

**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE
SELECTBOARD
OCTOBER 25, 2010**

APPROVED

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Russell, Jenny Cole, John Owen, Winslow Ladue. Ed Stone absent.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dean Bloch.

OTHERS: Mark Sargent, Mark Colgan, Gerald Bouchard, Hugh Lewis, Ellie Russell, Jeff Finkelstein, Jim Morse, Gretchen Morse, Clark Hinsdale III, Matt Burke, Ed Merritt, Robert Mack, Larry Hamilton, Sue Smith, Elaine Ittleman, Trafton Crandall, David Quickel, Virginia McLoughlin, Bob Hyams, Hilary Mack, Steve Mack, David Mack, Thomas Mack, Peter Mack, Stephen Brooks, Marty Illick, Stephanie Coate, Charlotte Citizen; and others.

Call to Order

Charles Russell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Adjustments to Agenda:

The agenda order was changed as follows: to hear the Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee before the Agricultural Lease at the Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge. ADD: West Charlotte Village Septic System – discussion only

Public Comments

None.

Quinlan Bridge Reconstruction Presentation – discussion only

Mark Sargent, VTrans, and Mark Colgan, VHB, narrated a power point presentation regarding three proposed alternative solutions for the Quinlan Covered Bridge reconstruction project.

Mr. Bloch asked what an alternate travel route would be while the bridge was closed. Mr. Colgan replied the Old Hollow Road.

Mr. Colgan would return before the Vermont Historical Covered Bridge Committee to review a Charlotte Selectboard suggestion to sister a steel beam for added bridge deck strength.

West Charlotte Village Septic System – discussion only

Mr. Ladue briefly reviewed that a pending land purchase was defeated by Town voters last year related to a central septic system for the West Charlotte Village area. A question was if the Town would pursue exploring a septic system for the West Charlotte Village area. A survey would be sent out next week to gauge interest. Results would be compiled and presented to the Selectboard at a future meeting.

Hinesburg Road Corridor – action under consideration: approve proposed changes to signage as recommended by VTrans

Ms. Cole handed out copies of a written summary regarding a proposed Hinesburg Road corridor signage upgrade for Selectboard review.

Mr. Owen asked if there was a plan to keep motorists from driving through the four-way stop at the Mt Philo/Hinesburg Road intersection.

Mr. Russell asked if there was a way to post the hours that a 30 mph limit would be in effect at the school area, or was the 30 mph speed 24/7. Ms. Cole stated that the recommended signage was for 24 hours per day at 30 mph speed limit.

MOTION by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to approve proposed changes to Hinesburg Road corridor signage as recommended by VTrans.**DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Brooks asked if the signage changes were being supported because they were free. Mr. Lewis replied that all Town road signs have to be replaced and this was an opportunity to do it for free. New street signs would be 4' long, 12" high with 9" letters. Mr. Brooks asked if there was a legal necessity to replace signs. Could the Town replace the new signs with the old signs if the new ones looked out of place. Ms. Cole said that the 'drifting snow' and village signs were the only non-necessary signs.

In response to a question regarding posting 50 mph signage, Mr. Lewis explained that the signs were necessary for the Shelburne Police to determine speeding zones.

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

Dick Hosking, VTrans – bridge grants – discussion only

Dick Hosking, VTrans District 9, passed out a Handbook for Local Officials and reviewed grant programs for Class 1, 2 and 3 highways for Selectboard review.

Mr. Russell asked if mixed funding (town and state monies) could be used for a project. Mr. Hosking replied yes, towns could use their own funds. If a town had a bridge listed on the critical bridge report then that would move that project up on the list. The state funds would pay for engineering in year 1 and construction in year 2 for up to \$175,000. A town could combine two bridge projects into one design program.

Conservation Commission – update on activities – discussion only

Trafton Crandall, Conservation Commission member, appeared before the Selectboard and reviewed a written committee report.

There was brief discussion regarding a CC project to provide dog bags at Mt Philo State Park, the CC Mission Statement related to agriculture, and CC focus items (for example; water sheds).

The Selectboard thanked Mr. Crandall for his presentation.

Interview Elaine Ittleman for Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee – action under consideration: make appointment

The Selectboard interviewed Elaine Ittleman for a position on the Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to appoint Elaine Ittleman to the Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee.

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

Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee – update – discussion only

Sue Smith, Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee Chair, reviewed a written report and Mission Statement. The committee would cut trees to maintain the Route 7 Overlook view, but funds were needed. The committee supported a proposed Hinsdale plan regarding agricultural uses and activities at the park.

Mr. Brooks pointed out that the Town should review the Moore and Rockefeller parcel documents. Maintenance of view is a top hierarchy. The committee's priority and mission should flow from that, stated Mr. Brooks.

Agricultural Lease at the Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge – action under consideration: approve lease

The Selectboard invited Matt Burke, Clark Hinsdale III, and Robert Mack, to review bid proposals. Mr. Hinsdale and Mr. Mack said they would be willing to work with Matt Burke regarding a bee keeping operation.

David Quickel stated that growing/selling vegetables was a saturated market, and asked who would oversee/administer the Hinsdale proposal. Mr. Quickel expressed concern that a community farm at the park would compete with established CSA's.

Mr. Brooks said he was not a farmer and was trying to listen objectively. Clark owns land, buildings, etc. The topic was about bids and we have to live with what that means. It may get to be 1+1=3 because Clark has the location. Ms. Illick said in response to the 1+1=3 thing, that there is a lot of land to be farmed.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to recess the meeting and enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing three proposed bids related to an Agricultural Lease at the Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge.

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

The meeting was recessed and the Selectboard entered Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene the meeting.

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

Executive Session was adjourned and the meeting reconvened at 9:45 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, for the Charlotte Selectboard to enter into negotiations with Clark Hinsdale III to determine a lease agreement for the next five years with an option for a following five year period.

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

Mr. Russell said that the Selectboard would address a bee keeping proposal in the lease contract. The Board would contact Mr. Burke.

Update on Request by Carrie MacKillop, Old Brick Store, to share (and pay for) Dumpster at Town Office/Library – action under consideration: approve request
MOTION by Mr. Owen, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve a request by Carrie MacKillop, Old Brick Store, to pay one-half the cost of a six-yard dumpster for the use of the store, to be located behind the Fire/Rescue building.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Brooks said that a six cubic yard dumpster is more capacity than needed by the Fire/Rescue, Senior Center, Carrie, Library and Town combined.

AMENDMENT by Mr. Owen, seconded by Ms. Cole, to add a time period through the winter.

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

Minutes of October 4 and October 6

Motion by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to approve the minutes of 10/04/2010 as written with edits/corrections.

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

Motion by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to approve the minutes of 10/06/2010 as written.

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

Approval of Bills and Warrants

The Selectboard signed Bills and Warrants as presented.

Adjournment

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: 5 ayes; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kathlyn L. Furr, Recording Secretary