

**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE
SELECTBOARD MEETINGS
FEBRUARY 23, 2009**

APPROVED

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Russell, Chairperson; Jenny Cole, Winslow Ladue.
Absent: Ed Stone (Absent: Frank Thornton).

OTHERS: Robin Pierce, Carly Krolich, Dave Krolich, Rayne Herzog, Ruth Hill, Bill Fraser- Harris, Jim Sharp, Peggy Sharp.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Russell called the Selectboard meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. ADJUSTMENT TO AGENDA

Add: Wildlife Map Committee, and Tax Sales

3. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None.

4. MINUTES OF February 16, 2009

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the minutes of 02/16/2009 as written. VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

5. CONSIDER APPOINTING SELECTBOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO THE WILDLIFE MAP COMMITTEE

Following a brief report by Mr. Russell and a suggestion that the Selectboard should have a representative on the Wildlife Map Committee, Mr. Ladue expressed interest in attending the next committee meeting scheduled for early April. Mr. Ladue said that we may want to continue refining the data on the Wildlife Map related to specific habitat and how much of that habitat is already conserved. It will be important to understand the legal ramifications, and construction of a system that would be less likely to result in legal action.

Mr. Russell reviewed Criteria 7 language, which translates to “poorly represented” in Charlotte on an identified map polygon. It is very important to preserve that habitat and the map will be revised.

6. RAYNE HERZOG, RACE VERMONT.COM – Presentation of Race Schedule Within Town

Rayne Herzog, Race Vermont representative, explained a request to close one lane of the Charlotte/Hinesburg Road for a one-half marathon road race, starting at 8:30 am on Saturday, May 9, 2009. Police will patrol both ends of the road from Mt Philo Road to Guinea Road. Josh Flore would be hired to patrol a planned Spring Triathlon at the Brick Store four-corners. Race Vermont was seeking approval for the 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. bike portion only.

MOTION by Ms. Cole, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to approve the use of Charlotte roads during the Charlotte Covered Bridge One-Half Marathon on May 9, 2009, and sprints for June 20, 2009, July 4, 2009, and August 22, 2009 for Race Vermont as described in a submitted schedule.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

7. JOHN FREIDIN – Acceptance of Open Space Agreement and Roadway Agreement and Waiver

MOTION by Mr. Stone, seconded by Ms. Cole, to accept an Open Space Agreement and Roadway Agreement and Waiver, and to authorize the Charlotte Selectboard Chair to sign the agreement documents on behalf of the Town of Charlotte.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Cole asked for clarification of C, #2 (page 3), of language “...supervision of a professional forester.” Mr. Bloch explained that meant trees must be marked by the Charlotte Tree Warden, or professional forester to determine which trees are

diseased, dead, and/or need of removal. Ms. Cole suggested changing language to read “direction” versus “supervision”.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

8. ROBIN PIERCE – Application for a Highway Access Permit to Move Driveway on Greenbush Road

Robin Pierce, applicant, explained a request to move an existing driveway on Greenbush Road and submitted a Site Map Plan and photographs. The Road Commissioner has requested a 15” x 30’ culvert and 500’ sight lines both ways. The existing driveway would be eliminated.

MOTION by Mr. Stone, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve a request by Robin Pierce for a Highway Access Permit, HAP-09-02, to move a driveway on Greenbush Road.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

9. GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER –Petition to Replace Wires on Lake Road Extension

Michael Burke, Green Mountain Power representative, explained a revised plan that eliminated any new overhead lines at Pole 9-12. There are three existing spans which are telephone and cable TV poles. GMP would like to get on those poles, otherwise the lines will be underground.

There was discussion regarding an existing 40’ pole that might be replaced by a 45’ pole; NESC rules that Green Mountain Power must comply with; and additional underground lines added to the site plan that will be sent to the Town Planner.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve a petition by Green Mountain Power to replace wires on Lake Road Extension, Project #15207, as amended to add an underground section as revised, and to be signed by the Charlotte Selectboard when the revised copy is received by the Town of Charlotte.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

10. LAND MAINTENANCE SPECIFICATIONS – Proposed for 2009

Mr. Stone suggested that the Town simply award the Land Maintenance contract to one firm/person and dispense with the bidding process. The Town would have more control over that person to make sure the contract specifications were met.

There was discussion regarding a time line to hire a firm/person, or if a Town position should be created; what process would work in the best interests of the Town (one vendor versus multiple contracts); and a time line that would award a contract at the end of March for spring clean up to start at the end of winter.

The Board discussed added wording as follows:

- To award a contract by March 23rd, with work to begin upon the discretion of a Town representative, or with a two week extension based on seasonality as weather allows.”
- Add weed whacking without causing damage to the Town Green portion of the contract.
- Spring cleaning to begin “two weeks after awarding the contract.”
- “All trees and shrubs will be mulched, except at the Charlotte Museum.”
- Weed whacking at the Beach will be done around the rocks and trees. The Charlotte Tree Warden will be consulted on how to protect the trees from damage.
- Add “culverts and ditches should be included in Spring Cleanup (could be footnoted by a “see below” note).
- To award contracts as one package to include #1 and 2, the Park, and the Berry Field.

11. INVOICE FROM LINCOLN APPLIED GEOLOGY, INC FOR POST CLOSURE CERTIFICATION OF THE LANDFILL ON PLOUFFE LANE

MOTION by Mr. Stone, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve Invoice #33257 from Lincoln Applied Geology, Inc., for post closure certification of the Landfill on Plouffe Lane.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

12. APPOINTMENT OF LUCIA PLANTE AS TOWN SERVICE OFFICER FOR 2009

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Ms. Cole, to appoint Lucia Plante as the Town of Charlotte Service Officer for 2009.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

13. PREPARATION FOR TOWN MEETING

Mr. Russell reviewed Town Meeting articles. Article 1 was not advisory as written and needs to be regarding affordable housing. A meeting was held with Gill Livingston and Paul Bruhn. Three affordable units were discussed regarding location, a lot size of three acres, and driveway access. A fourth unit was suggested for a farmer who could lease the meadow for farming purposes. Water for the three units could be from a drilled well, or from the Flea Market. Septic capacity was not an issue.

Ms. Cole asked if there had been communication from Dave Marshall, Civil Engineering, yet. Mr. Bloch replied not at this time.

Ms. Cole would ask the Town Clerk about extra paper ballot boxes, and renting a sound system for the Town Meeting.

14. APPROVAL OF BILLS AND WARRANTS

The Selectboard signed bills and warrants as presented.

15. ADJOURNMENT and EXECUTIVE SESSION – GRIST TAX APPEAL

MOTION by Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to adjourn the meeting and to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Grist Tax Appeal and two Zoning Violation Matters, and to invite the Selectboard Clerk to attend.

VOTE: 4 ayes 1 absent (Mr. Thornton); motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned and the Board entered Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kathlyn Furr, Recording Secretary.

These minutes are subject to correction by the Charlotte Selectboard. Changes, if any, will be recorded in the minutes of the next meeting of the Board.