we do and decide what want done. Discussion on the Library parking, parking spaces, fog lines, and stop bars. Jim Linville makes a motion to authorize Almon to paint stop bars and discuss other elements at a later date, Annie Fuji'i 2nd.

Unanimously approved. Jim Linville asks Almon if it would be done after the yellow lines get done and he confirms yes.

Charles Goodwin asks Almon Crandal to take a look at where the soccer field rd. ends and look and see if it is something should be concerned about. Almon Crandal says that he took a bump out of the soccer field but will take a look.

4. **Access Permit- Jason Okie:** Discussed and approved in #3
5. **Tree Planting Letter of Maintenance:** Denis Benson begins by saying this letter is not what we're looking for. Jim Linville says he thought it wasn't going to be for maintenance of the trees but that would hold us harmless to any damage done to the trees. Charles Goodwin suggests getting advice from Kim Seymour or Deb Moser as desire is to have something in Files concerning the trees. Jim Linville goes on to say should say the town accept no responsibility on the trees. Annie Fuji'i suggests that we draft a letter with what we need and then they sign (no back and forth). Discussion on having Attorney Rob draft the letter. Charles Goodwin notes he believes since they are asking for this to be done and accepted they should do and cover cost, doesn't believe we should spend money for something they want. Denis Benson makes a motion for Attorney Rob to draft a letter for town record and Knowltons cover the bill, Jim Linville 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
6. **Changes to Zoning Fee Schedule:** Charles Goodwin says he is in favor of changes. Jim Linville agrees but says it could use some clarification. Charles Goodwin moves to approve the Fee schedule's numbers and wording to what Jim Linville and Will come up with together, Jim Linville 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
7. **Weston Newspaper of Record:** Discussion on current one used (Vermont Journal) and suggested (Vermont News Guide). Vermont Journal is free and delivered to all residents while Vermont News Guide you need to pay for a subscription. Annie Fuji'i makes a motion to stay with the Vermont Journal as the Paper of Record and Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.* Discussion on obligation to paper of record, Denis Benson says it is chosen every year. Jim Linville asks if even possible to change mid-year. Charles Goodwin says he understands Will Goodwin's desire to change as timing of notices can be a pain in the butt. Annie asks about adding the Chester Telegraph as a 2nd paper of record but would not fix Will's problem.
8. **Fuel Bids: (HB, Cota & Cota and Irving)** Charles Goodwin begins by saying the bids are very interesting. Denis Benson agrees and asks members to read the cheapest bid (Irving) very carefully as the "cheapest" could end up being the most expensive. Received 2 different bids from each company, one without(5,600 Gallons) and one with the Playhouse being included (10,100 Gallons). Charles Goodwin suggests it would be a good idea to confirm with playhouse if they would still like to be included. Discussion on bids, Kim Seymour notes that have a \$1,000 credit with HB. Discussion on Irving bid

confusion (combined both bids to make 15,700 Gallons). Annie Fuji'i makes a motion to postpone to next meeting to get corrected bid, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.* Natalie Boston will send note to bidders to let know postponing to next meeting and will correct 2nd bid sheet to say six locations not five.

- 9. Grant To Digitize Land Records:** Kim Seymour begins by saying she found out can add a portal so researchers nearby and farther away have access to land records. Have been great companies in the past but always expensive (\$300 a month) and believed it was overkill for a small town. All the work already done puts in a good position. Kim goes on to explain that she thinks should be done because if shut down again liability if give researchers wrong information. Have 40 years digitized but not indexed (card Files). No down side, don't need to pay back and money don't use just send back. Denis Benson asks about ongoing cost of maintenance, Kim says \$100 a month that can come out of the Land Records fund (an accumulating fund). Denis Benson questions security, Kim explains based out of NH, indexing scans already have, don't have to send a book, just a thumb drive. Denis Benson asks if there are multiple copies and Kim confirms yes, have 2 thumb drives. She goes on to say that with the portal can capture fee's as well. Denis Benson expresses concern for the unknown factors and fees. Annie Fuji'i comments that she believes this is fairly "standard" and common practice. Clarification this is just applying for a grant, not signing up for anything yet. Charles Goodwin makes a motion to apply for the grant, Annie Fuji'i 2nd. *Yay: Annie Fuji'i, Jim Linville and Charles Goodwin. Nay: Denis Benson. Passes.* Denis Benson says he is uncomfortable, Jim Linville explains it is just applying for a grant, no obligation, indexing scans and digitized records we already have. September 15th will know if awarded grant.
- 10. Broadband Vote:** Jim Linville begins by saying as he understands it can apply to join, obligation to nothing and in future can vote to leave at no consequence, costs nothing but may help get faster internet in the next couple of years. Jim Linville makes a motion to join, Charles Goodwin 2nd but questions who will be our towns volunteer. Jim Linville says he was thinking possibly Rusty Davis, not sure if he will say yes, will ask first before apply. Amend motion to join provided Rusty Davis agrees. *Unanimously approved.*
- 11. Review and Approve Minutes 8/25/2020:** Charles Goodwin makes a motion to approve the minutes, Jim Linville 2nd but have a few minor typo corrections. *Unanimously approved.*
- 12. Financial Summary:** Jim Linville makes a motion to accept August 2020 Financial Summary, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
- 13. SO # 19 Payroll:** Charles Goodwin makes a motion to accept SO #19 Payroll for the amount of \$7,314.88, Jim Linville 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

SO #19 Vendors: Jim Linville makes a motion to accept SO #19 for the amount of \$16,491.27, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
- 14. New/Old Business:** Generator: Discussion on the deed for the playground and location for that deed. Jim Linville is sure that could get authorization from the Little School Board to do as needed for the generator. Discussion on controls and panels for the generator. Question on if it makes any difference where controls are located and Denis Benson says that would need to be answered by an electrician. Jim Linville suggests reaching out to Cota and Cota on this. Charles Goodwin makes a motion for Jim Linville to contact Cota and Cota with technical questions. Jim Linville 2nd. Annie Fuji'i asks if

they can tell us where to put the generator as well. Charles Goodwin says that at last meeting it was discussed and agreed that this was a project that would not be done to its completion this year as hoped. Goes on to say it was discussed if it would be possible to put something in the basement of the little school this year as a temporary fix for this year if they lose power to keep the heat on. Not a long term unit, school has legal obligation to get kids home if no power. Jim Linville goes on to say will try and get switches installed that will work for future permanent unit as well as a temporary unit.

Charles Goodwin moves to adjourn, Jim Linville 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

Adjourn meeting at 9:01 PM

DRAFT